

## **TO THE CHAIR OF THE CONGRESS OF DEPUTIES**

The undersigned Parliamentary Groups, according to the points established by Article 193 and subsequent articles in the current Rules of the Chamber, presents the following **Non-Legislative Motion in support of the Inter-Rwandan Dialogue Process** in order for it to be debated by the Committee for International Cooperation for Development.

### **Statement of Motives:**

Today it is public knowledge that countless cases of violation of human rights, war crimes, crimes against humanity, genocide, terrorism and torture have taken place from 1990 to date in the African region of the Great Lakes, and in particular in Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Eleven Spanish nationals have lost their lives in this conflict: Joaquim Vallmajó Sala, Servando Mayor García, Julio Rodríguez Jorge, Miguel Angel Isla Lucio, Fernando de la Fuente de la Fuente, Ma. Flors Sirera Fortuny, Manuel Madrazo Osuna, Luis Valtueña Gallego, Isidro Uzcudun Pouso, Carmen Olza Zubiri, José Ramón Amunarriz – all of them gave their utmost to the people of Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Since 1990, during and after 1994, and to date, the Rwandan conflict has caused the death of hundreds of thousands of innocent Rwandan victims from all ethnic groups (Hutu, Tutsi and Twas). This conflict later spread to the neighbouring Democratic Republic of Congo, causing, directly or indirectly, the death of almost four million innocent victims, both Congolese and Rwandan.

As the U.N. and the European Parliament have repeatedly declared, important geo-political, geo-economic and geo-strategic interests lie at the heart of the causes of this conflict in the Great Lakes region. Despite the appearance of normalcy, this conflict continues to have serious repercussions in Rwanda and in Central Africa in general, as stated in the Non-Legislative Bill No. 161/1176 passed by this Congress on August 31, 2005. Finding a solution to the Rwandan conflict seems to be one of the leading keys to establishing peace in

Central Africa; encouraging and sustaining the dialogue between all parties involved and, especially, integrating women to actively participate in the process is considered as one of the most fundamental means towards the peaceful resolution of this conflict. It [Rwanda] is a country which, thanks to this dialogue, has had since March 2004 the world's highest percentage of congresswomen in parliament (48,8%) as well as women's direct involvement in the mechanism of dialogue and in the processes of exemplary reconciliation. In light of this, UNIFEM's Fiduciary Fund has been providing support in this country to a wealth of projects and good practices set up to fight violence against women. Finally, it is important to highlight the Kigali Statement made in October 2004. In this Statement, women of the region stated their firm commitment to mobilizing, weaving and conducting the dialogue between the aforementioned countries towards peace, development and the integration of the region, claiming back, at the same time, their leading role in such processes.

### **Non-legislative Motion**

1. Provide support to the initiative of an Intra-Rwandan Dialogue which has been initiated, sponsored and made possible in Spain, Rwandans (both from Rwanda and the Rwandan Diaspora abroad), who hold different visions for the future and stand for diverse ethnic, political, military and social stances in Rwanda, have already participated in this Dialogue, which will soon include Rwandan and Congolese people from the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of Congo. This international initiative – which focuses on a highly inclusive dialogue, a peaceful resolution of the conflict and the reconciliation of the aforementioned countries – aims at contributing consensual solutions that are feasible and lasting for present and future generations in these neighbouring territories and in the entire Great Lakes Region in Africa.
2. I. Encourages Rwandans and Congolese people to work jointly with the Spanish facilitators in a way that creates synergies in this process: a process marked by a deep and authentic dialogue

which analyzes the roots of the tragedy, and in which its participants commit themselves to honouring political and democratic guarantees as well as guarantees for security and respect of fundamental rights according to the principles of a Constitutional State.

2. II. Within the framework of the de facto implementation of the U.N. Security Council's Resolution 1325 (from 2000) on women, peace and security, ensuring that the following measures take place: integrating the gender issue into the context of these initiatives; including women and their accredited organizations in order for them to take part in the peace-making and reconstruction processes, as well as in the different stages and mechanisms to be established for the dialogue, and, in addition, in the resulting decision-making processes.

3. Urge European institutions, their Member States and Spanish authorities to cooperate and provide technical, political, legal and diplomatic assistance in any need that may arise during the process of the Intra-Rwandan Dialogue, as one of the key elements for peace-making throughout the Great Lakes Region of Africa.

Congress of Deputies, April 25 2007

(signed)

Spokesperson - Parliamentary Group, Socialist Party

Spokesperson - Parliamentary Group, Popular Party

Spokesperson - Parliamentary Group, Catalanian Party (CIU)

Spokesperson - Parliamentary Group, ERC Party

Spokesperson - Parliamentary Group, Basque Party (EAJ-PNV)

Spokesperson - Parliamentary Group, Izquierda Verde

Spokesperson - Parliamentary Group, Canary Coalition

Spokesperson - Parliamentary Group, Mixed Party