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STATEMENT BY THE FACILITATOR

The calendar of the on-going political negotiations between the Government of Rwanda and the Rwandese Patriotic Front is laid down in Article VI of the N'sele Ceasefire Agreement as amended at Gbacolite on 16 September 1991 and at Arusha on 12 July 1992. In terms of that Calendar, the target date set for the completion of political negotiations and the signing of the Peace Agreement is 10 October, 1992.

The two parties to the conflict have successfully concluded negotiations on the first of the three items on the Agenda of political negotiations, culminating in a Protocol on the Rule of Law. They are currently involved in negotiations on the second Agenda item - power-sharing within the framework of a broad-based transitional government.

Because of the crucial importance, as well as the comprehensive and intricate nature of the Agenda item now being negotiated, the two parties have agreed on the imperative of treating the matter meticulously and thoroughly, and not to let the quality of deliberations to be influenced by any undue haste or by a desire to beat deadlines. They have therefore agreed to continue negotiations beyond 10th October, 1992 deadline and to declare that this should not in any way have an adverse bearing on the ceasefire. The two parties reaffirmed the commitment of the armed forces of the Government of Rwanda and those of the Rwandese Patriotic Front to continue to meticulously observe and respect the ceasefire in order to ensure that the on-going political negotiations are conducted in an atmosphere of peace and tranquility.

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The two parties to the talks have taken stock of the conduct and duration of the negotiations, and have expressed satisfaction with the progress so far achieved. They have also reiterated their hope and optimism in the ultimate success of the talks in achieving the supreme objective of ushering in a transition period leading to a peaceful, stable and democratic Rwanda.

E N D - Fin de citation ./.

Gendreau