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Agenda item 64 (b)

New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support: causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 20 April 2020

[without reference to a Main Committee ([A/74/L.40](#) and [A/74/L.40/Add.1](#))]

74/273. International Day of Reflection on the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights¹ and the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide,²

Emphasizing that the crime of genocide, as recognized in the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, is an odious scourge that has inflicted great losses on humanity,

Recalling that the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide was adopted in 1948 in order to avoid the repetition of acts of genocide and that international cooperation is required to facilitate the timely prevention and punishment of the crime of genocide,

Recalling also its resolution [58/234](#) of 23 December 2003, and recalling further its decision [72/550](#) of 26 January 2018, by which it designated 7 April as the International Day of Reflection on the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda, amending the title of the annual observance,

Recalling further that the Appeals Chamber of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations

¹ Resolution [217 A \(III\)](#).

² Resolution [260 A \(III\)](#), annex.



Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 issued, on 16 June 2006, a judicial notice concluding that it was a “fact of common knowledge” that “between 6 April and 17 July 1994, there was a genocide in Rwanda against the Tutsi ethnic group”, recalling that more than a million people were killed during the genocide, including Hutu and others who opposed it, and noting with concern any form of denial of the genocide,

Recalling its resolution 73/328 of 25 July 2019 on promoting interreligious and intercultural dialogue and tolerance in countering hate speech,

Commending the tremendous efforts of the Government and people of Rwanda to restore the dignity of the survivors, including the allocation by the Government of 6 per cent of its annual national budget for the support of genocide survivors,

Honouring the courage and dedication shown by the men and women who stopped the genocide,

Expressing concern that many of the genocide suspects continue to elude justice, recognizing the importance of all States combating impunity for all violations of human rights and acts that constitute the crime of genocide, and reaffirming its strong opposition to impunity,

Convinced that exposing and holding the perpetrators, including their accomplices, accountable, as well as restoring the dignity of victims through acknowledgement and commemoration of their suffering, would guide societies in the prevention of future acts of genocide and human rights violations,

Noting that the prosecution of persons responsible for genocide and other serious international crimes, through the national and international justice systems, including the *gacaca* courts of Rwanda, has contributed and continues to contribute to the process of national reconciliation in Rwanda,

Recognizing that 7 April 2020 marks the twenty-sixth anniversary of the genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda, during which Hutu and others who opposed it were also killed,

1. *Reaffirms* 7 April as the International Day of Reflection on the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda;

2. *Encourages* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations, as well as civil society organizations, to observe the International Day of Reflection on the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda, including special observances and activities in memory of the victims of the genocide;

3. *Calls upon* States to recommit to preventing and fighting against genocide and other serious crimes under international law, and underscores the importance of taking into account lessons learned from the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda, during which Hutu and others who opposed it were also killed;

4. *Calls upon* all States to act in accordance with the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide² so as to ensure that there is no repetition of events of the kind that occurred in Rwanda in 1994;

5. *Condemns without reservation* any denial of the genocide against the Tutsi ethnic group in Rwanda as a historical event in full or in part, as established by the Appeals Chamber of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda in 2006, rejects any denial of the genocide, and urges Member States to develop educational programmes that will inculcate in future generations the lessons of the genocide in order to help to prevent future acts of genocide;

6. *Condemns* any advocacy of hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, whether it involves the use of print, audiovisual or electronic media, social media or any other means;

7. *Condemns without reservation* all manifestations of intolerance, hate speech, incitement, harassment or violence against persons or communities based on ethnic origin, religion or belief, wherever they occur;

8. *Welcomes* efforts by Member States to investigate and prosecute those accused of the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi, and calls upon all States to cooperate with the Government of Rwanda to investigate, arrest, prosecute or extradite all remaining fugitives;

9. *Calls upon* States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide to consider doing so as a matter of high priority and, where necessary, to enact national legislation in order to meet their obligations under the Convention;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure greater collaboration between existing early warning mechanisms for the prevention of genocide and other serious international crimes, in order to help to detect, assess and respond to sources of tension and points of risk or identify vulnerable populations;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Government of Rwanda, to encourage the relevant agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system to take appropriate steps to support the efforts of the Government to enhance judicial capacity-building and victim support;

12. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to modify the title of the outreach programme to “outreach programme on the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda and the United Nations” and to take measures to mobilize civil society for remembrance and education in the context of the International Day of Reflection on the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda, in order to help to prevent future acts of genocide, and to report annually to the General Assembly on the implementation of the programme.

20 April 2020