

**MEETING OF SIGNATORY PARTIES**  
**ARUSHA 20-22 JULY 2001**

1. In view to prepare the 15<sup>th</sup> session of the Regional Initiative for Peace in Burundi, a meeting of Signatory Parties was scheduled in Arusha from 20 to 22 July 2001.

2. It should be recalled that beside the 37<sup>th</sup> Summit of the OAU in Lusaka (Zambia), a Consultative meeting on Burundi was held between the Facilitator and the Heads of State to find a suitable proposal for the Burundian Parties to overcome the stalemate reached in the peace process.

3. In the Spirit of the conclusions of the 14<sup>th</sup> Regional Summit held in Arusha on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2001, the facilitator proposed to the Heads of States that the first 18 months of the transition period be left to Major Pierre BUYOYA as President assisted by Mr. Domitien NDAYIZEYE as Vice-President. This proposal has been assorted with conditionnalities to be respected by President BUYOYA and was submitted to the Burundi Parties in Pretoria (South Africa). The Parties took note (mostly G7) of these conditionnalities and expressed the need to examine them thoroughly to reinforce or to amend them. Then in order purpose that, the Facilitator proposed the current session.

4. Opening the session on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2001, Justice BOMANI recalled the purpose of the meeting and submitted an agenda with two items: review of the conditionnalities and Power sharing.

5. The Parties expressed the need to meet among themselves and bring their own agenda, which was accepted by the Facilitator and the Plenary was adjourned at lunchtime.

6. The Parties met in the afternoon, they elected a Bureau to supervise their meetings and decided to work within the different groups before, holding a plenary session and make a synthesis, which was supposed to constitute the agenda of the session.

7. When they met in plenary at the end of the day, they could not come out with the expected results. Resuming the session, the president of the Bureau reported the lack of progress and the session took note of the stalemate reached by the discussions among parties.

8. The following day, Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> July, was devoted to consultations among the parties to try to harmonize their views and at least discuss on the issues that made a consensus such as the Power sharing and the issue of security.

9. Here also, one should note that no progress was made and consultations are still going on until this Monday morning 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2001, scheduled for the 15<sup>th</sup> Summit.

### **The discussions among parties**

10. It appears that the main difference arose with the fact that the G7 refused to open discussions on the issue of conditionnalities or guaranties. Then another issue was brought in regarding the mandate of some delegates especially from RADDES, INKINZO and ANADDE. Here, it should be recalled the leaders of those parties first declined the invitation to attend the preparatory meeting, but were replaced by members designated by their respective executive committee. Afterwards they changed their position and traveled to Arusha and met the opposition of those who were already representing the parties. This issue brought another reason of stopping all kind of progress.

It should be noted also, that some parties inside the G10 are still supporting Former Minister of the Interior, Colonel Epitace BAYAGANAKANDI as leader of the transition. RADDES, INKINZO and ANADDE one among them, which representatives are now fighting for the legitimacy of their respective mandates. This situation brings a lot of confusion when it comes to the declarations issued on the support to be given to the Facilitator's compromise regarding the leadership of the transition and the putting in place of the transitional institutions.

Meantime, seven Parties of the G10, namely ABASA, one side of ANADDE, one side of INKINZO, PSD, one side of RADDES, VERT-INTWARI and UPRONA signed the following common documents:

- 1) A declaration to support Major Pierre BUYOYA as President of the transition and to denounce the imposition of conditionnalities to the only President;
- 2) A list of six conditionnalities that constitute their concern;
- 3) A letter to President Mandela drawing the attention of the Heads of State on the need for a cessation of hostilities and cease-fire, to make possible the implementation of any decision or any provision of the Accord.

In this connection, the responsibility of the Region is stressed out regarding the pressure that is put only on the side of the Government and its allies, while the armed groups are still operating without more restricting pressure from the countries of the Region.

While expecting the various consultations to reach a suitable compromise for the Summit to start, we have learned that there was an attempt of coup in Bujumbura but the situation seemed to be under control.

## The 15<sup>th</sup> Summit

### Attendance

The following Heads of State attended the 15<sup>th</sup> Summit:

- Yoweri MUSEVENI of Uganda, President of the Regional Initiative for Peace in Burundi;
- President Benjamin MKAPA of Tanzania;
- Daniel Arap MOI of Kenya;
- President Pierre BUYOYA of Burundi.

Vice-President Jacob Zuma of South Africa also attended the meeting. Rwanda was represented by the Prime Minister, DRC by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Minister of Security.

Among other representatives, one can note the presence of Mr. Ali TRIKY, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Libya representing President Muammar KHADAFI.

After intensive consultations between the Heads of States, the Facilitator and Burundian Parties, the Summit opened at 4.20 pm in the Simba Plenary Hall in the AICC.

In his quality as Chairman of the Regional Initiative for Peace in Burundi, President YOWERI MUSEVENI declared that the meeting had achieved a breakthrough concerning the key issue of the leadership of the transition in Burundi. He confirmed that the first 18 months of the transition will be led by Major Pierre BUYOYA as President and Mr. Domitien NDAYIZEYE as Vice-President. Then, he said that the two men had to sign an agreement which was elaborated on the Leadership of the transition including points like power sharing, protection of Leaders coming from outside, integration of Security

Forces and need for cease-fire among others. He asked the fighting groups to stop hostilities and continue the contact conducted by President BONGO of Gabon and Vice-President ZUMA of South Africa.

Finally, President MUSEVENI greeted the great patience of President Nelson Mandela who carried on firmly and efficiently the Burundian talks as Facilitator after late MWALIMU NYERERE. His greetings went also to the Burundian Parties that had made a lot of efforts to achieve the important progress in the Peace Process, and to President MKAPA for not only hosting the meetings but also providing hospitality to the whole “Africa”.

To conclude with, President MUSEVENI announced that the transitional Government will be put in place on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2001 in Bujumbura. Afterwards, he invited President BUYOYA and Vice-President NDAYIZEYE to sign the above-mentioned agreement on the transition and declared the 15<sup>th</sup> Regional Summit on Burundi closed.

Done in Arusha, 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2001.