

TEL: 022 339 88 10
FAX: 022 340 70 30
E-Mail: mission.uganda@unhcr.int



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

RUE ANTOINE CARTERET 6 BIS
CH - 1202 GENEVA
SWITZERLAND

GVA-UN/TECH/48

OUR REF:

September 30, 2010

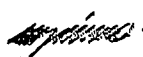
The United Nations High Commissioner
For Human Rights
Geneva

Excellency,

Report of the "DRC Mapping Exercise"

The aforementioned report refers. Please find enclosed herewith for your urgent attention and necessary action, a letter from our Minister of Foreign Affairs concerning the aforementioned subject.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.


Amb. Maurice Peter Kagimu Kiwanuka
Permanent Representative

Encls.

30 SEP 2010

REGISTRY

Telegrams: EXTERIOR, KAMPALA
Telephone: 233922
Fax: 341981
Website: www.mofa.go.ug
E-mail: mofauganda@yahoo.com



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

Office of the Minister
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
P.O. Box 7048
KAMPALA
Uganda.

In any correspondence on
this subject please quote No.

MFA/X/33

September 27, 2010

Excellency,

I have the honour to submit herewith the response of the Government of the Republic of Uganda to the draft report entitled, "*DRC Mapping Exercise – Mapping of the Most Serious Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law Violations Committed in the Democratic Republic of the Congo between 1993 and 2003.*"

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sam K. Kutesa', written over a horizontal line.

Sam K. Kutesa

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

The High Commissioner
for Human Rights
GENEVA

UGANDA'S POSITION ON THE DRAFT DRC MAPPING EXERCISE REPORT

Uganda notes the allegations made against the Uganda People's Defense Forces (UPDF) which include war crimes and crimes against humanity committed in the DRC; as contained in the draft report entitled "*DRC Mapping Exercise – Mapping of the Most Serious Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law Violations Committed in the Democratic Republic of Congo Between 1993 and 2003*". Uganda rejects those allegations.

The draft report under reference is a compendium of rumors deeply flawed in methodology, sourcing and standard of proof. Its timing, scope, motive and subsequent leakage to the media were all made in bad taste. Its authors heavily relied on information supposedly provided by unspecified NGOs and individuals whose motives are suspect. For instance, the UPDF is alleged to have committed crimes in areas where it had not deployed. Moreover, the authors acknowledge that their findings were premised on low evidentiary standards i.e. reasonable suspicion and not reasonable doubt and, therefore, not sufficient for court proceedings. This, notwithstanding, the authors still went ahead to make definitive conclusions and judgments based on those findings. Furthermore, they found it fit not to consult Uganda throughout the two year period of their work.

It is deeply regrettable that the authors of the draft report ignored the positive progress and improved cooperation between the DRC and her neighbours. Instead, they chose to undermine the efforts of countries of the region to contribute towards regional and international peace and security. Such sinister tactics undermine Uganda's resolve to continue contributing to, and participating

in, various regional and international peace-keeping operations such as AMISOM; UNMIS, UNAMID, UNMIL, UNOCI, UNMIT.

— The allegations made against the UPDF and others can only be construed as a belated effort to insinuate that some regional forces committed a reverse genocide against the vanquished ex-FAR and their kin under rout from Rwanda and in the process mask the failures of the United Nations in preventing genocide in Rwanda. Curiously, the draft report is silent on activities of negative forces (such as Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), National Army for the Liberation of Uganda (NALU), and Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR)) in the DRC. If the intention of the authors of that draft report was to come up with a bonafide and comprehensive report, they should have also covered periods prior to, and after, 1993 – 2003.

Uganda rejects that draft report in its entirety and demands that it not be published.

Kampala, Friday, 24 September 2010