

The SC working group dealt with the draft resolution submitted by NAM, with the exception of stipulations concerning UNAMIR's activity and its future mandate.

Instructed by the SG, the Secretariat revisited the interpretation of his letter of 13 April. De Soto stated that the SG had not intended to suggest the withdrawal of UNAMIR but rather adapting it to new conditions.

According to further information of the Secretariat, fighting continues. Contours of [lines of] control are starting to appear in Kigali. Fighting, however, is beginning to spread to other parts of Rwanda. After the withdrawal of French and Belgian soldiers, the airport, too, is being fought over. The informal meeting between representatives of the provisional government and the RPF, with the SRSB present, planned for 14 April, did not take place. Among other, one condition of the RPF was the confidentiality of these talks. However, the initiative received wide publicity and the talks were therefore postponed to some later date. The Secretariat also informed about the rampage of gangs, featuring especially members of the Presidential Guard, which don't respect the most elementary norms of humanitarian law (wounded RPF members were dragged out of an ambulance and killed under the eyes of the Red Cross).

The UN Secretariat orally presented two alternatives for the functioning of UNAMIR under the changed conditions, which however assume a cease-fire between the warring parties:

1. Presence of UNAMIR without the Belgian contingent (some 2000 strong). The mandate would be adapted accordingly.
2. Leave only its political component in Kigali, i.e. the SRSB, his personnel and protection (about 200 people).

The first alternative is realistic if progress is made in the peace effort. It is also bound with certain conditions the belligerent parties would provide to UNAMIR (guaranteed freedom of movement, guaranteed security, declaring safe areas – e.g. the airport, etc.). A certain time horizon would be determined for meeting the conditions. The second alternative could be considered in the absence of realistic chances for renewing the peace effort in the framework of the Arusha agreements. Annan's deputy Riza mentioned also a third alternative, combining these two. The SG is inclined toward the first one. Reports have it that both parties favor the presence of UNAMIR. No serious discussion has taken place yet. NAM and other members have requested time for consultations. The SC will return to both alternatives, and to the draft resolution, during informals tomorrow. It is expected that the text will be finalized and possibly adopted.

In this context we point out an article in the NYT which puts the situation and the domestic political developments in Rwanda in a rather different light and negatively evaluates France's support to the essentially dictatorial regime of President Habyarimana. The article is appended. We also have at our disposal a report of Amnesty International according to which there is no evidence of the participation of RPF units in the mass mayhem and murder that followed the air catastrophe.

The CZ delegation intends to establish contact with the RPF representative in New York, at a lower level, if the HQ doesn't object.