Progress reported at Rwandan peace talks

AFP, August 16, 1992

ARUSHA, Tanzania, Aug 16 (AFP) - Peace talks between the Rwandan government and rebel Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) made "steady progress" Sunday after being bogged down by a disagreement over the definition of democracy Saturday, sources at the talks said.

Ami Mpungwe, a senior Tanzanian foreign ministry official attending the talks, said the two sides had "made steady progress after reflecting on each other's point of view on the definition of democracy, human rights and national unity".

They are discussing proposals aimed at introducing sweeping democratic changes in the central African country ravaged by nearly two years of civil war.

Both sides have said a cease-fire agreement they reached last month was holding.

The current round of negotiations are aimed at striking a deal on the restoration of the rule of law, respect of human rights and formation of a broad-based interim government before signing a peace accord.

The mainly Tutsi RPF invaded Rwanda from Uganda in October 1990 in an attempt to topple the 19year-old Hutu dominated government of President Juvenal Habyarimana.

hb/jnm/gk AFP AFP SEQN-0179