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HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS SUBMITTED BY STATES PARTIES
UNDER ARTICLE 40 OF THE COVENANT

Initial reports of States parties due in 1991

Addendum

BURUNDI

Corrigendum

1. Add the following introductory paragraphs before paragraph 3:

"With a view to establishing a State subject to the rule of law in Burundi and building a society which respects human rights and freedoms, the Government of Burundi has ratified international human rights declarations and conventions.

The list of international instruments already ratified at the time of the submission of this report is annexed hereto.

In its efforts to establish a State subject to the rule of law, the Government of Burundi has adopted provisions and taken measures for the implementation of international instruments. The articles in question are those of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights."

2. Paragraph 46: amend the second and third sentences to read:

"... endangered respect of the human person, his freedoms, his rights and his life. Power was subverted by ethnic and regional divisions and other aberrations such as nepotism, regionalism, clanism and corruption."

3. Paragraph 49: amend to read:

"The main concerns of the Third Republic are:

To make peace among Burundians;

To restore public confidence;

To improve the management of the State;

To ensure better protection of human rights;

To make the population aware of and give it training in respect for human rights as a moral code."

4. Paragraph 51: amend the last sentence to read:

"This Charter, which is a form of covenant by which the people of Burundi have bound themselves to consolidate their unity once and for all, is a Burundian reference for human rights."

5. Paragraph 52: add the following sentence between the first and second sentences:

"It places particular emphasis on the equal duties and rights of all Burundians, the right to life and individual freedoms and condemns violence and exclusion."

6. Paragraph 54: amend to read:

"...

The atmosphere of peace that now prevails in the country between the components of the national population which used to be in conflict;

The continuation of the process of democratization;

The normalization of relations between Church and State;

The ratification of a number of international conventions and agreements, such as the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees;

The Political Parties Act;

The promulgation of the Non-Profit Associations Organization Act;

Government approval of independent associations for the protection and promotion of human rights;

The Press Act;

The establishment of a disciplinary board to investigate any abuses committed by members of the police force;

The promulgation of an act containing regulations on public demonstrations and public meetings;

The implementation of a policy of voluntary repatriation, resettlement and social and occupational reintegration of Burundian refugees;

The establishment of a centre for the promotion of human rights."

7. Before paragraph 55: amend "B. Democracy" to read: "B. The Constitution of the Republic of Burundi".

8. Paragraph 55: Add the following text between the penultimate and last sentences:

"This Constitution, which was promulgated on 13 March 1992 and proclaims a multiparty system, is another human rights reference. It has 48 articles on the rights and duties of citizens (book II, arts. 10 to 52). In article 10, it also provides that the rights and duties proclaimed and guaranteed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the international covenants relating to human and peoples' rights and the Charter of National Unity are an integral part of the Constitution."

9. Paragraph 58: amend to read:

"...

Respect for life, tolerance, social non-violence and a spirit of equity;

The dignity of the human person;

The common good and respect for other persons' property;

Dialogue and consultation."

10. Delete paragraphs 59 and 60.

11. Paragraph 62: add the following sentence at the end of the paragraph:

"The Government of Burundi is endeavouring to provide the individual with conditions for his development that reflect his dignity as a being endowed with reason, will and freedom."

12. Add the following paragraph between paragraphs 67 and 68:

"Moral integrity

... Burundians attach capital importance to the qualities of men. Moral integrity, uprightness, tolerance, honesty and non-violence are qualities associated with Ubushingantahe."

13. Amend the title of section C to read: "C. Conclusion".

14. Replace paragraphs 70 to 72 by the following text:

"In conclusion, we can affirm that respect for human rights has now become a concern of the Government, institutions and public and private organizations.

The population, the members of the administration and persons in positions of responsibility at all levels are already aware that non-respect for human rights is prejudicial to national unity, peace and the democratic process that is under way.

The measures referred to above, whether relating to national instruments, such as the Charter of National Unity and the Constitution of the Republic of Burundi, or to international instruments already ratified by Burundi (see list annexed hereto), have become part of daily practice.

Although some violations of human rights may still be observed and some international instruments have not yet been ratified, citizens and residents of Burundi, now more than in the past, enjoy the rights and freedoms to which the human person is entitled.

The situation of human rights has improved so much that the Third Republic contrasts with earlier Republics as far as respect for individual and collective rights and freedoms are concerned. It can be proud of the progress made. Thanks to its policies, the people of Burundi enjoys their civil and political rights."

Annex

LIST OF INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS RATIFIED BY BURUNDI
AND THOSE TO BE RATIFIED IN 1992

- (a) Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- (b) International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
- (c) OAU Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa
- (d) Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid
- (e) African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights
- (f) International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- (g) International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- (h) Convention on the Rights of the Child
- (i) Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
- (j) United Nations Convention on the Political Rights of Women
- (k) Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
- (l) Convention relating to the Status of Refugees
- (m) Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees
- (n) Convention against Discrimination in Education
- (o) Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide
- (p) Convention on the Non-Applicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity
- (q) The four 1949 Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols relating to the Protection of Victims of International and Non-International Armed Conflicts.
