France sets out draft resolution on sending U.N. troops to Rwanda

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UNITED NATIONS, March 5 (AFP) - France gave the Security Council Friday a draft resolution for possibly sending U.N. troops to patrol a buffer zone between Rwandan troops and the armed opposition around the capital, diplomats said.

Council members gave the proposal a moderately favorable reception at a consultation meeting in New York late Friday, diplomats said. The text was due to be reviewed in detail next week.

The draft resolution would ask the Kigali government and the Rwandan Patriotic Front (FPR) to cease hostilities immediately, to respect a ceasefire and allow the return of displaced persons.

Under the draft resolution, the Security Council would express its support for the decision made by Secretary General Boutros-Boutros Ghali on sending a special mission to the area to examine the possibility of deploying observers on both sides of the border between Rwanda and Uganda.

The council then would ask Boutros-Ghali, under the draft, to prepare an urgent report on possibly setting up a U.N. force that would cooperate with Organization of African Unity troops in a buffer zone between government and FPR units, under conditions agreed upon by the parties.

The U.N. troop deployment would be aimed at monitoring a ceasefire, and helping to protect civilians.

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