RWANDA

Physical and Social Geography

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The Rwandan Republic, like the neighbouring Republic of Burundi, is distinctive both for the small size of its territory and for the density of its population. Covering an area of 26,338 sq km (10,169 sq miles), Rwanda had an enumerated population of 7,142,755 at the census of 15 August 1991, with a density of 271 inhabitants per sq km. However, political and ethnic violence during 1994 was estimated to have resulted in the death or external displacement of 35%–40% of the total population. Prior to these events, the population had been composed of Hutu (about 85%), Tutsi (about 14%) and Twa (1%). According to the preliminary results of a national census, published in December 2002, Rwanda’s population had recovered to about 8.2m., indicating an increase of 12% since the 1991 census. At mid-2010, according to UN estimates, the population totalled 10,277,212, with a density of 390.2 inhabitants per sq km. The official languages are French, English (which is widely spoken by the Tutsi minority) and Kinyarwanda, a Bantu language with close similarities to Kirundi, the main vernacular language of Burundi.

It seems, at first sight, strange that Rwanda has not been absorbed into a wider political entity. Admittedly, the Rwandan nation has long been united by language and custom and has part of a state that won the respect of the east African slave-traders. However, other ethnic groups, such as the Kongo, Luba, Luo and Zande, which were well established in small territorial areas, have not been able to develop into national states. That Rwanda has been able to achieve this is partly the result of developments during the colonial period. While part of German East Africa, Rwanda (then known, with Burundi, as Ruanda-Urundi) was regarded as a peripheral colonial territory of little economic interest. After the First World War it was entrusted to Belgium under a mandate from the League of Nations. The territory was administered jointly with the Belgian Congo, but was not absorbed into the larger state. The historic separateness and national traditions of both Rwanda and Burundi have prevented their amalgamation.

Although the land supports a high population density, physical conditions are not very favourable. Rwanda’s land mass is very rugged and fragmented. It is part of a Pre-Cambrian shelf from which, through erosion, the harder rocks have obtruded, leaving the softer ones submerged. Thus very ancient folds have been raised and a relief surface carved out with steep gradients covered with a soil poor in quality because of its fineness and fragility. Rwanda’s physiognomy therefore consists of a series of sharply defined hills, with steep slopes and flat ridges, which are intersected by deep valleys, the bottoms of which are often formed by marshy plains. The north is dominated by the lofty and powerful chain of volcanoes, the Virunga, whose highest peak is Karisimbi (4,519 m) and whose lava, having scarcely cooled down, has not yet produced cultivable soil.

The climate is tropical, although tempered by altitude, with a daily temperature range of as much as 14°C. Kigali, the capital (860,000 inhabitants at mid-2007, according to UN estimates), has an average temperature of 19°C and 1,000 mm of rain. Altitude is a factor that modifies the temperature (and prevents sleeping sickness above about 900 m), but such a factor is of debatable value for agriculture. Average annual rainfall (785 mm) is only barely sufficient for agricultural purposes, but two wet and two relatively dry seasons are experienced, making two harvests possible.

Recent History

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Based on an earlier article by THOMAS OFCANSKY

HUTU ASCENDANCY

Rwanda was not an artificial creation of colonial rule. When Rwanda and Burundi were absorbed by German East Africa in 1899, they had been established kingdoms for several centuries. In 1916, during the First World War, Belgian forces occupied the region. From 1920 Rwanda formed part of Ruanda-Urundi, administered by Belgium under a League of Nations mandate and later as a UN Trust Territory. In 1961 it was decided by referendum to replace Rwanda’s monarchy with a republic, to which full independence was granted on 1 July 1962. Political life in the new Republic was dominated by its first President, Grégoire Kayibanda, and the governing party, the Mouvement démocratique républicain (MDR), also known as the Parti de l’émancipation du peuple Hutu (Pare-hutu). Tensions between the majority Hutu (comprising about 85% of the population) and their former Belgian-imposed overlords, the Tutsi (14%), which had sporadically erupted into serious violence during 1963–65, recurred in late 1972 and early 1973. These tensions were the seeds of the 1994 genocide, perpetrated by Hutu, of between 800,000 and 1m. people, mostly Tutsi but also some Hutu and Twa who were considered to be Tutsi sympathizers.

In July 1973 the Minister of Defence and head of the National Guard, Maj.-Gen. Juvénal Habyarimana, deposed Kayibanda, proclaimed a Second Republic and established a military Government under his leadership. In 1975 a new ruling party, the Mouvement révolutionnaire national pour le développement (MRND), was formed. A referendum in December 1975 approved a new Constitution, aimed at returning the country to civil government in accordance with an undertaking by Habyarimana in 1973 to end the military regime within five years. Habyarimana was elected President in the same month. An unsuccessful coup attempt took place in April 1980, and elections to the legislature, the Conseil national du développement (CND), were held in December 1981 and in December 1983; also in December 1983 Habyarimana was re-elected President.

From 1982 cross-border refugee problems began to affect Rwanda’s relations with Uganda, and would later contribute to violence within Rwanda. In October Rwanda closed its border with Uganda after an influx of 45,000 refugees, most of whom were Rwandan exiles fleeing Ugandan persecution. A further 32,000 refugees gathered in camps on the Ugandan side of the border. In March 1983 Rwanda agreed to resettle more than 30,000 refugees, but Ugandan persecution of ethnic Rwandans continued, and in December thousands crossed into Tanzania. In November 1985 it was reported that 30,000 ethnic Rwandan refugees had been repatriated to Uganda. In 1986 the office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reported
that there were about 110,000 registered Rwandan refugees living in Uganda, while an even greater number of refugees were believed to have settled in Uganda without registering with UNHCR. In July the central committee of the MRND issued a declaration that Rwanda would not allow the return of large numbers of refugees, since the country’s economy was incapable of sustaining such an influx. In the same year, President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda announced that Rwandan refugees resident in Uganda without registering were believed to have settled in Uganda without registering. In late June the UN Security Council approved the creation of UN Observer Mission Uganda-Rwanda (UNOMUR), to be deployed on the Ugandan side of the border for an initial period of six months, in order to block FPR military supply lines. In late July 1993 Habyarimana met representatives of the five political parties represented in the Government and sought a further extension of the mandate of the transitional Government. However, the Prime Minister’s insistence that the FPR should be represented in any newly mandated government exacerbated existing divisions within the MDR, prompting Habyarimana to conclude the agreement with a conciliatory group of MDR dissidents, including the Minister of Education, Agathe Uwilingiyimana, as Rwanda’s first female Prime Minister on 17 July. The Council of Ministers was reorganized to replace the disaffected MDR members. The coalition Government and FPR representatives initiated a new dialogue in May 1992 and conducted formal discussions in Paris, France, during June. Further negotiations, in Arusha, Tanzania, in July, resulted in an agreement on the implementation of a new cease-fire, to take effect from the end of the month, and on the mandate of a military observer group (GOM) sponsored by the Organization of African Unity (OAU, now the African Union—AU), to comprise representatives from both sides, together with officers drawn from the armed forces of Nigeria, Senegal, Zimbabwe and Mali. However, subsequent negotiations in Tanzania, during August, September and October, failed to resolve outstanding problems concerning the creation of a ‘neutral zone’ between the Rwandan armed forces and the FPR (to be enforced by the GOM), the incorporation of the FPR in a Rwandan national force, the repatriation of refugees, and the demands of the FPR for full participation in the transitional Government and legislature. A resurgence in violence followed the breakdown of negotiations in early February 1993, resulting in the deaths of hundreds on both sides. An estimated 1m. civilians fled southwards and to neighbouring Uganda and Tanzania in order to escape the fighting, as the FPR advanced as far as Ruhandi and seemed, for a time, on the verge of capturing Kigali. Belgium, France and the USA denounced the actions of the FPR, which reinforcements were dispatched to facing a small French military contingent, stationed in Kigali since October 1990, in order to protect French nationals. Meanwhile, the Commander of the GOM declared that the group possessed inadequate manpower and resources to contain the advance of the FPR and requested the deployment of an additional 400 OAU troops. In late February 1993 the Government accepted FPR terms for a cease-fire in return for an end to attacks against FPR positions and on Tutsi communities, and the withdrawal of foreign troops. Although fighting continued with varying intensity, new peace negotiations were convened in March in Arusha. Later that month France began to withdraw its troops. Negotiations conducted during April 1993 failed to produce a solution to the crucial issue of the structure of future unitary Rwandan armed forces. In the same month the five participants in the ruling coalition agreed to a three-month extension of the Government’s mandate in order to facilitate a peace accord. Further talks during May between the Government and the FPR in the northern town of Kinihira produced significant progress, including an agreed schedule for the demobilization of the 19,000-strong security forces. In June an agreed protocol outlined the repatriation of all Rwandan refugees resident in Uganda, Tanzania and Zaire, including recommendations that compensation be made to those forced to exile more than 12 years earlier. In late June the UN Security Council approved the creation of UN Observer Mission Uganda-Rwanda (UNOMUR), to be deployed on the Ugandan side of the border for an initial period of six months, in order to block FPR military supply lines.

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On 4 August 1993 Habyarimana and Col Alex Kanyarengwe of the FPR formally signed a peace accord in Arusha. A new transitional Government, to be headed by a mutually approved Prime Minister (later named as the MDR moderate faction leader, Faustin Twagiramungu), was to be installed by 10 September. A multi-party general election was to take place after a
22-month period, during which the FPR would participate in a transitional government and national assembly. In mid-August the Government revoked the curfew in Kigali and removed military road-blocks from all but three northern prefectures. By the end of the month, however, the Prime Minister was forced to make a national appeal for calm, following reports of renewed outbreaks of violence in Kigali and Butare, Rwanda's second largest population centre. The Government and the FPR attributed the failure to establish a transitional government and legislature by 10 September to the increasingly fragile security situation, and both sides urged the prompt dispatch of a neutral UN force to facilitate the implementation of the Arusha Accord. Meanwhile, relations between the Government and the FPR deteriorated, following the rebels' assertion that the Government had violated the Accord by attempting to dismantle and reorganize those departments assigned to the FPR under the terms of the agreement.

UN INTERVENTION

On 5 October 1993 the UN Security Council adopted Resolution 872, endorsing the recommendation of the UN Secretary-General for the creation of the UN Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR), under the leadership of Canadian Lt-Gen. Romeo Dallaire, to be deployed in Rwanda for an initial period of six months, with a mandate to monitor observance of the cease-fire, to contribute to the security of the capital and to facilitate the repatriation of refugees. UNAMIR, incorporating UNOMUR and GOM, was formally inaugurated on 1 November, and comprised some 2,500 personnel. In mid-December the UN declared that it was satisfied that conditions had been sufficiently fulfilled to allow for the introduction of the transitional institutions by the end of the month.

In December 1993 UNAMIR officials escorted a 600-strong FPR battalion to Kigali (as detailed in the Arusha Accord) to ensure the safety of FPR representatives selected to participate in the transitional Government and legislature. On 5 January 1994, Habyarimana was invested as President of a transitional Government, for a 22-month period, under the terms of the Arusha Accord. (Habyarimana's previous term of office, in accordance with the Constitution, had expired on 19 December 1993.)

During January and February 1994 Dallaire reported that the Habyarimana Government was increasing anti-Tutsi propaganda across Rwanda, stockpiling weapons and training youth militias. Dallaire insisted that anti-Tutsi sentiment was rapidly increasing and that violence against Tutsi was likely in the coming months. In March the Prime Minister-designate, Faustin Twagiramungu, declared that he had fulfilled his terms of the Arusha Accord. (Habyarimana's previous term of office, in accordance with the Constitution, had expired on 19 December 1993.)

On 8 April 1994 the Speaker of the CND, Dr Théodore Sindikubwabo, announced that he had assumed the office of President of the Republic, in accordance with the provisions of the 1991 Constitution. The five remaining participating political parties and factions of the Government selected a new Prime Minister, Jean Kambanda, and a new Council of Ministers (largely comprising MrNDD members). The FPR immediately challenged the legality of the new Government, which had fled to the town of Gitarama to escape escalating violence in the capital, and was subsequently rejected by factions of the PL and MDR (led by Faustin Twagiramungu), and by the PDC and the PSD, which in May announced that they had allied themselves as the Democratic Forces for Change.

FPR Offensives and the Refugee Crisis

In mid-April 1994 the FPR resumed military operations from its northern stronghold, with the stated intention of relieving its beleaguered battalion in Kigali, restoring order to the capital and halting the massacre of Tutsi civilians. Grenade attacks and mortar fire intensified in the capital, prompting the UN to mediate a fragile 60-hour cease-fire, during which small evacuation forces from several countries escorted foreign nationals out of Rwanda. Belgium's UNAMIR contingent of more than 400 troops was also withdrawn, after Hutu militia-occupied 10 Belgian soldiers. President Habyarimana named Prime Minister Sindikubwabo as the new Prime Minister of Staff of the Rwandan armed forces. In Kigali, although it was unclear who had been responsible for the attack on the aircraft, the presidential guard obstructed UNAMIR officials attempting to investigate the crash site and immediately initiated a brutal campaign of retribution, violence against political opponents and the late President Habyarimana. As politicians and civilians fled the capital, the brutality of the political assassinations was compounded by attacks on the clergy, UNAMIR personnel and Tutsi civilians. Hutu civilians were instructed to murder their Tutsi neighbours. The mobilization of the Interahamwe, or unofficial militias (allegedly affiliated with the MrNDD and the CND, whose areas of influence had been mandated by the Arusha Agreement to contribute to the security of the capital and to facilitate the repatriation of refugees), in an consultative role as established by the Arusha Accord, and Faustin Twagiramungu, declared that he had fulfilled his term of the Arusha Accord. In March the Prime Minister-designate, and comprised some 2,500 personnel. In mid-December the UN declared that it was satisfied that conditions had been sufficiently fulfilled to allow for the introduction of the transitional institutions by the end of the month.

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and international relief organizations. However, on 16 May, following intense international pressure and the disclosure of the vast scale of the humanitarian crisis in the region, the UN Security Council approved Resolution 917, providing for the eventual deployment of some 5,500 UN troops with a revised mandate to include the policing of Kigali's airfields and the protection of refugees in designated ‘safe areas’. In late May 1994 the UN Secretary-General criticized the failure of UN member states to respond to his invitation to participate in the enlarged force (only Ghana, Ethiopia and Senegal had agreed to provide contingents, albeit small ones). Further UN-sponsored attempts to negotiate a ceasefire failed in late May and early June, and the FPR made significant territorial gains in southern Rwanda, forcing the Government to flee Gitarama and seek refuge in the western town of Kibuye.

In early June 1994 the UN Security Council adopted Resolution 925, whereby the mandate of the revised UN mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR II) was extended until December. However, the UN Secretary-General continued to encounter considerable difficulty in securing equipment and armaments requested by the African countries that had agreed to participate. By mid-June confirmed reports of retributive murders committed by FPR members (including the massacres, in two separate incidents in early June, of 22 clergymen, among them the Roman Catholic archbishop of Kigali) and the collapse of a fragile truce, negotiated at a summit meeting of the OAU, prompted the French Government to announce its willingness to lead an armed police action, endorsed by the UN, in Rwanda. Although France insisted that its military presence (expected to total 2,000 troops) would maintain strict political neutrality and operate, from the border regions, in a purely humanitarian capacity pending the arrival of a multinational UN force, the FPR vehemently opposed its deployment, citing the French administration’s maintenance of high-level contacts with representatives of the self-proclaimed Rwandan Government as an indication of political bias. On 25 June the first contingent of 150 French marines commandeered the ‘Operation Turquoise’, entering the western town of Cyangugu, in preparation for a large-scale operation to protect refugees in the area. By mid-July the French initiative had successfully relieved several beleaguered Tutsi communities and had established a temporary ‘safe haven’ for the displaced population in the south-west, through which a mass exodus of Hutu refugees began to flow, encouraged by reports (disseminated by supporters of the defeated interim Government) that the advancing FPR forces were seeking violent retribution against Hutu. An estimated 1m. Rwandans sought refuge in the border town of Goma, in Zaire, while a similar number attempted to cross the border to currency in the south-west. The FPR swiftly secured all major cities and strategic territorial positions, but had halted its advance several kilometres from the boundaries of the French-controlled neutral zone, requesting the apprehension and return for trial of those responsible for the recent atrocities.

At the end of June 1994 the first report of the UN Special Rapporteur on human rights in Rwanda confirmed that at least 500,000 Rwandans had been killed since April, and urged the establishment of an international tribunal to investigate allegations of genocide. In early July the UN announced the creation of a commission of inquiry for this purpose.

THE FPR TAKES POWER

On 19 July 1994 Pasteur Bizimungu, a Hutu, was inaugurated as President for a five-year term. In November a multi-party protocol of understanding was concluded, providing for a number of amendments to the terms of the August 1993 Arusha Accord, relating to the establishment of a transitional legislature. The most notable of these was the extension, from the legislative process of members of those parties implicated in alleged acts of genocide during 1994. A 70-member National Transitional Assembly was installed on 12 December. On 5 May 1995 the new legislature announced its adoption of a new Constitution based on selected articles of the 1991 Constitution, the terms of the August 1993 Arusha Accord, the FPR’s victory declaration of July 1994 and the November 1994 multi-party protocol of understanding.

In July 1999 Rwanda announced the end of the five-year transitional Government and its replacement by a four-year national unity Government. The new transitional period permitted the Government to complete the national reconciliation process, restore internal security, improve the economy and social services and establish a democratic system. Critics rejected the unilateral extension of political power and claimed that the Government’s action revealed its undemocratic and dictatorial nature.

The increasingly stringent policies of the Government, which by this stage was dominated by supporters of Vice-President Kagame and FPR Chairman, Paul Kagame, and an increasing number of prominent figures to flee Rwanda. A notable case involved the popular Speaker of the Transitional National Assembly, Kabuye Sebarenzi, who had campaigned for good governance and official accountability. After moving from the FPR to the PL and drawing attention to government ministers accused of corruption, Sebarenzi’s political fortunes gradually waned. In December 1999 the PL President, Pio Mugabo, postponed the vote for a new party President, reportedly on orders from Kagame. Sebarenzi had been expected to be elected to this post, which would have strengthened his chances of winning the election for the national presidency. In early January 2000 the Transitional National Assembly formally removed Sebarenzi’s resignation on apparently fabricated charges of official misconduct, organizing genocide survivors against the Government and supporting the ‘army of the king’. Later that month Sebarenzi, who feared that the Government would assassinate him, fled to Uganda, then to Europe, and finally to the USA. Bizimungu resigned as President on 23 May and subsequently relocated to the USA. Kagame served as provisional President until 17 April, when members of the legislature and the Government elected him, by 81 votes to five, as the first Tutsi President since Rwanda gained independence from Belgium in 1962. Kagame, who was to serve for the remainder of the transition period, until legislative and presidential elections in 2003, pledged to facilitate political decentralization and to expedite the trial of some 125,000 genocide suspects in prison and conduct local government elections.

Corruption pervaded all levels of government. In September 1999 a legislative commission of inquiry implicated several government ministers in cases of corruption, some of whom subsequently resigned. A further parliamentary inquiry discovered that, when he was Minister of Education in 1995, the Prime Minister, Pierre-Cléomint Rwigyema, had been implicated in the diversion of funds from a World Bank education programme almost exclusively to his own home town of Gitarama. Rwigyema survived a motion of censure in the Transitional National Assembly in November 1999, but was replaced two months later. In March 2004 the Auditor-General, Gervais Ntaganda, informed the legislature that some 60 public institutions reported that tenders valued at US $5.8m. for 2002 had not been processed by the national tender board, as scheduled. Moreover, $7m. of government spending was unaccounted for during that year and, of 44 cases of alleged embezzlement of government funds, only nine were referred for trial and only two cases had been heard. However, the authorities did dismiss 139 police officers in March 2004 for a series of crimes, including bribery and corruption, although allegations of corruption among senior government officials remained uninvestigated.

On 29 June 2000 the Ministry of Local Government and Social Affairs introduced legislation on decentralization, which aimed to make the district (akarere) the principal organ of local government. Apart from providing judicial services, the akarere was to assume responsibility for agriculture, extension, forestry and veterinary services. Other akarere duties included social welfare, health, education and teacher training, and the supervision of health, water, fire brigades, co-operatives, roads, land titles and tourism services. A legislative council and an executive committee, aided by an executive secretary, were to govern the akarere. This initiative was the most ambitious political scheme ever undertaken in post-independence Rwanda. Its success depended on the availability of donor aid, the authorities’ ability to collect taxes and the central Government’s
willingness to transfer adequate funds and power to the akarere. Many donors insisted that, in order to receive foreign aid, Rwanda would have to shed its authoritarian culture and near-total concentration of power in the central Government.

On 1 July 2000 former Prime Minister Rwigyema, the leader of the MDR, fled from Rwanda and sought political asylum in the USA, deeply embarrassing the Kagame regime. The Hutu-dominated MDR responded to Rwigyema’s self-imposed exile by removing him from the presidency of the movement and denouncing him after he issued a statement condemning Kagame as a dictator. The MDR elected Céléstin Kabanda, who enjoyed considerable support among Rwanda’s Hutu population, as its interim President. However, in February 2001 an MDR committee announced that it had removed Kabanda, owing to repeated allegations that he had participated in the 1994 genocide. In an about-face, in October the MDR’s political bureau confirmed Kabanda’s election as the party President. Désiré Nyandwi, the influential Minister for Local Government and Social Affairs, endorsed the bureau’s decision.

In May 2001 Alexandre Kimenyi, a former senior FPR member who had relocated to the USA, announced the formation of an opposition party, the Alliance rwandaise pour la rénaissance de la nation (ARENA). He maintained that membership of the organization was open to all Rwandans and that it was pro-monarchy. Despite its increasing popularity among some expatriates, ARENA was unable to form a credible opposition to Kagame’s Government.

ELECTIONS AND THE END OF THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD

On 6 March 2001 Rwanda conducted nation-wide elections for local officials. A high proportion of eligible voters participated in the polls. President Kagame claimed that the elections represented a significant measure towards democratization. However, Rwandan government statistics indicated that about 45% of the electorate had voted. The elections were contested by only one candidate in many districts. International human rights organizations condemned the elections as unfair; many voters claimed they participated in the polls for fear of receiving fines or other penalties, while local and international election monitors only received the requisite documentation late on the day before the elections, making it impossible to observe pre-election activities, such as registration, and difficult to reach distant polling stations.

On 26 May 2003 some 93.4% of the electorate approved a new Constitution. The European Union (EU) Electoral Observation Mission in Rwanda subsequently reported that the referendum had been conducted in ‘satisfactory conditions’. The Constitution mandated a bicameral legislature, which would comprise an 80-member Chamber of Deputies and a 26-member Senate. Also that month the Government endorsed a parliamentary report that urged the banning of the MDR for propagating a ‘divisive ideology’ and the prosecution of 47 of its members and supporters for ‘ethnic extremism’. The human rights organization Amnesty International accused the Rwandan authorities of orchestrated suppression of political opposition, and Human Rights Watch maintained that the Government was seeking to eliminate any opposition prior to Rwanda’s presidential and parliamentary elections, due to be held in August and September, respectively. On 4 June the new Constitution entered into effect. However, the International Federation of Human Rights claimed that the Constitution would inhibit multi-party pluralism and freedom of expression and recommended that the Rwandan authorities guarantee such rights. Meanwhile, former Prime Minister Twagiramungu announced that he would contest the presidential election against Kagame. As most of his supporters were members of the political opposition in exile, prospects of his winning the election were minimal.

On 25 August 2003 Kagame won the first election to take place in Rwanda since the 1994 genocide, with 95.1% of the valid votes cast. Twagiramungu won 3.6% of the votes, and the only other opposition candidate, Jean-Népomuscène Naysinza, 1.9%. Twagiramungu subsequently accused the authorities of electoral malpractice, and submitted a challenge against the official results to the Supreme Court. EU monitors confirmed that irregularities had occurred, although a South African observer mission declared that the poll had been ‘free and fair’. In early September the Supreme Court rejected Twagiramungu’s appeal. Kagame was officially inaugurated on 12 September. On 30 September 218 candidate representatives (submitted by parties, political groups and 19 independents) contested legislative elections for 53 of 80 seats in the Chamber of Deputies. Official figures indicated that some 96% of registered voters participated in the election, although independent observers maintained that the number of voters was less than the presidential poll. The FPR won 33 seats; the PSD secured seven seats, the PL six, the Parti démocrate centriste three, the Parti démocrate idéal two, the Parti socialiste rwandais one and the Union démocratique du peuple rwandais one. The new Constitution reserved the remaining seats in the Chamber of Deputies for ‘special groups’ (24 women’s representatives, two youth representatives and one representative of disabled persons). On 2 October some 20,000 representatives of provincial women’s groups contested the 24 seats reserved for women, while local government officials and academic representatives contested 14 of the 26 Senate seats. On 9 October President Kagame appointed eight senators, as authorized by the Constitution. (A further four senators were nominated by the ‘Parties’ Forum.’) The EU assessed, however, that there were serious irregularities in the presidential and legislative elections.

In 2004–05 the Kagame administration accused several government officials of promoting the ‘ideology of genocide’. In July 2004 the Chamber of Deputies published a report accusing several local civil society organizations, including the Ligue rwandaise pour la protection des droits de l’homme (LIPRODHOR), one of Rwanda’s largest human rights organizations, of supporting such an ideology. The report also rebuked some international non-governmental organizations (NGOs), such as CARE International and Trócaire Overseas Development Agency, for supporting these local organizations. Nevertheless, eight LIPRODHOR officials fled to Uganda, claiming they were in danger from government agents. In September LIPRODHOR’s general assembly, having been obliged by the Government to conduct an internal investigation, issued a statement denouncing some of its members for ‘genocide-related acts’. In early January 2005 the legislature renewed its accusations that LIPRODHOR was propagating a genocidal ideology and ethnic divisionism. Several senior LIPRODHOR members then fled Rwanda, while at a general meeting the organization issued an appeal to the people of Rwanda. The Government again declined to close LIPRODHOR as the legislature’s report had recommended, although it ordered a further internal investigation. The subsequent chaos forced LIPRODHOR to cease operations. On 28 September 2004 President Kagame dismissed three ministers (responsible for the interior, health, and youth, culture and sports) for poor performance, and accused many other officials of divisionist activities.

POST-GENOCIDE CRIMINAL JUSTICE

On 8 November 1994 the UN Security Council adopted Resolution 955, establishing the UN International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) to be convened in Arusha, despite the negative vote of Rwanda, which held a non-permanent seat on the Council in 1994. The ICTR began formal proceedings in late November 1995 and the first trial began in January 1997. By 31 July 2009, the date of the ICTR’s most recent annual report to the UN General Assembly and Security Council, the ICTR had completed judgments at the first instance of 45 people and judgments at the appeal level of 27 people. These decisions established important international criminal law precedents concerning the definition of crimes (particularly genocide and rape) and the accountability of perpetrators, regardless of their official position.

In February 1996 the Rwandan Prime Minister announced the creation of special courts within the country’s existing judicial system. Under these arrangements, Rwanda’s Supreme Court Chief Prosecutor began investigations in
of Rwanda, for example, had undertaken to begin trials for 750 genocide suspects in September 2004 using the gacaca system, but this process was delayed until 2005. Meanwhile, in December 2004 the National Service of Gacaca Jurisdictions reported that it would use lists of genocide suspects that the Netherlands-based NGO Penal Reform International had earlier rejected as inadmissible on the grounds that they presumed guilt. Hearings of genocide suspects’ cases before nearly 9,000 gacaca tribunals ultimately commenced on 10 March 2005. Defendants have included several current government officials, and Prime Minister Bernard Makuza and the Minister of Justice Jean Gatsinzi, among others. It appeared that Makuza would not be liable for prosecution, but Gatsinzi, a former commander of the École des sous-officiers in Butare, was accused of providing weapons to Hutu troops to kill Tutsi. Gatsinzi admitted that some military personnel under his command had been involved in killings, but rejected allegations that he had assisted them.

The Rwandan Government claimed that up to 1m. suspects might eventually be charged with genocide during gacaca hearings, causing the Prosecutor-General to suggest that the Government change its judicial strategy as the gacaca system would be unable to process so many cases. Gacaca hearings were further complicated in early 2005 when thousands of Hutu reportedly fled to neighboring countries to avoid possible prosecution. In Burundi, for example, UNHCR initially granted refugee status to some 2,000 recently arrived Rwandans. However, after complaints from the Rwandan Government, Burundi released a statement indicating that the Rwandans would not be granted refugee status, that it would urge them to return home, and that it would proceed with trials against those who refused. Additionally, it was announced in October 2006 that France, Belgium and the Netherlands had agreed to seek those who had taken up residence in those countries and bring them to trial.

In July 2006 phase two of the gacaca system began. The gacaca process was scheduled for completion in mid-2009, much of the first few months of 2009 having been spent prosecuting those accused of Category 1 genocide crimes.
including local orchestrators of the genocide and individuals suspected of committing crimes of sexual violence. The most recent version of the gacaca law (adopted in May 2008) shifted to the jurisdiction of the gacaca courts the remainder of Category I genocide cases still awaiting trial in the national courts. This was an attempt to prosecute more serious crimes such as the national courts, which were struggling to try the thousands of day-to-day cases before them. The Government proposed that, after its genocide caseload had been completed, the gacaca courts should be maintained as a community-based legal system designed to consider minor infractions, leaving the national courts to prosecute more serious crimes such as corporate fraud and murder. By August 2010 the gacaca courts had completed their backlog of genocide cases in all but a few jurisdictions. The Government officially opened a documentation centre in Kigali containing the handwritten records of around 1m. gacaca trials from around the country, making it the largest repository in the world of evidence relating to a mass crime.

2008 LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS

On 15 September 2008, in only the second legislative election to be held since the genocide of 1994, the FPR secured a resounding victory, winning 78.8% of the votes cast and 42 of the 53 directly elected seats; the PSD took seven seats and the PL four. It was the first time that women outnumbered men in the legislature, occupying some 56% of the seats. Turn-out for the elections was estimated at over 98%. In the following month, Rose Mukantantabana was nominated as Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, the first woman to hold that position in the country’s history.

2010 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

On 9 August 2010 Rwanda held its second presidential election since the genocide. According to official results released by the National Election Commission Paul Kagame, secured an overwhelming victory, winning 93.1% of the votes cast. His closest challenger, Dr Jean Damascene Ntawukuriryayo of the PSD, took just 5.2% of the votes, while Prosper Higiro of the PL ing victory, winning 78.8% of the votes cast and 42 of the 53 directly elected seats; the PSD took seven seats and the PL four. It was the first time that women outnumbered men in the legislature, occupying some 56% of the seats. Turn-out for the elections was estimated at over 98%. In the following month, Rose Mukantantabana was nominated as Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, the first woman to hold that position in the country’s history. overcome the challenges inherited from the civil conflıct, under President Paul Kagame, the Government has embarked on a new course towards peace and social development. This has included the implementation of the gacaca system designed to consider minor infractions, leaving the national courts to prosecute more serious crimes such as corporate fraud and murder. By August 2010 the gacaca courts had completed their backlog of genocide cases in all but a few jurisdictions. The Government officially opened a documentation centre in Kigali containing the handwritten records of around 1m. gacaca trials from around the country, making it the largest repository in the world of evidence relating to a mass crime.

Due process or expeditious trials often did not occur and genocide trials continued to move slowly. There were restrictions on freedom of speech and of the press, and limited freedom of association, assembly and religion. Other problems cited in the report included child labour, human trafficking, sexual violence and discrimination against ethnic minorities, particularly the Batwa. Various international human rights organizations, such as Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch, expressed similar concerns.

The record of the Armée patriotique rwandaise (APR—the FPR’s military wing) in eastern DRC has alarmed many international human rights organizations, owing to consistent reports of the APR’s executions, rape, forcible removal of people and other abuses. An increasing number of people from the Kivu provinces of eastern DRC, especially non-Banyarwanda, strongly oppose the APR because of its harsh treatment of local populations. Many non-Banyarwanda have joined anti-Rwandan Mai-Mai militias to combat the APR and its Banyarwanda allies. In May 2000 Human Rights Watch released a report, entitled Eastern Congo Ravaged, which outlined the excesses committed by the APR in the DRC. Soon after, Amnesty International published Democratic Republic of the Congo: Killing Human Decency, which indicated that the APR had killed tens of thousands of civilians in the Nord-Kivu province since 1998. In particular, Amnesty International cited the APR’s killing of 74 civilians in a church, in the region of Kailenge.

In November 2002, the International Crisis Group (ICG) criticized Rwanda’s poor human rights record, particularly regarding the country’s activities in eastern DRC. In June 2003 Rwanda and Burundi agreed to co-operate in bringing stability to the Great Lakes region by supporting peace efforts in Burundi and the DRC. In October Rwanda announced that it would create a commission of inquiry to investigate two cases of alleged resource exploitation in the DRC, but the Government continued to dismiss reports of human rights violations by Rwandan troops in the DRC as uninfomed and biased. In April 2004 Rwanda deployed troops along its border with Burundi and the DRC, in anticipation of possible attacks from Hutu rebels. Burundi accused Rwandan government forces of invading Ruhoro and Kaburantwa Valley, in the north-western province of Cibitoke, and demanded their withdrawal. The Burundian authorities subsequently announced that Rwanda had complied with the request.

REGIONAL CONCERNS

Rwanda’s 1997 military intervention in the DRC marked a turning point in Central Africa’s history. The Kagame Government justified its actions by claiming that its armed forces sought to eliminate Hutu rebel groups there. However, it soon became evident that Rwandan troops, together with their Ugandan counterparts, had also started a systematic campaign to loot the region’s resources. Efforts by the UN and the international community to prevent this illegal exploitation failed. Meanwhile, by 2004 various international human rights organizations believed that more than 4m. had died in eastern DRC as a result of warfare, disease and starvation. In June Col Jules Mutebutsi, a Congolese Tutsi rebel commander, and a number of his troops had sought refuge in Rwanda, after clashing with personnel of the UN Observer Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) in Bukavu. UNHCR refused to grant refugee status to Mutebutsi and his troops until it received proof that they were no longer combatants. In late August the Rwandan Government sought to placate the UN by moving Mutebutsi and his soldiers from a temporary camp, known as Ndenezzi, near the DRC border, to a camp in the remote district of Gikongoro. This move, however, failed to allay UN fears that Mutebutsi and his followers remained combatants. The UN also accused the Kagame Government of arming dissident militias in the DRC’s Ituri district in Province Orientale and operating a military training camp in Kibungo province for ex-civilians from the Kiziba and Gihembe refugee camps. Rwanda denied the allegations. On 13 August Rwanda blamed the Forces démocratiques pour la libération du Rwanda (FDLR), regarded as the successor force...
Recent History

to the former Rwandan army and containing Interahamwe militia members who fled to the DRC after the 1994 genocide, for killing 152 Congolese Tutsi refugees in the Burundian Gatumba refugee camp, near the border with the DRC. The Rwandan Government threatened to deploy troops in the DRC unless MONUC and the Congolese authorities took action, and additionally demanded that MONUC abandon its ineffective, voluntary disarmament programme for the FDLR. MONUC responded that its efforts to disarm the FDLR had failed because Rwanda and its DRC-based allies continued to carry out military operations in eastern DRC that disrupted its operations. Additionally, MONUC accused Rwanda of using FDLR activities as justification for re-intervention in the DRC. In September 2004 the UN announced that the Rwandan and DRC Governments had agreed to launch a Joint Verification Mechanism (JVM) to enhance border security. Accordingly, both countries pledged to take reports of fighting to the JVM for verification before they were passed to the media.

In early November the DRC armed forces and MONUC commenced joint missions in the Walungu district of Sud-Kivu province to persuade the FDLR to disarm and return home. Shortly after, the FDLR launched a rocket attack on Rwanda’s Gisenyi province from Nord-Kivu. In November 2004, Kagame warned the AU that Rwandan troops would intervene in the DRC if the armed forces and MONUC failed to disarm the FDLR. The UN, the EU, the United Kingdom, the USA, Belgium, South Africa and other countries cautioned Kagame about intervening in the DRC, while many donors, including the Swedish Government, suspended aid to the Rwandan Government. On 1 December MONUC reported that there were around 100 Rwandan troops in the Virunga national park along the Rwanda–DRC–Uganda border. According to the DRC Government, these troops had been fighting the FDLR in Nord-Kivu for at least a week; however, the Rwandan Government denied that it had any forces in the DRC. In early December DRC armed reinforcements clashed with military units of dissidents loyal to the pro-Rwanda Rassemblement Government denying that it had any forces in the DRC. Nord-Kivu for at least a week; however, the Rwandan Government denied that it had any forces in the DRC. In early December DRC armed reinforcements clashed with military units of dissidents loyal to the pro-Rwanda Rassemblement Government denying that it had any forces in the DRC. Nord-Kivu.

However, the DRC Government maintained that the incident involved its armed forces and invading Rwandan troops. The JVM investigated the matter, but was unable to confirm whether Rwandan troops had participated in the fighting. Nevertheless, MONUC suspected that Rwanda provided military aid to the RCD. On 20 December the Rwandan Government responded to growing international criticism by announcing that it would no longer intervene in the DRC. On 31 March 2005 the FDLR unexpectedly condemned the 1994 genocide, pledged to co-operate with the ICTR and announced that it would no longer intervene in the DRC. The FDLR Katoyi, Kibua, Kirambo, Gitoyi, Rubugu and Panamo in the Walungu district of Sud-Kivu province issued arrest warrants for Kagame and nine of his associates, alleging that they were involved in the assassination of Habyarimana.

In response, Rwanda immediately severed relations with France, ordering the French ambassador and other diplomats in Rwanda to leave the country. To further demonstrate its split from France and its historic sphere of influence in Africa, in December Rwanda stated its desire to join the Commonwealth—a goal it achieved in November 2009, with strong support from the United Kingdom. However, also in November it was announced that, following extensive consultations and negotiations between the two countries, Rwanda and France were to restore diplomatic relations. In early January 2010 Laurent Nkunda, who had fled to Zimbabwe, was appointed ambassador to Rwanda and days later Kouchner visited Kigali for further discussions regarding the normalization of relations between the two countries. Rwanda officially reopened its embassy in Paris in late February immediately prior to the visit of President Nicolas Sarkozy to Rwanda during which France admitted that it had made a number of ‘serious errors of judgement’ (although again no admission of responsibility was forthcoming) in the period following the assassination of President Habyarimana, and pledged to bring any person suspected of involvement in the genocide resident in France to justice. The decision taken the previous month by the French authorities to create a special investigative unit as part of the Tribunal de Grande Instance in Paris to expedite the prosecution of genocide crimes was welcomed by the Rwandan Government.

In mid-April 2004 156 Rwandan soldiers arrived in the Darfur region of western Sudan to protect the AU observer mission there (see the chapter on Sudan). These were the first foreign troops to arrive in Darfur, and the Rwandan Government was widely commended internationally for sending them. In his valedictory address to the contingent, Kagame announced that he expected the troops to defend Sudanese civilians as well as protect AU observers. In November Rwanda dispatched another military contingent to Darfur, bringing its total personnel strength in the AU mission to around 400 troops. In February 2005 Kagame visited the Rwandan troops in Darfur and met with the Sudanese President, Lt-Gen. Omar Hassan Ahmad al-Bashir, for discussions. The Rwandan President maintained that he was acting in co-operation with Sudan to resolve the Darfur crisis, while al-Bashir declared that the two countries were linked by a ‘common concern’ for peace. When he returned to Rwanda, Kagame urged the AU to
increase the number of troops in Darfur, claiming that, after the experiences of Rwanda in 1994, the international community could not allow another genocide to occur in Darfur. By mid-2010 12 Rwandan peace-keepers had been killed during fighting in Darfur.

**Economy**

**DUNCAN WOODSIDE**

Based on an earlier article by FRANÇOIS MISSE with subsequent revision by PHILIP VERWIMP

**INTRODUCTION**

Rwanda has two main physical obstacles to economic development: the extreme population density and the distance from the sea. The population problem, with its concomitant effect on food resources, is aggravated by soil erosion caused by leaching and other natural factors. Rwanda’s economy took a long time to recover from the 1994 genocide, which, among other shocks, saw around one-quarter of the country’s population flee to neighbouring countries and almost wiped out the cattle stock. It took until 2001 for gross domestic product (GDP) to recover to pre-genocide levels, according to the Government. Overall GDP increased, in real terms, at an average annual rate of 6.8% in 1996–2006. Real economic growth in 2006 and 2007 was lower, at 5.5% and 6.0%, respectively, according to the IMF, although this was partially owing to the average growth numbers for the 10 years to 2006 being buoyed by relatively low base figures.

Real GDP grew by 11.2% in 2008 according to the central bank, the Banque Nationale du Rwanda (BNR), with the agricultural sector performing particularly well. In 2009 economic expansion slowed to 4.1% in real terms, a relatively high rate of growth compared with most countries, with much of the world in deep recession.

In large part, this resilience was due to robust foreign investment, after the World Bank designated Rwanda the world’s top reformer in its annual Doing Business report in 2009, which praised the country for enhancing transparency and simplifying the procedures involved in establishing a business. Registered investment in the country increased by 41% during 2009, to a total of US $1,110m., according to the Rwanda Development Board, with foreign investment accounting for $524m. (or 47.6%) of the total. This success in attracting foreign investment came despite the collapse of a $230m. venture with Dubai World, an investment fund based in the United Arab Emirates, to build tourism projects.

Four major foreign investment projects were agreed in 2009. In the telecommunications sector, Sweden’s Millicom International Cellular invested US $100m.; in the alternative fuels sector, deals worth a combined $250m. were signed with the US company Eco-Fuel Global and the United Kingdom’s Eco Positive; and, in the gas sector, the Government signed a $300m. agreement with Canada’s ContourGlobal. The latter was Rwanda’s largest foreign investment deal to date, and involved a 100-MW power project, utilizing methane gas from beneath Lake Kivu.

However, despite this progress, Rwanda remained an extremely poor country with the vast majority of its people living in poverty (particularly outside the capital, Kigali). The UN Development Programme’s (UNDP) 2009 Human Development Index, which ranks countries in a league table based on education, income and access to health care, placed Rwanda 167th out of 182 countries, and firmly within the category of ‘low’ human development.

As with nearly all countries world-wide—and particularly those where food makes up a very high proportion of the consumer basket—Rwanda experienced a rise in inflation during 2008, due to soaring soft commodity prices. The annual inflation rate reached 11% in March 2008, but then declined to below 9% in May. With inflation under 10% in such a challenging environment, it remained clear that the BNR and the Government were continuing to maintain strong macroeconomic discipline. The Rwanda franc was trading at around 538 per US dollar in July 2008, slightly stronger than at the beginning of the year (the currency had already been very stable in dollar terms over a period of five years). The strength of economic management has been a key factor behind ongoing donor support, with aid continuing to account for close to 50% of the country’s budget. Inflation decreased considerably in 2009, and by April 2010 consumer price growth was recorded at just 0.6% year on year. The Rwanda franc was also stable, at around 575 per US dollar in late May 2010.

In January 2010 a full customs union came into force throughout the East African Community (EAC), comprised of Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Rwanda. The latter, through its government and Burundi. In effect, this meant that tariffs between member states were eliminated (creating a free trade area), completing a phased reduction, which began in 2005. Rwanda did not join the EAC until June 2007, giving the country less time to adjust to full competition with Kenya (the region’s most competitive exporter), with implications for the terms of trade. A common market came into effect in July 2010, entailing the free circulation of services, citizens and capital.

**AGRICULTURE**

**Agricultural Production**

The IMF stated in February 2008 that commitment to agricultural reform was crucial to the outlook for Rwanda’s economy, with Deputy Managing Director Murilo Portugal underlining that modernizing the industry to ensure food security and develop farming infrastructure represented particularly important challenges. This followed the release of a report by UNDP in July 2007, which maintained that the country needed to deal urgently with the problems generated by deficient agriculture investment and high population growth. Rwanda’s population stood at 10.3m. by 2010, with a population growth rate of close to 3% per year, and it is the most densely populated country in Africa. In this context, the IMF reported in July 2008 that the Rwandan Government was formulating a broad-based agricultural reform plan, elements of which would include soil conservation.

Some 89.4% of the labour force were employed in the agricultural sector in 2010. The sector contributed 57.2% of total export revenue (including re-exports) in 2003. About 95% of the total value of agricultural production is provided by subsistence crops. While these have failed to meet the needs of the population, the annual increase in production of subsistence crops broadly kept pace with population growth until 1977. Since then the area of land annually made available for subsistence crops has increased marginally, and moreover, crop yields are declining in many areas, owing to erosion and the traditional intensive cultivation methods used. (The problem of erosion was exacerbated during 1990–94 by the felling by displaced Rwandans of trees for timber and charcoal.) This resulted in the late 1980s in increasing strains on food production, and consequently in severe food shortages. Attempts to increase the yield of small farm plots have included a recent initiative to cultivate climbing beans.

The principal food crops are bananas, sweet potatoes, potatoes, cassava, beans, sorghum, rice, maize and peas. In general terms, production of cereals—particularly maize and sorghum—is strong. In early 2005 the Government launched a 10-year rice development programme. Rice was selected as a ‘priority crop’ by the Government, since it performs well in
RWANDA

Economy

Coffee

Revenue from coffee fluctuates considerably from year to year. After a disappointing crop in 2007, which totalled just 15,000 metric tons, Rwanda produced 22,000 tons of coffee in 2008, according to the Office des Cultures Industrielles du Rwanda—Café, owing to favourable weather conditions. Earnings from the crop rose to US $46.9m. in 2008, compared with $30.2m. in 2007.

Part of the reason for the poor crop in 2007 had been over-picking and a high preponderance of mature trees in 2006, with many of these mature trees giving way to new trees, which initially bring a lower yield. A further 40m. new seedlings were due to be planted in 2008. Other long-term factors supported the outlook for the coffee industry, enabling the country to move up the value-added chain. Investment was being made in washing stations, as fully washed coffee commands higher prices than unwashed coffee on international markets. As a result, the authorities planned to wash 10,000 metric tons of coffee in 2008, compared with 3,000 tons in 2007.

The 2009 coffee crop totalled 24,000 metric tons, according to the Rwanda Coffee Development Authority (RCDA). This was lower than the original forecast, due to the impact of a drought, which badly affected coffee-growing regions. The RCDA was aiming to produce 40,000 tons of coffee annually by 2011.

In December 2007 the US company Starbucks announced that it would open a Starbucks Farmer Support Center for East Africa in Rwanda. The centre was to be staffed by a full-time agronomist, who would work with farmers to increase yields and quality. In a further recognition of Rwanda’s ability to produce quality coffee, Starbucks announced that it would start selling Rwanda Blue Bourbon Coffee in European markets for the first time in March 2008. Moreover, this coffee would be marketed under its coveted Black Apron Exclusives range. This particular coffee is grown at between 1,700 m and 2,000 m above sea level in Cyangugu province, in south-west Rwanda. Starbucks announced in June 2009 that it would start selling Rwandan coffee certified as ‘fair trade’, which ensures a minimum income for farmers, in the United Kingdom and Ireland.

Tea

As with the coffee industry, the tea industry in Rwanda is notoriously volatile, owing to fluctuations in production and international prices. The two-and-a-half-year period from the beginning of 2006 to the middle of 2008 neatly encapsulated how volatile resultant tea earnings can be. In 2007 tea output rose by 25%, to 20,000 metric tons, from 16,000 tons in 2006, but a regional supply glut meant that earnings were less, at US $48m., compared with $41.9m. in 2006. Airling to estimates made by the IMF in July 2008. However, earnings in the first six months of 2008 were $26m., almost comparable with total earnings in 2007. These earnings resulted from output of 11,000 tons, up from 9,400 tons in the first six months of 2007, despite poor rains in the north of the country and hailstorms in the west. While improved output played a part, a recovery of prices was a bigger factor in the high revenues recorded in the first half of 2008. Indeed, average prices at the weekly auction in Kenya’s Mombasa port reached $2.2 per kg in the first half of 2008, compared with $1.7 per kg in 2007. Poor rainfall affected Kenya (which accounts for 75% of regional tea output) more than Rwanda, squeezing regional supply and sending prices higher.

The 2008 tea crop was supported by both favourable weather and very buoyant international tea prices. Export earnings from the crop in 2008 were registered at US $47.6m., according to IMF estimates, compared with $31.6m. in 2007 and $31.9m. in 2006. Despite a recovery that affected the tea crop in early 2009, the harvest, which declined to 20,300 tons, earned a total of $48m. during the calendar year, according to the Rwanda Tea Authority (RTA), due to a recovery in prices. In 2009/10 the RTA projected tea sector earnings of $54m., based on a forecast production level of 24,000 tons. In early 2010 the Government was targeting tea production of 35,000 tons per year by 2012, by increasing the area of land set aside for the tea crop to 21,000 ha, up from 12,000 ha.

Coffee

Agricultural productivity, owing to the failure to make a proper transition to intensive high-value farming. The state policy of displacing a large number of rural poor to government-designated marsh areas, which had been initiated in early 1999, was criticized by foreign human rights organizations in June 2001. The basic aim of the reform was to substitute the dispersed habitat and create larger landholdings in order to boost productivity. However, human rights activists, while agreeing that making agriculture more productive was imperative, considered that such reforms should not be made at the expense of the poor. The US-based organization Human Rights Watch accused military officers and businessmen with government connections of having appropriated large holdings of land from the poor.

Coffee

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Livestock
By July 1994 the livestock sector was in extreme crisis and the majority of the country’s livestock had disappeared (although some cattle were introduced by refugees returning from Uganda). However, between 1998 and 2000 livestock numbers increased from 657,137 to 732,123 head of cattle, from 192,344 to 248,345 sheep, from 481,145 to 756,522 goats and from 120,928 to 177,220 pigs, according to the Ministry of Finance and Planning. In an attempt to stimulate dairy production and increase household income, the Government and UNDP began working with communities in Mutara prefecture. Since 2000 farmers have been encouraged to produce yoghurt, cheese and cooking fat. By early 2005 some livestock numbers were approaching pre-war levels. According to government statistics, the numbers of cattle and poultry had reached 88% and 70% of the levels recorded in 1994, respectively, but the proportion was 30% for goats. In order to boost milk output, Rwanda has imported several hundred cows from Germany and South Africa; these are more productive than the local Ankole breed but more vulnerable to disease. In early 2005 an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in livestock herds necessitated the quarantining of six districts in four provinces. In 2008 livestock numbers were estimated by FAO at 950,000 head of cattle, 470,000 sheep, 1.3m. goats and 270,000 pigs.

The dairy sector is expanding rapidly. Fish production is also increasing rapidly, owing to the development of fisheries projects in Lake Kivu and in other smaller lakes throughout the country. From 1,300 metric tons in 1994, the total catch increased to 9,438 tons in 2008.

INDUSTRY
The industrial sector followed the usual pattern for less-developed African states, and food-based industries predominated, with the major companies prior to 1994 being BRALIRWA, the Rwandan subsidiary of a Dutch brewery, the Régie Sucrerie de Kibuy (sugar-processing) and the Office de la Natazione, with the major companies prior to 1994 being BRALIRWA, the Rwandan subsidiary of a Dutch brewery, the Régie Sucrerie de Kibuy (sugar-processing) and the Office de la Natazione

The Government announced in April 1994 that 50% of the shares in the BRALIRWA plant would be sold before the end of the year. The Government announced in April 1994 that 50% of the shares in the BRALIRWA plant had resumed production. In 2009 BRALIRWA announced a rebranding to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the company, including a move into the Tanzanian market. In December 2009 the company announced the establishment of a financial intelligence unit to track, receive, process and evaluate banking data in the pursuit of terrorists and illicit funds associated with other criminal activities. In October 2008 anti-money-laundering legislation was ratified by Rwanda’s legislature. The legislation provided for the establishment of a financial intelligence unit to track, receive, process and evaluate banking data in the pursuit of terrorists and illicit funds associated with other criminal activities. However, despite this progress, the IMF continued to urge further reform of the banking sector. A Financial Sector Development Plan had been finalized in May 2007. Its core aims were four-fold: to increase the affordability of financial services (including extending the provision of microfinance); to enhance savings mobilization; to modernize the regulatory framework; and to restructure the national payments system. The IMF adjudged in February 2009 that weaknesses in the system remained, emphasizing a need fully to implement the Financial Sector Development Plan. In particular, the Fund stated that adequate credit was still not being provided to the agriculture sector.

MINING
Cassiterite (a tin-bearing ore) is Rwanda’s principal mineral resource. Tin exports were worth US $8.5m. in the first 10 months of 2008, followed by wolframite (a tungsten-bearing ore), columbo-tantalite (coltan) and gold. Cassiterite exports therefore accounted for 46% of total mineral exports, which reached $81.9m. in the first 10 months of 2008. On 12 April 2001 a UN panel of experts on the illegal exploitation of the DRC’s natural resources recommended that the UN Security Council impose an embargo against all Rwandan mineral exports. The report alleged that much of the Rwandan economy integrates more closely with fellow members of the East African Community (EAC). The Banque Commerciale du Rwanda, the country’s second biggest lender (after Brankigali), registered a profit of $3.5m.

SERVICES
A key emerging sector in Rwanda is the banking industry, as the country’s economy integrates more closely with fellow members of the East African Community (EAC). The Banque Commerciale du Rwanda, the country’s second biggest lender (after Brankigali), registered a profit of $3.5m. Rwanda francs ($US 6.4m.) in 2007, a year-on-year rise of 28.5%. The bank had been insolvent before a majority shareholding was taken by London-based private equity company Actis in 2005. The takeover enabled the bank to clean up its loan book (which had been clogged by non-performing assets dating back to the genocide). The strong profit recorded in 2007 would enable the bank to continue expanding its operations, helping to boost the extension of credit to private enterprises in the Rwandan economy, which has long been held back by a deficient banking infrastructure. The bank intended to open new branches across the country and increase automatic teller machines in 2008 and beyond.

A further factor that bodes well for the development of Rwanda’s banking industry—and, by extension, the country’s private sector as a whole—was the approval of Kenya Commercial Bank’s (KCB) application for a licence in the country. KCB had already opened branches in Tanzania, Uganda and southern Sudan. Rwanda’s decision to grant market entry to the bank was interpreted as a positive development, which would help to intensify local competition and improve services for local entrepreneurs.

Rwanda’s services sector was a key driver of the country’s strong growth in 2008, when the economy expanded by 11.2% in real terms, according to the BNR. The banking sector once again performed extremely well, in contrast to the financial sectors of developed countries. A 46.6% increase in the number of bank accounts was recorded in 2008, with over 1.1m. operating by the end of the year, compared with just over 750,000 at the end of 2007, according to François Kanumba, the Governor of the BNR. Meanwhile, non-performing loans in the banking system declined from 13.8% of total loans to 9.3% during the course of 2008. The operating environment for the country’s biggest lender, Banque de Kigali, therefore improved during the year, despite the suspension of its planned privatization (see below). Banque de Kigali had registered a 44% increase in net profit in 2007, to 4,200m. Rwanda francs, following a 47.6% rise in deposits, to 101,800m. Rwanda francs. In October 2008 anti-money-laundering legislation was ratified by Rwanda’s legislature. The legislation provided for the establishment of a financial intelligence unit to track, receive, process and evaluate banking data in the pursuit of terrorists and illicit funds associated with other criminal activities.

However, despite this progress, the IMF continued to urge further reform of the banking sector. A Financial Sector Development Plan had been finalized in May 2007. Its core aims were four-fold: to increase the affordability of financial services (including extending the provision of microfinance); to enhance savings mobilization; to modernize the regulatory framework; and to restructure the national payments system. The IMF adjudged in February 2009 that weaknesses in the system remained, emphasizing a need fully to implement the Financial Sector Development Plan. In particular, the Fund stated that adequate credit was still not being provided to the agriculture sector.

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Rwanda’s exported coltan, cassiterite, gold and diamonds included Congolese products, which were exploited and exported in illicit circumstances (at that time Rwanda’s army was present in the DRC). The panel adopted this conclusion by comparing Rwandan official statistics for 1995 and 2000, which demonstrated a dramatic rise in gold exports, from 1 kg to 10 kg, in cassiterite exports, from 247 metric tons to 437 tons, and in coltan exports, from 54 tons to 87 tons. Rwanda’s exports of minerals have continued to outstrip domestic production. However, Rwanda’s production prospects improved following the announcement of the discovery of gold deposits by Mauritian mining company TransAfrica Resources in February 2009. Additionally, in November another Mauritius-based company, Gatumba Mining Concessions, announced that it would invest at least US $2.5m. and build 10 small coltan-processing plants in the country over the period 2010–15. The company was also considering the feasibility of two ‘medium-sized’ open-cast mines, which would extract coltan.

Natural Gas
Another important mineral to be exploited is natural gas, which was discovered beneath Lake Kivu on the border with the DRC. Reserves of an estimated 60,000m. cu m (about one-half of the DRC) are believed to be among the largest in the world. In May 2000 Rwanda’s water, electricity and gas parastatal, Electrogaz, initiated talks with the South African company Mosgas to discuss the possibility of exploiting the Lake Kivu methane and gas resources. Two pilot installations, funded by the European Union (EU), produce gas, but here again the small size of the potential market casts doubt on the likely profitability of large-scale processing. However, Electrogaz hopes to receive Belgian funding for a programme to increase its daily output of gas from 5,000 cu m to 25,000 cu m. In October 1997 the Governments of Rwanda, Uganda and the DRC agreed to finance a joint feasibility study to exploit the gas reserves of Lake Kivu. In September 1999 the Bank for Development and Industrial Promotion announced plans to submit a project for the establishment of a further pilot installation to process the Lake Kivu gas resources to the European Investment Bank, the Commonwealth Development Corporation, the International Finance Corporation and the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA). In July 2002 the Israel Electric Corporation negotiated a ‘build-operate’ contract with the Rwandan authorities for the construction of a 25-MW methane power station. The overall electricity generation potential from natural gas resources was estimated at 200 MW by a private consultant and at 700 MW by the Rwandan Government. Speculation regarding the potential of Lake Kivu’s resources to augment Rwanda’s electricity supply increased dramatically in 2006 when the Government approved a US $127.7m. project to be developed by The GasLink Corporation, a subsidiary of the US firm, ContourGlobal, subsequently signed an agreement with the Government to develop the US $325m. power project, which, according to the company, would involve extracting gas from a lake-based platform from a depth of 350 m. The gas would then be processed and carried through a pipeline to a proposed onshore plant, which would be situated close to the lake-shore, in the town of Kibuye.

ENERGY
Rwanda has long suffered power shortages. In 2007 the country generated 165.4 GWh of electricity, but total demand stood at 248.7 GWh, according to government statistics. Only 5% of the country’s population was connected to electricity in 2010, compared with a government target of 34% of the population by 2020. Fossil fuels accounted for just over one-half (54%) of electricity generation, while the remaining 46% was accounted for by hydroelectric power.

Rwanda planned to build a hydropower plant on the River Nyabarongo from 2008, and requested a modification of its Poverty Reduction and Growth Facility (PRGF) with the IMF to accommodate construction of the project. The total cost of the project was to be US $112.7m., or approximately 3% of GDP, and it was to be built over a period of four years. The IMF expressed misgivings after the authorities failed to secure borrowing on concessional terms (i.e. below non market rates) for 50% of the project. The Government expressed its determination to press ahead with construction, which it regarded as crucial to the country’s future development. To help finance construction, the Government secured $80m. in funding, including a grant from Exim Bank of India. Almost one-half of Rwanda’s electricity is supplied from hydroelectric sources, as the land relief is ideal for power generation. According to studies undertaken by the Energie des Pays des Grands Lacs, part of the Economic Community of the Great Lake Countries, the Ruzizi river alone offers potential generating capacity totalling 500 MW, of which only a fraction is currently being used.

The Government announced in October 2009 that it was in negotiations with two independent power producers which firm which dominates energy generation in the country, from an existing 69 MW, by the end of 2012. A further goal was to reduce retail electricity prices by over 30% (to US $0.15 per kWh) over the same period. This would be achieved by the commencement of gas production at ContourGlobal’s methane project, with 25 MW set to come on stream by October 2011 and a further 75 MW by the end of 2012.

In accordance with its objective to transform the country into a centre of services and a low cost centre of production for the region, which requires regular power supply as a pre-condition, the Rwandan Government declared 2004 to be ‘the year of energy’. The first priority established by Lahmeyer International, which took over management of Electrogaz by the end of 2003, was to reduce technical losses in the transport and distribution of power. A second objective was to improve Electrogaz’s performance, and thus create a favourable context for privatization. By early 2004 the African Development Bank (AfDB), the World Bank and the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) Fund for International Development were considering investing US $50m. in order to support the Government’s energy and water programmes. Electrogaz was also seeking complementary funds in order to improve the distribution networks in Kigali and other urban areas. The state-owned company was also planning to provide Kigali with a strategic reserve of 5 MW of thermal origin. By early 2004 2-MW generators were already being rehabilitated, and Electrogaz was considering the acquisition of generators in order to
enable the Gatsatsa diesel station near Kigali to produce the remaining 3 MW. Power cuts resulting from increased demand were becoming more frequent by the end of 2003. After the completion of its rehabilitation, Electrogaz was considering several options to expand its capacity. The most advanced is the project to convert into electricity the methane of Lake Kivu. Electrogaz was trying to interest local companies, which were seeking larger and more secure power supplies, in joint ventures for the construction of small pilot plants with a maximum capacity of 2 MW. Meanwhile, the Government was continuing talks with an Israeli-Norwegian independent power producer, Dane Associates, to develop a 200-MW gas-powered plant. In a first phase, an extraction unit with a 20-MW–30-MW capacity, split into four units, in order to be compatible with existing installations, was to be established. Electrogaz also planned to restore the capacity of existing hydropower infrastructure, such as the Ruzizi 1 plant (10 MW), in the neighbouring DRC. In late 2003 the Rwandan company dispatched a team of experts, which estimated the cost of such rehabilitation work at $1.5m. In January 2004, at a ministerial meeting held in Kigali within the framework of the Nile Basin Initiative, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania and Uganda expressed interest in the development of the Rusumo Falls hydropower project on the Rusumo river. The capacity of which was estimated at 65 MW–70 MW. Insufficient rainfall in 2004 aggravated Rwanda’s chronic electricity shortfall: Electrogaz’s supplies declined by 20%. As an emergency response, in June the Government provided financial assistance for the purchase of 12.5 MW of new diesel generation capacity from Global Power System (Belgium/Germany), for the extension of the installation in Kigali (7.8 MW), for a Mid-Stream extension of the Gatsata power station, at a total cost of €4.3m. In addition, the Government planned to add a 10-MW–15-MW thermal capacity by 2006–07 in order to meet demand. In March 2005 Dane Associates signed an agreement with the Government of Rwanda for a 49-year concession to extract methane gas from the central Kibuye section of Lake Kivu, to be used to generate electricity to be sold to Electrogaz. The two companies established a joint venture called Kibuye Power 1 to manage the operation, which was to require an estimated total investment of US $60m.

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Internal communications in Rwanda are operated almost exclusively along the relatively well-developed road system (14,008 km in 2004), as there are no railways nor navigable waterways (except Lake Kivu). Asphalted highways link Rwanda with Burundi, Uganda, the DRC and Tanzania. They also connect the principal towns. Tarmac roads extend to just over 1,000 km which, given the small size of the country, is one of the highest densities in Africa. In early 1999 world finances for the asphalting of the 91-km Gitarama–Kibuye road were completed. Moreover, the World Bank agreed to disburse an additional US $10m. by the end of 1998 for the construction of roads to connect the nearby villages to the Gitarama–Kibuye road in order to facilitate the transporting of crops. Rwanda’s external trade is heavily dependent on the ports of Mombasa (Kenya), Dar es Salaam (Tanzania) and Matadi (DRC), and about 80% of Rwandan exports and imports pass through Uganda and Kenya. In mid-2007 the World Bank reportedly agreed to disburse a grant of some US $11m. to facilitate the construction of roads in the northern provinces and to reconstruct the 83-km road connecting Kigali with Gisenyi in the DRC. The rehabilitation of these sections of road comprised part of the Government’s Transport Sector Development Project, which had received an additional grant from the Africa Growth Catalyst fund valued at some $38m. earlier in the year. Feasibility studies have been conducted for a railway network to link Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and Tanzania. The Rwandan business community showed renewed interest in the sector in early 2000, dispatching a delegation to the railway terminal of Isaka (Tanzania) to discuss with the local authorities and the Tanzania Railway Corporation plans to make greater use of this central corridor, combining a road link from Kigali to Isaka (500 km) and the railway line from Isaka to the port of Dar es Salaam (1,300 km). In April 2000 Burundi, Rwanda and Tanzania expressed their renewed intention to seek funds to build the railway link between Isaka and Kigali with a possible extension to Burundi. Nearly eight years later, in January 2008, Tanzania announced that it expected work to begin on the line from Isaka to Kigali before the end of the year.

Two foreign airlines, Belgium’s Brussels Airlines and Italy’s Meridiana, were selected to bid for a 40% stake in Rwanda’s national carrier, Rwandair Express, in June 2007. In that year Rwandair, the country’s only airline, offered services to Kenya, Uganda and Burundi on a daily basis, while also flying to Tanzania and South Africa three times a week. However, the winning bidder had still not been selected by mid-2009.

In early 2004 more than 300 secondary schools were provided with internet connectivity. In February 2005 President Paul Kagame stated, at the African Information Communications Technologies conference in Accra, Ghana, that all of the country’s secondary schools were to be connected to the internet by 2017. Kagame also announced that broadband infrastructure was in place in Rwanda, that there was fibre-optic infrastructure in Kigali and most other towns and that the authorities planned to extend this to other areas of the country. Rwanda, like other East and Central African countries, relies on satellite as a sole medium for international connectivity. However, the Government has, through Rwandatel, subscribed to the future East African Submarine Cable System. The number of internet centres was increasing rapidly in the country. In early 2005, for example, farmers at Maraba were using such facilities to communicate with other coffee producers from the rest of the world. The Government announced in July 2008 that it would invest 1,500m. Rwanda francs in telecommunications infrastructure in rural areas in 2008. The funding came from a 2% tax on the total turnover of landline operator Rwandatel and the main cellular operator MTN Rwandacell (a privately owned South Africa-Rwanda partnership). A state-sponsored company, New Artel, was to use the money to invest in areas that the two main telecommunications operators did not reach. New Artel has a strong focus on increasing internet connectivity. The authorities were also targeting a highly ambitious 50% penetration rate for telephone services to its population by 2010. In 2008 only 9% of the population had access to telephony. A third combined 15-year fixed and mobile licence was secured in December 2008 by Swedish operator Millicom, which started operations in the country with its Tigo Rwanda brand in November 2009. At mid-January 2010 Millicom had a total of 123,897 subscribers in Rwanda, while Rwandatel had 487,250 mobile subscribers at that time. According to the Rwandan Utilities Regulatory Agency (RURA). However, MTN remained the market leader by a wide margin, with 1.8m. subscribers. The mobile penetration rate in January 2010 was 24% of the population. RURA aimed to increase this rate further by promoting enhanced competition and by reducing the retail price of the cheapest mobile minutes, while 20,000 Rwanda francs (approximately US $14) to 2,000 Rwanda francs, with plans to subsidize 50% of the cost of each phone.

DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

Despite criticisms of Rwanda’s involvement in the conflict in the DRC and the illegal exploitation of Congolese mineral resources, including the 1994 genocide (1990–1998) and (1998–2002), which were followed by Kigali sponsoring proxy armed groups for many years), Kagame’s regime has received the continued support of donors. This is partly due to long-standing sentiments of remorse within the international community and among non-governmental organizations over the failure to prevent the 1994 genocide, but is also a consequence of the Government’s willingness to effect political reforms and to manage donor funds in a highly transparent manner.
In 2002 the US Agency for International Development (USAID) planned to support the three priority areas: development relief and conflict prevention; global health; and economic growth. USAID also announced its intention to increase its efforts to counter HIV/AIDS by expanding awareness activities, working with other donors to prevent mother-to-child transmission and providing counselling and other support to infected persons. In that year USAID was in the early stages of implementing a three-year, multifaceted effort to stimulate agricultural production and promote broad-based economic growth, complemented by a substantial development programme. The prime objective of the programme included human resources development at the principal agricultural research, training and educational institutions, policy advice to the then Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Resources and Forestry, and the expansion of agribusiness and export opportunities. In 2000 Rwanda was the main recipient of Belgian development aid on the African continent, with a loan totalling 412.5m. Belgian francs.

In January 2001 Rwanda, declared eligible to benefit from the IMF- and World Bank-sponsored initiative for heavily indebted poor countries (HIPC) in December 2000, obtained debt relief of US $810m., which was to contribute substantially to the alleviation of the country’s debt burden. Total outstanding external debt was estimated at $1,324m. by the end of 2000, equivalent to 73% of GDP. More than 87% of Rwandan external debt was owed to multilateral partners, principally the World Bank Group, with $998.4m., followed by the AfDB ($208.4m.). The main bilateral creditors were France ($352.2m.), the People's Republic of China ($32.2m.), Saudi Arabia ($29.8m.), Egypt ($29.4m.) and Japan ($13.6m.).

The Government estimated that annual cash flow savings from this relief would be about $20m.--$30m. per year, equivalent to 1.5% of GDP, in 2001–10. In April 2001 Rwanda also completed an interim Poverty Strategy Reduction Paper, which was to serve as the basis for both concessional lending and debt relief under the enhanced HIPC initiative. The debt relief was expected to benefit the health, education, agriculture and infrastructure sectors.

The World Bank intensified its financial support to Rwanda in 2001, with the adoption of a US $48m. programme to revitalize the rural economy, increase rural income and reduce poverty. The project, which was financed by a credit from IDA, was to focus on the rehabilitation of farmed marshland and hillside areas, the promotion of commercial and export-orientated agriculture, support for agricultural services delivery systems, small-scale infrastructure development and the encouragement of off-farm productive activities. However, by 2005 only a small amount of money had actually been spent on this project, owing to an apparent lack of the then Minister of Agriculture and a perceived lack of oversight at the World Bank. The appointment of a new Minister of Agriculture and new World Bank staff in 2005 and 2006 was expected to bring about improvements. This project was part of a $165m. rural development programme, launched in December 2001, which was to be 95% financed by the World Bank. This larger programme, which was to be implemented over a 14-year period, involved the construction of infrastructure and research centres, with the aim of finding new commercial outlets for Rwanda’s agricultural products.

In March 2002 the AfDB, which approved a US $30m. loan in 2001, opened a permanent office in Kigali in order to intensify its co-operation with Rwanda. In January 2001, President Kagame emphasized the Rwandan Government’s achievements since 1994: state revenue, negligible in 1994, had reached 70,000m. Rwanda francs by 2000, while the number of Rwandan university students had increased from 3,000 to 7,000 during the same period, and 355 hospitals and health centres had been rehabilitated. However, Rwanda’s high levels of infant mortality, low life-expectancy, which was still below 50 years, and the Rwandan population’s low purchasing power. By mid-2006 health indicators remained a cause for concern. Women and children were suffering disproportionately as a result of high fertility rates, a low proportion of births attended by qualified personnel, poor nutrition and high mortality rates. HIV/AIDS remained a serious problem, with prevalence rates estimated by UNAIDS at 3.1% of persons aged 15–49 years in 2005. In that year, however, important progress was made in re-establishing health systems. The expansion in health care expenditure initiated in 2003 was consolidated, with recurrent health expenditure reaching almost 1%. Progress made in the education sector in previous years was consolidated during 2004, with important policy reforms implemented. The introduction of fee-free education led to a further improvement in primary enrolment.

In February 2008 the IMF authorized disbursement of US $1.8m. from the country’s $12.7m. PRGF, taking total loans under the three-year programme to $7.2m. In May 2008 the release of full details of the fourth review of the PRGF pointed to continued uninterrupted multilateral support. This review stated that a planned large-scale energy project should have a ‘manageable’ impact on debt sustainability, while helping to alleviate ‘binding infrastructure bottlenecks’. This followed a positive evaluation of the project’s viability by the World Bank.

A 24% rise in spending was proposed in the 2009/10 budget, taking expenditure from 676,000m. Rwanda francs to 838,000m. Rwanda francs (US $1,470m.), including recurrent expenditures of 481,000m. Rwanda francs, development spending of 342,000m. Rwanda francs and 15,000m. Rwanda francs for redressing payment arrears and other items. Revenue, meanwhile, went up from 799,600m. Rwanda francs (including 344,000m. Rwanda francs in donor funds), resulting in a forecast budget deficit of 68,000m. Rwanda francs, or $119m., which would be offset by loans, including bilateral lending from Asia and the Middle East. According to the IMF, in 2009/10 total expenditure was projected at 814,900m. Rwanda francs, slightly below the budgeted level, while total revenue was 799,600m. Rwanda francs, marginally above the amount initially budgeted.

Following completion of three consecutive PRGF programmes and significant debt relief, the Government requested a three-year Policy Support Instrument (PSI). In July 2010 the IMF confirmed its support for the initiation of a PSI, which would focus on three key areas: fiscal consolidation (including efforts to generate higher revenues); monetary and exchange rate reforms (centred on a more flexible exchange rate and inflation-targeting); and structural reforms (focusing on the elimination of infrastructure ‘bottlenecks’, enhanced regulation of the financial sector and an expansion of the export base).

President Kagame and US President George W. Bush signed a bilateral investment treaty in February 2008. The treaty’s details included the free transfer of investment-related funds, non-discriminatory treatment for companies working in one another’s countries and provisions for compensation in the event of expropriation. Trade flows between the two countries increased during 2007, with Rwanda’s exports to the USA increasing by 43%, to US $13m., and Rwanda’s imports from the USA increasing by 37%, to $16m.

The Netherlands and Sweden suspended bilateral financial aid to Rwanda’s Government in December 2008, after a UN panel of experts made allegations of links between Rwanda and Tutsi-led rebels in the neighbouring DRC. The Netherlands had planned to transfer €3m. to the Rwandan Government by the end of 2008, followed by €4m. in 2009, while the Swedish bilateral assistance was to total €4.5m. in 2008. In January 2009 the Rwandan Minister of Finance and Planning Musoni claimed that the amounts involved would not affect Rwanda’s budgetary planning, as the Government was able to draw on reserves that it had earlier been planning to save.

In an article for the British newspaper Financial Times in May 2009, President Kagame argued that aid often left recalcitrant populations ‘unstable, distracted and more dependent’. He added that a ‘discussion’ needed to take place on ‘when to end aid and how best to end it’. However, at that stage, Rwanda remained a long way from terminating its dependence on foreign aid. The 2008 budget was 49%-funded by foreign donors, according to the country’s 2008–10 budget framework paper. The World Bank and the United Kingdom’s Department for International Development were the biggest aid donors for the 2008 budget.
A mini-budget for the first six months of 2009 was approved by Rwanda’s cabinet in October 2008. From 1 July 2009 the country would marry its financial year (hitherto in line with the calendar year) with the July/June fiscal period followed by other EAC members. The EAC is an intergovernmental body comprising Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda, and is designed to promote regional integration and trade. Rwanda’s 2009 mini-budget amounted to US $687.2m. and prioritized four key development areas: governance and sovereignty; human development and social sectors; infrastructure; and capacity building.

FOREIGN TRADE
Like many emerging markets, Rwanda has maintained a trade deficit, as it imports significant volumes of capital goods to help develop its economy. In 2007 the deficit amounted to US $404m., up from $299m. in 2006 and $228m. in 2005, according to the IMF. Exports amounted to $177m. in 2007, compared with an import bill of $581m. In 2008 the trade deficit rose considerably further, to register $615m., according to an IMF projection in February 2009, with exports estimated at $222m. and imports at $837m.

However, the IMF was not overly concerned by this upward trajectory. Rwanda’s trade deficit was manageable because of significant donor support and foreign direct investment (FDI), which totalled US $82m. in 2007, compared with a programmed level of $4.7m. and $31m. in 2006. High levels of foreign donor support (and increasing FDI in the first half of 2008) ensured that the capital account remained in surplus, thereby funding the country’s trade deficits.

In May 2009 Rwanda’s Ministry of Finance and Planning stated that the overall balance of payments would move into deficit for the 2009/10 fiscal year (July/June), owing to the impact of the global recession. This was attributed to declines in tourism revenues, in remittances by expatriates and in FDI, rather than any reduction in exports. Indeed, exports were forecast to remain reasonably buoyant in the 2009 calendar year, with the IMF predicting a modest rise in earnings, to US $235.4m. (largely as a result of an anticipated strong increase in coffee exports). None the less, import costs were expected to continue rising rapidly in that year, reaching $885.7m., according to the IMF, resulting in a projected further rise in the trade deficit for 2009, to $650.3m.

Against this backdrop of a rising trade deficit and shrinking capital inflows, Rwanda’s Ministry of Finance and Planning predicted a current account deficit on the overall balance of payments of US $47.4m. for the fiscal year 2009/10, equivalent to less than 1% of GDP. Rwanda was therefore much less exposed to the international recession in 2009 than countries heavily dependent on petroleum resources and mining, including the neighbouring DRC, Nigeria and Cameroon. Moreover, with $657m. of foreign exchange reserves at the end of 2008, the BNR held enough foreign currency to cover nine months of imports.

In March 2004 negotiations commenced between the EU and the Eastern and Southern Africa group of countries (including Rwanda) for a World Trade Organization-compatible free trade Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA). In November 2007 EAC member states initialled an interim EPA with the EU on market access. Negotiations on a full EPA continued in 2008 and early 2009. With the extension, until 2007, of the African Growth and Opportunity Act, enacted by the USA to extend duty-free and quota-free access to the US market for nearly all textile and handicraft goods produced in eligible beneficiary countries, the Rwandan Government was keen to benefit further from this system. In the mid-2000s Rwandan small-scale cloth and textile handicraft businesses were beginning to export products to the USA.

In July 2007 Rwanda (with Burundi) formally joined the EAC. A customs union was established by the EAC in 2005, although Rwanda, which had long maintained high import tariffs on certain goods, in order to generate revenues and suppress the trade deficit, did not become a member until July 2007, at the beginning of a new financial year. A cabinet paper in late 2008 estimated the loss of revenues from joining the customs union to be an annual US $10.9m. Minister of Finance and Planning Musoni attributed these losses to the application of the customs union’s common external tariff, which would replace the national tariff structure. The national tariff had applied as follows: 0% import tax on raw materials, 5% on goods of ‘economic importance’, 10% on intermediate goods and 30% on fully finished products. By contrast, the EAC’s common external tariff was to apply the following structure: 0% import tax on raw materials, 15% on intermediate goods and 25% on fully finished products.
### Prefectures (1991 Census)

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<th>Area (sq km)</th>
<th>Population*</th>
<th>Density (per sq km)</th>
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</table>

* Source: UN, Demographic Yearbook.

### Principal Towns (population at 1978 census)

- Kigali (capital): 117,749
- Ruhengeri: 16,025
- Butare: 21,691
- Gisenyi: 12,436

### Mid-2010 (incl. suburbs, UN estimate)

- Kigali (capital): 117,749
- Ruhengeri: 16,025
- Butare: 21,691
g

### Principal Crops

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Maize (’000 metric tons)</th>
<th>Sorghum (’000 metric tons)</th>
<th>Potatoes (’000 metric tons)</th>
<th>Cassava (Manioc) (’000 metric tons)</th>
<th>Groundnuts, with shell (’000 metric tons)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>91.8</td>
<td>187.4</td>
<td>1,253</td>
<td>588.2</td>
<td>9.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>90.0</td>
<td>190.0</td>
<td>1,250</td>
<td>700.0</td>
<td>10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>90.0</td>
<td>190.0</td>
<td>1,250</td>
<td>700.0</td>
<td>10.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* FAO estimate(s).
† Unofficial figure(s).

### Livestock

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Cattle</th>
<th>Pigs</th>
<th>Sheep</th>
<th>Goats</th>
<th>Chickens</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>1,004</td>
<td>346</td>
<td>464</td>
<td>1,339</td>
<td>2,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>1,900</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>1,400</td>
<td>2,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>1,400</td>
<td>2,100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* FAO estimates.

### Aggregate Production

- Total cereals 366 in 2006–08
- Total roots and tubers 2,780 in 2006, 2,934 in 2007–08
- Total pulses 298 in 2006, 297 in 2007–08
- Total melons 273 in 2006, 274 in 2007–08
- Total fruits (excl. melons) 2,732 in 2006, 2,830 in 2007–08

Source: FAO.

### Health and Welfare

- Total fertility rate (children per woman, 2008): 5.4
- Under-5 mortality rate (per 1,000 live births, 2008): 112
- HIV/AIDS (% of persons aged 15–49, 2007): 5.0
- Physicians (per 1,000 head, 2004): 2.8
- Hospital beds (per 1,000 head, 2007): 1.6
- Health expenditure (2007): US $ per head (PPP): 95
- Health expenditure (2007): % of GDP: 10.3
- Health expenditure (2007): public (% of total): 47.0
- Access to water (% of persons, 2008): 65
- Access to sanitation (% of persons, 2008): 54
- Total carbon dioxide emissions (’000 metric tons, 2006): 781.1
- Carbon dioxide emissions per head (metric tons, 2006): 0.1
- Human Development Index (2007): ranking: 167
- Human Development Index (2007): value: 0.460

For sources and definitions, see explanatory note on p. vi.
LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS
(‘000 metric tons, FAO estimates)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cattle meat</td>
<td>23.9</td>
<td>23.9</td>
<td>23.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goat meat</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pig meat</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken meat</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Game meat</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>12.3</td>
<td>12.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cows’ milk</td>
<td>120.0</td>
<td>120.0</td>
<td>120.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheep’s milk</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goats’ milk</td>
<td>25.6</td>
<td>26.8</td>
<td>26.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hen eggs</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2008: Production assumed to be unchanged from 2007 (FAO estimates).
Source: FAO.

Forestry

ROUNDWOOD REMOVALS
(‘000 cubic metres, excluding bark, FAO estimates)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sawlogs, veneer logs and logs for sleepers</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other industrial wood</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuel wood</td>
<td>9,416</td>
<td>9,503</td>
<td>9,591</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>9,911</td>
<td>9,998</td>
<td>10,086</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: FAO.

SAWNWOOD PRODUCTION
(‘000 cubic metres, including railway sleepers)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1997</th>
<th>1998</th>
<th>1999</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coniferous (softwood)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-coniferous (hardwood)</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2000-08: Figures assumed to be unchanged from 1999 (FAO estimates).
Source: FAO.

Fishing

Capture (metric tons, live weight)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: FAO.
### BUDGET

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>(‘000 million Rwanda francs)</strong></td>
<td>1999</td>
<td>2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Revenue</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax revenue</td>
<td>60.4</td>
<td>65.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxes on income and profits</td>
<td>15.2</td>
<td>17.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company profits tax</td>
<td>7.4</td>
<td>10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual income tax</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic taxes on goods and services</td>
<td>33.6</td>
<td>35.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excise taxes</td>
<td>17.9</td>
<td>18.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turnover tax</td>
<td>12.9</td>
<td>13.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road fund</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxes on international trade</td>
<td>11.0</td>
<td>11.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Import taxes</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>9.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-tax revenue</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>63.6</td>
<td>68.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Expenditure</strong></th>
<th>1999</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current expenditure</td>
<td>86.0</td>
<td>89.2</td>
<td>107.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General public services</td>
<td>31.5</td>
<td>35.7</td>
<td>53.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defence</td>
<td>27.0</td>
<td>25.8</td>
<td>28.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social services</td>
<td>21.9</td>
<td>30.5</td>
<td>36.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>17.2</td>
<td>24.0</td>
<td>29.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>5.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic services</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>4.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy and public works</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest on public debt</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjustment</td>
<td>-1.1</td>
<td>-6.7</td>
<td>-18.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital expenditure</td>
<td>40.8</td>
<td>42.0</td>
<td>50.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total</strong></td>
<td>126.8</td>
<td>131.2</td>
<td>157.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjustment for payment arrears</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>-1.2</td>
<td>31.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>128.8</td>
<td>130.0</td>
<td>189.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Excluding grants received (‘000 million Rwanda francs): 38.5 in 1999; 63.7 in 2000; 63.3 in 2001.
| | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | |
| † Excluding lending minus repayments (‘000 million Rwanda francs): -0.4 in 1999; 0.5 in 2000; 0.6 in 2001. |
| § Minus sign indicates increase in arrears. |

**INTERNATIONAL BANK RESERVES**

(US $ million at 31 December)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IMF special drawing rights</td>
<td>24.06</td>
<td>31.42</td>
<td>130.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign exchange</td>
<td>528.73</td>
<td>564.86</td>
<td>611.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>552.79</td>
<td>596.28</td>
<td>742.74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**MONEY SUPPLY**

(million Rwanda francs at 31 December)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Currency outside banks</td>
<td>29,246</td>
<td>36,512</td>
<td>46,277</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demand deposits at deposit money banks</td>
<td>52,220</td>
<td>62,604</td>
<td>82,524</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total money (incl. others)</strong></td>
<td>82,305</td>
<td>99,941</td>
<td>129,326</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**COST OF LIVING**

(Consumer Price Index for Kigali; base: 2000 = 100)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food (incl. non-alcoholic beverages)</td>
<td>185.0</td>
<td>215.2</td>
<td>248.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clothing</td>
<td>119.2</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent</td>
<td>200.6</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>All items</strong></td>
<td>164.2</td>
<td>189.5</td>
<td>210.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: ILO.
### Gross Domestic Product by Economic Activity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing</td>
<td>729</td>
<td>834</td>
<td>1,012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mining and quarrying</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricity, gas and water</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale and retail trade, restaurants and hotels</td>
<td>289</td>
<td>415</td>
<td>449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance, insurance, real estate and business services</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>301</td>
<td>351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport and communications</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public administration and defence</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other personal services</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-total</td>
<td>1,926</td>
<td>2,414</td>
<td>2,807</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less Imputed bank service charges</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indirect taxes, less subsidies</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GDP in purchasers' values</td>
<td>2,046</td>
<td>2,579</td>
<td>2,992</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exports of goods f.o.b.</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imports of goods f.o.b.</td>
<td>–637</td>
<td>–880</td>
<td>–961</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade balance</td>
<td>–452</td>
<td>–623</td>
<td>–768</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exports of services</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>408</td>
<td>341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imports of services</td>
<td>–272</td>
<td>–521</td>
<td>–519</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance on goods and services</td>
<td>–545</td>
<td>–736</td>
<td>–946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income received</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income paid</td>
<td>–63</td>
<td>–62</td>
<td>–52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance on goods, services and income</td>
<td>–560</td>
<td>–771</td>
<td>–983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current transfers received</td>
<td>435</td>
<td>558</td>
<td>655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current transfers paid</td>
<td>–22</td>
<td>–40</td>
<td>–51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current balance</td>
<td>–147</td>
<td>–252</td>
<td>–379</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct investment abroad</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct investment from abroad</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portfolio investment assets</td>
<td>–13</td>
<td>–88</td>
<td>–19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other investment assets</td>
<td>–13</td>
<td>–88</td>
<td>–19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other investment liabilities</td>
<td>–32</td>
<td>–143</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net errors and omissions</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>–5</td>
<td>–2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall balance</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>–51</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Imports—continued**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>10.4</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>13.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>7.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>15.2</td>
<td>25.4</td>
<td>75.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland-Lichtenstein</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>32.9</td>
<td>47.1</td>
<td>53.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>77.9</td>
<td>97.5</td>
<td>165.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UAE</td>
<td>38.7</td>
<td>54.6</td>
<td>96.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>12.1</td>
<td>22.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>14.8</td>
<td>24.9</td>
<td>39.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total (incl. others)</strong></td>
<td>557.0</td>
<td>696.9</td>
<td>1,145.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>22.3</td>
<td>25.6</td>
<td>66.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burundi</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>6.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France (incl. Monaco)</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>8.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
<td>14.7</td>
<td>23.0</td>
<td>26.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>29.3</td>
<td>34.3</td>
<td>127.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>12.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swaziland</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>20.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland-Lichtenstein</td>
<td>12.4</td>
<td>13.3</td>
<td>18.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>7.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>29.5</td>
<td>34.4</td>
<td>13.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>74.3</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total (incl. others)</strong></td>
<td>137.7</td>
<td>183.5</td>
<td>398.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**Transport**

**ROAD TRAFFIC**

(estimates, motor vehicles in use at 31 December)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>1995</th>
<th>1996</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cars</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>13,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vans</td>
<td>16,000</td>
<td>17,100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2008 (motor vehicles in use at 31 December): Passenger cars 21,350; Buses and coaches 610; Vans and lorries 15,860; Motorcycles and mopeds 22,570.
Source: IRF, *World Road Statistics*.

**CIVIL AVIATION**

(traffic on scheduled services)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Passengers carried</td>
<td>33,949</td>
<td>179,447</td>
<td>234,408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freight carried (metric tons)</td>
<td>5,017</td>
<td>4,562</td>
<td>4,924</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The state of Rwanda is an independent sovereign Republic. Fundamental principles include: the struggle against the ideology of genocide and all its manifestations; the eradication of all ethnic and regional divisions; the promotion of national unity; and the equal sharing of power. Human rights and personal liberties are protected. All forms of these freedoms are guaranteed.

**Directory**

**The Constitution**

A new Constitution was approved at a national referendum on 26 May 2003 and entered into effect on 4 June. The main provisions are summarized below:

**PREAMBLE**

The state of Rwanda is an independent sovereign Republic. Fundamental principles are: the struggle against the ideology of genocide and all its manifestations; the eradication of all ethnic and regional divisions; the promotion of national unity; and the equal sharing of power. Human rights and personal liberties are protected. All forms
of discrimination are prohibited and punishable by law. The state recognizes a multi-party political system. Political associations are established in accordance with legal requirements, and may operate freely, providing that they comply with democratic and constitutional principles, without harm to national unity, territorial integrity and state security. The formation of political associations on the basis of race, ethnicity, tribal or regional affiliation, sex, religion or any other grounds for discrimination is prohibited.

**LEGISLATURE**

Legislative power is vested in a bicameral Parliament, comprising a Chamber of Deputies and a Senate. The Chamber of Deputies has 80 deputies, who are elected for a five-year term. In addition to 53 directly elected deputies, 27 seats are allocated, respectively, to two youth representatives, one disabilities representative, and 24 female representatives, who are indirectly elected. The Senate comprises 26 members, of whom 12 are elected by local government councils in the 12 provinces, and two by academic institutions, while the remaining 12 are nominated (eight by the President and four by a regulatory body, the Parties’ Forum). Members of the Senate serve for eight years.

**PRESIDENT**

The President of the Republic is the Head of State, protector of the Constitution, and guarantor of national unity. He is the Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces. Presidential candidates are required to be of Rwandan nationality and aged a minimum of 35 years. The President is elected by universal suffrage for a seven-year term, and is restricted to two mandates. He signs into law presidential decrees in consultation with the Council of Ministers.

**GOVERNMENT**

The President nominates the Prime Minister, who heads the Council of Ministers. Ministers are proposed by the Prime Minister and appointed by the President.

**JUDICIARY**

The judiciary is independent and separate from the legislative and executive organs of government. The judicial system is composed of the Supreme Court, the High Court of the Republic, and provincial, district and municipal Tribunals. In addition, there are specialized judicial organs, comprising gacaca and military courts. The gacaca courts try cases of genocide or other crimes against humanity committed between 1 October 1990 and 31 December 1994. Military courts (the Military Tribunal and the High Military Court) have jurisdiction in military cases. The President and Vice-President of the Supreme Court and the Prosecutor-General are elected by the Senate two months after its installation.

The Government

**HEAD OF STATE**

President: Maj.-Gen. PAUL KAGAME (took office 22 April 2000; re-elected 25 August 2005 and 8 August 2010).

**COUNCIL OF MINISTERS**

(September 2010)

Prime Minister: BERNARD MUKAZA.

Minister of Local Government: JAMES MUSONI.

Minister of Lands and Environment: STANISLAS KAMANZI.

Minister of Youth: PROTAS MITALI KARANDA.

Minister of Cabinet Affairs in the Office of the Prime Minister: PROTAS MUSONI.

Minister of Finance and Economic Planning: JOHN RWWOMBA.

Minister of Agriculture: DR. AGNES KALIBATA.

Minister of Education: DR. CHARLES MURIGANDE.

Minister of Health: DR. RICHARD SEZIBERA.

Minister of Defence: GEN. JAMES KABAREBE.

Minister of Justice and Attorney-General: THARCISSE KARUGAMANA.

Minister of Sports and Culture: JOSEPH HABINEZA.

Minister of Public Service and Labour: ANASTASE MUREKKEZI.

Minister of Internal Affairs: MUSSA FAZIL HERERIMANA.

Minister of Foreign Affairs: LOUISE MUSHIKIWABO.

Minister of Information: (vacant).

Minister of Trade and Industry: MONIQUE NSANZABAGANWA.

Minister in the Office of the President: SOLINA NYIRAHABIMANA.

Minister of Infrastructure: VINCENT KAREGA.

Minister of Gender and Family Promotion: DR. JEANNE D’ARC MUJUJAMARIYA.

Minister of the East African Community: MONIQUE MUKARULIZA.

Minister of Disaster Preparedness and Refugee Affairs: Gen. MARCEL GATSIINZI.

Minister of Forestry and Mines: CHRISTOPHE BAZIVAMO.

Minister of State in charge of Primary and Secondary Education: DR. MATILAS HARAMUNGE.

**MINISTRIES**

Office of the President: BP 15, Kigali; tel. 59062000; fax 572431; e-mail info@presidency.gov.rw; internet www.presidency.gov.rw.

Office of the Prime Minister: Kigali; tel. 250585444; fax 250583714; e-mail primature@gov.rw; internet www.primature.gov.rw.

Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources: BP 621, Kigali; tel. 250585008; fax 250585057; e-mail info@minagri.gov.rw; internet www.minagri.gov.rw.

Ministry of Defence: BP 23, Kigali; tel. 250577942; fax 250576969; e-mail info@mod.gov.rw; internet www.mod.gov.rw.


Ministry of Education: BP 622, Kigali; tel. 250583051; fax 250582161; e-mail info@mineduc.gov.rw; internet www.mineduc.gov.rw.

Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning: blvd de la Révolution, opp. Kigali City Council, BP 158, Kigali; tel. 250576701; fax 250577581; e-mail mfin@minecofin.gov.rw; internet www.minecofin.gov.rw.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs: blvd de la Révolution, pl. de l’Indépendance, BP 179, Kigali; tel. 250575358; fax 250577977; e-mail info@minaffet.gov.rw; internet www.minaffet.gov.rw.

Ministry of Forestry and Mines: BP 3052, Kigali; tel. 250582628; fax 250582629; e-mail info@minera.gov.rw; internet www.minera.gov.rw.

Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion: Kigali; tel. 250577626; fax 250577543; internet www.migeoprove.gov.rw.

Ministry of Health: BP 84, Kigali; tel. 250577458; fax 250576853; e-mail info@moh.gov.rw; internet www.moh.gov.rw.

Ministry of Information: Kigali; e-mail ikabagambe@yahoo.com.

Ministry of Infrastructure: BP 24, Kigali; tel. 250585003; fax 250585755; e-mail info@mininfra.gov.rw; internet www.mininfra.gov.rw.

Ministry of Internal Affairs: BP 446, Kigali; tel. 250586708; e-mail sec_cent@mininter.gov.rw; internet www.mininter.gov.rw.

Ministry of Justice: BP 160, Kigali; tel. 250586561; fax 250586509; e-mail mjust@minijust.gov.rw; internet www.minijust.gov.rw.

Ministry of Lands and Environment: BP 3052, Kigali; tel. 250582628; fax 250582629; e-mail info@minera.gov.rw; internet www.minera.gov.rw.

Ministry of Local Government: BP 790, Kigali; tel. 250585406; fax 250582228; e-mail webmaster@minaloc.gov.rw; internet www.minaloc.gov.rw.

Ministry of Public Service and Labour: BP 403, Kigali; tel. 250585714; fax 250583621; e-mail mifotra@mifotra.gov.rw; internet www.mifotra.gov.rw.

Ministry of Sports and Culture: BP 1044, Kigali; tel. 250583531; fax 250583518; e-mail info@minisport.gov.rw; internet www.minisport.gov.rw.

Ministry of Trade and Industry: BP 73, Kigali; tel. 250599103; fax 250599101; e-mail albert.bizimana@minicom.gov.rw; internet www.minicom.gov.rw.

Ministry of Youth: BP 3783, Kigali; tel. 250522730; e-mail info@miniyouth.gov.rw; internet www.miniyouth.gov.rw.
CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES
Speaker: ROSE MUUKANTANTABANA.
General Election, 15 September 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Votes</th>
<th>% of votes</th>
<th>Seats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Front patriotique rwandais*</td>
<td>3,655,956</td>
<td>78.76</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parti social-démocrate</td>
<td>609,327</td>
<td>13.12</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parti libéral</td>
<td>348,186</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>27,348</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>4,641,317</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Contested the elections in alliance with the Parti démocrate chrétien, the Parti démocratique islamique, the Union démocratique du peuple rwandais, the Parti de prospérité et de solidarité and the Parti socialiste rwandais.
† In addition to the 53 directly elected deputies, 27 seats are allocated, respectively, to two youth representatives, one disabilities representative and 24 female representatives, who are indirectly elected.

SENATE
Speaker: DR VINCENT BURITA.
The Senate comprises 26 members, of whom 12 are elected by local government councils in the 12 provinces and two by academic institutions, while the remaining 12 are nominated (eight by the President and four by a regulatory body, the Parties' Forum).

Election Commission
Commission électorale nationale du Rwanda: BP 6449, Kigali; tel. 250597800; fax 250597851; e-mail comelena@rwanda1.com; internet www.comelena.gov.rw; f. 2000; Chair. Prof. DR VINCENT BIRUTA, Ambassador COL REMY SINKAZI.

Political Organizations
Under legislation adopted in June 2003, the formation of any political organization based on ethnic groups, religion or sex was prohibited.

Democratic Green Party: BP 6334, Kigali; tel. 788563039 (mobile); e-mail info@rwandagreendemocrats.org; internet www.rwandagreendemocrats.org; f. 2009; Pres. FRANCOIS NGARAMBE.

Front patriotique rwandais (FPR): internet www.rpfinkotanyi.org; f. 1990; also known as Inkotanyi; comprises mainly Tutsi exiles, who claimed to be Hutus and operate principally from abroad; these include:

- Front patriotique rwandais (FPR): BP 6334, Kigali; tel. 788563039 (mobile); e-mail info@rwandagreendemocrats.org; internet www.rwandagreendemocrats.org; f. 2009; Pres. FRANCOIS NGARAMBE.
- Union démocratique du peuple rwandais (UDP): Kigali; f. 1992; Leader FRANK HABINEZA.

Other political organizations have been formed by exiled Rwandans and operate principally from abroad; these include:

- Front patriotique rwandais (FPR): BP 6334, Kigali; tel. 788563039 (mobile); e-mail info@rwandagreendemocrats.org; internet www.rwandagreendemocrats.org; f. 2009; Pres. FRANCOIS NGARAMBE.
- Union démocratique du peuple rwandais (UDP): Kigali; f. 1992; Leader FRANK HABINEZA.

Diplomatic Representation
EMBASSIES IN RWANDA

Belgium: rue Nyarugenge, BP 81, Kigali; tel. 250575551; fax 250573905; e-mail kigali@diplom.be; internet www.belgiumemb.kigali.gov.be; Ambassador AGNES MUKABARANGA.

China, People's Republic: BP 1345, 44 blvd de la Revolution, Kigali; tel. 250570843; fax 250570848; e-mail chinesemb_rw@mf.gov.cn; internet www.chineseembassy.org.rw; Ambassador SUN SHUZHONG.

Congo, Democratic Republic: 504 rue Longue, BP 169, Kigali; tel. 250575298; Ambassador NORBERT NIKO KILIMOBO.

Egypt: BP 1069, Kigali; tel. and fax 28082686; e-mail egypt@rwanda1.com; Ambassador SHEIKH HARERIMANA MUSSA FAZIL.

France: rue du Député Kamunzinzi, BP 53, Kigali; tel. 250591800; fax 250591806; Ambassador LAURENT CONTINI.

Germany: 10 ave Paul VI, BP 355, Kigali; tel. 250575141; fax 250591800; e-mail info@delegation.de; internet www.delegation.de; Ambassador EMIL TIPPE.

Holy See: 49 ave Paul VI, BP 261, Kigali (Apostolic Nunciature); tel. 250575293; fax 250575181; e-mail nuntrw@rwanda1.com; internet www.vatican.va; Apostolic Nuncio Most Rev. IVO SCAPOLI (Titular Archbishop of Targaste).

Japan: 1236, Kacyiru South Gasabo, BP 874, Kigali; tel. 250500884; Ambassador KUNIO HATANAKA.

Kenya: BP 1215, Kigali; tel. 250583332; fax 250510919; e-mail kigali@mfa.go.ke; High Commissioner ALEX KETTER.

Korea, Democratic People's Republic: Kigali; Ambassador KIM FONG GIL.

Liberia: BP 1152, Kigali; tel. 2505767470; Secretary of the People's Bureau MOUSTAPHA MANSIR EL-GHAILUSHI.

Russia: 19 ave de l'Armeé, BP 40, Kigali; tel. 250575286; fax 250503322; e-mail ambruss@rwanda1.com; internet www.russianembassy.org; Ambassador ANDREI PRIMAKHIN.

United Kingdom: 1370 blvd de l'Umuganda, POB 6569, Kacyiru-Sud, Kigali; tel. 250583185; fax 250583191; e-mail saemb@rwanda1.com; internet www.ukembassy-kigali.org; High Commissioner GLADSTONE DUMISANI GWADISO (recalled July 2010).

United States of America: 31 ave de la Paix, BP 656, Kigali; tel. and fax 250505357; e-mail usamb@rwanda1.com; internet www.usembassy-kigali.org; High Commissioner NICHOLAS CANNON.

Republic of South Africa: 1370 blvd de l'Umuganda, POB 6569, Kacyiru-Sud, Kigali; tel. 250583185; fax 250583191; e-mail saemb@rwanda1.com; internet www.usembassy-kigali.org; High Commissioner NICHOLAS CANNON.

Forex Market:

USA: 2607 avenue de la Gendarmerie, Kigali; BP 28, Kigali; tel. 250582456; fax 250558777; e-mail irckigali@state.gov; internet www.embassy-kigali.gov; Ambassador W. STUART SYMINGTON.
Judicial System

The judicial system is composed of the Supreme Court, the High Court of the Republic, and provincial, district and municipal tribunals. In addition, there are specialized judicial organs, comprising gacaca and military courts. The gacaca courts were established to try cases of genocide or other crimes against humanity committed between 1 October 1990 and 31 December 1994. Trials for categories of lesser genocide crimes were to be conducted by councils in the communities in which they were committed, with the aim of alleviating pressure on the existing judicial system. Trials under the gacaca court system formally commenced on 25 November 2002. Military courts (the Military Tribunal and the High Military Court) have jurisdiction in military cases. The President and Vice-President of the Supreme Court and the Prosecutor-General are elected by the Senate.

Supreme Court

BP 2197, Kigali; tel. 252517648; fax 252582276; e-mail info@supremecourt.gov.rw; internet www.supremecourt.gov.rw.

The Supreme Court comprises five sections: the Department of Courts and Tribunals; the Court of Appeals; the Constitutional Court; the Council of State; and the Revenue Court.

President of the Supreme Court: ALOYSIUS CYANZAIRE.

Vice-President: Prof. SAM RUGEJE.

Prosecutor-General: MARTIN NGOAGAEU.

Religion

AFRICAN RELIGIONS

About one-half of the population hold traditional beliefs.

CHRISTIANITY

Union des Eglises Rwandaises: BP 79, Kigali; tel. 28085825; fax 28083554; f. 1963; formerly Conseil Protestant du Rwanda.

The Roman Catholic Church

Rwanda comprises one archdiocese and eight dioceses. About 49% of the total population was Roman Catholic.

Bishops' Conference

Conférence Episcopale du Rwanda, BP 557, Kigali; tel. 250575439; fax 250578080; e-mail cerwanda@rwanda1.com.

Archbishop of Kigali: Most Rev. THADDÆE NTIHINYURWA, Archbishop of the Province and Bishop of Kigali.

The Anglican Communion

The Church of the Province of Rwanda, established in 1992, has nine dioceses.

Archbishop of the Province and Bishop of Kigali: Most Rev. EMMANUEL MUSABA KOLINI, BP 61, Kigali; tel. and fax 250576340; e-mail ckerwa@rwanda1.com.

Provincial Secretary: Rev. EMMANUEL GATERA, BP 61, Kigali; tel. and fax 250576340; e-mail egaper@yaho.fr.

Protestant Churches

Eglise Baptiste: Nyantanga, BP 59, Butare; Pres. Rev. DAVID BAZHWA; Gen. Sec. ÉLÉAZAR ZHIBERAMBE.

Eglise Luthérienne du Rwanda: BP 3099, Kigali; tel. 755110035 (mobile); fax 250519734; e-mail luthchurchcl@yahoo.com; Bishop GEORGE W KALISA; 40,000 members (2009).

There are about 250,000 other Protestants, including a substantial minority of Seventh-day Adventists.

BAHÁ’Í FAITH

National Spiritual Assembly: BP 652, Kigali; tel. 250572550.

ISLAM

There is a small Islamic community.

The Press

REGULATORY AUTHORITY

Haut Conseil de la Presse (HCP): Revolution Ave, POB 6929, Kigali; tel. 250570333; fax 250570334; e-mail hcp@terramail.rw; internet www.hcp.gov.rw; f. 2002; Pres. DOMINIQUE KAREKEZI PADIDI; Exec. Sec. PATRICE MULAMA.

DAILY

The New Times: BP 4953, Kigali; tel. 788301166; fax 250574166; e-mail editorial@newtimes.co.rw; internet www.newtimes.co.rw; f. 1995; daily; English; CEO and Editor-in-Chief JOSEPH BIDERI.

PERIODICALS

Bulletin Agricole du Rwanda: OCIR—Café, BP 104, Kigali-Gikondo; f. 1968; quarterly; French; Pres. of Editorial Bd Dr AUGUSTIN NGINDURUTYAMA; circ. 500.

L’Ere de Liberté: BP 1755, Kigali; fortnightly.

Etudes Rwandaises: Université Nationale du Rwanda, Rectorat, BP 56, Butare; f. 1977; quarterly; pure and applied science, literature, human sciences; French; Pres. of Editorial Bd Charles NYAKIRUDINA; circ. 1,000.

Hobe: BP 761, Kigali; f. 1955; monthly; children’s interest; circ. 95,000.

Inkingi: BP 969, Kigali; tel. 250577626; fax 250577543; monthly.

Inkoramutima: Union des Eglises Rwandaises, BP 79, Kigali; quarterly; religious; circ. 5,000.

Kinyamateka: 5 bdv de l’OUA, BP 761, Kigali; tel. 250576164; e-mail km@rwanda1.com; internet www.kinyamateka.org.rw; f. 1953; fortnightly; economics; circ. 11,000; Dir Fr PIERRE CLAVER NKUSI.

La Nouvelle Relève: Office Rwandais d’Information, BP 83, Kigali; tel. 250575735; e-mail lnr2020@yahoo.fr; internet www.orinfor.gov.rw; f. 1976; weekly: politics, economy, culture; French; Dir GÉRARD RUGAMBA; circ. 1,700.

Nouvelles du Rwanda: Université Nationale du Rwanda, BP 117, Butare; every 2 months.

Nyabarongo—Le Canard Déchaîné: BP 1585, Kigali; tel. 250576674; monthly.

Le Partisan: BP 1805, Kigali; tel. 250573923; fortnightly.

La Patrie—Urwatubaye: BP 3125, Kigali; tel. 250575525; monthly.

Revue Dialogue: BP 572, Kigali; tel. 250574178; f. 1967; bi-monthly; Christian issues; circ. 11,000; Dir Fr PIERRE CLAVER NKUSI.

La Nouvelle Relève: Office Rwandais d’Information, BP 83, Kigali; tel. 250575735; e-mail lnr2020@yahoo.fr; internet www.orinfor.gov.rw; f. 1976; weekly; politics, economy, culture; French; Dir GÉRARD RUGAMBA; circ. 1,700.

Revue Pédagogique: Ministry of Education, BP 622, Kigali; quarterly; French.


Rwanda Libération: BP 398, Kigali; tel. 250577710; monthly; and Editor-in-Chief ANTOINE KAPITENI.

Rwanda Renaître: BP 426, Butare; fortnightly.

Rwanda Rushya: BP 83, Kigali; tel. 250572276; fortnightly.

Le Tribun du Peuple: BP 1960, Kigali; bi-monthly; Owner JEAN-PIERRE MUGABE.

Umucunguzi: Gisenyi; f. 1998; Kinyarwanda and French; Chief Editor EMILE NKMIBUIYE.

Umuhinzi-Mworozi: OCIR—Thé, BP 1334, Kigali; tel. 250514797; fax 250514796; f. 1975; monthly; circ. 1,500.

Umusembo—Le Levain: BP 117, Butare; monthly.

Umusero: Kigali; independent; weekly; Kinyarwanda; publ. suspended in April 2010; Editor CHARLES KABONERO.

Urunana: Grand Séminaire de Nyakibanda, BP 85, Butare; tel. 250530793; e-mail wellamahoro@yahoo.fr; f. 1967; 3 a year; religious; Pres. WELISUS UWAMAHORO; Editor-in-Chief DAMIEN NIYOYIREMERA.

NEWS AGENCIES


Office Rwandais d’Information (Orinfor): BP 83, Kigali; tel. 250575735; fax 250576539; internet www.orinfor.gov.rw; f. 1973; Dir JOSEPH BIDERI.

Publishers

Editions Rwandaises: Caritas Rwanda, BP 124, Kigali; tel. 250575766; fax 250574254; e-mail caritas@rwanda1.com; Man. Dir Abbé CYRIL MUNYAMANGA; Editorial Dir ALBERT MABGAH.
Imprimerie de Kabgayi: BP 66, Gitarama; tel. 250562252; fax 250562345; e-mail imprimkabgayi@yahoo.fr; f. 1932; Dir Abbé Cyrille UWIZEYEMANA.

Imprimerie de Kigali, SARL: 1 blvd de l’Umuganda, BP 956, Kigali; tel. 250582032; fax 250584047; e-mail impkig@rwan date1.rwanda1.com; f. 1980; Dir LEONCE NSENGIMANA.

Imprimerie URWEGO: BP 762, Kigali; Dir JEAN NSENGIYUNVA.


GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING HOUSES

Imprimerie Nationale du Rwanda: BP 351, Kigali; tel. 250576214; fax 250575820; f. 1967; Dir Juvenal Nshanzu.

Régie de l’Imprimerie Scolaire (IMPRISCO): BP 1347, Kigali; e-mail imprisco@rwandatel1.rwanda1.com; f. 1985; Dir JEAN DE DIEU GAKWANDI.

Broadcasting and Communications

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

MTN Rwandacell: BP 264, MTN Centre, Nyaturarama, Kigali; tel. 250586863; fax 250586865; internet www.mtn.co.rw; f. 1998; provides mobile cellular telephone services; CEO KHALED MIKAWI.

Banque Utiles Regulatory Agency: POB 7299, Kigali; tel. 250563662; fax 250563663; e-mail info@rura.gov.rw; internet www .rura.gov.rw; f. 2001; regulatory authority; also responsible for regulation of electricity, water, sanitation, gas and transportation sectors; Chair. EUGENE KAZIGE; Dir-Gen. DIOGNE MUDENGE.

Rwandatel: ECOBANK Bldg, 7th Floor, ave de La Paix, BP 1332, Kigali; tel. 75100; e-mail info@rwandatel.rw; internet www .rwandatel.rw; national telecommunications service; privatized 2007.

Tigo Rwanda: 9801, Nyaturarama, POB 6979, Kigali; tel. 722000100 (mobile); internet www.tigo.co.rw; provides mobile cellular telephone and internet services; CEO MARCELLO ALEMAN.

BROADCASTING

Radio

Radio Rwanda: BP 83, Kigali; tel. 250575665; fax 250576185; f. 1961; state-controlled; daily broadcasts in Kinyarwanda, Swahili, French and English; Dir of Programmes DAVID KABURE.

Deutsche Welle Relay Station Africa: Kigali; daily broadcasts in German, English, French, Hausa, Swahili, Portuguese and Amharic.

Television

Television rwandaise (TVR): Kigali; fax 250575024; f. 1992; transmisions reach more than 60% of national territory; broadcasts for 10 hours daily in Kinyarwanda, French and English.

Finance

(cap. = capital; res = reserves; dep. = deposits; m. = million; brs = branches; amounts in Rwandan francs)

BANKING

Central Bank

Banque Nationale du Rwanda: ave Paul VI, BP 531, Kigali; tel. 250575282; fax 250575251; e-mail info@bnr.rw; internet www.bnr.rw; f. 1964; bank of issue; cap. 7,000m., res 18,857.8m., dep. 245,142.1m. (Dec 2008); Gov. FRANC ¨ OIS KANIMBA.

Commercial Banks

Following the privatization of two commercial banks, government control of the banking sector was reduced from 45% in 2003 to 22% in 2007; Chair. EUGENE KAZIGE; Dir-Gen. DIOGNE MUDENGE.

Banque de l’Habitat du Rwanda (CHR): ave de la Justice, BP 1035, Kigali; tel. 250573569; e-mail chr@chr.rwanda1.com; internet www.chr.rwanda1.com; f. 1975 as Caisse Hypothécaire du Rwanda; name changed as above in 2005; 56% state-owned; cap. 778.2m., total assets 6,966.8m. (Dec. 2003); Pres. FRANÇOIS RUTISHISHA; Dir-Gen. GERVAIS NTAGANDA.

Banque de Kigali, SA: 63 ave du Commerce, BP 175, Kigali; tel. 250593100; fax 250573461; e-mail kig@bk.rw; internet www.bk.rw; f. 1966; cap. 1,500.0m., res 4,330.1m., dep. 59,378.6m. (Dec. 2006); Chair. LADJO GURGERIDZE; Man. Dir JAMES GATERA; 7 brs.

Compagnie Générale de Banques: ave de l’Umuganda, BP 5230, Kigali; tel. 250597500; fax 250503336; e-mail cgb@compagniebank.com; internet www.cgbank.com; cap. and res 3,158.4m., total assets 45,950.9m. (Dec. 2003); Man. Dir DANIEL SACKEY.

Fina Bank SA: 20 blvd de la Révolution, BP 331, Kigali; tel. 250598600; fax 250573486; e-mail info@finabank.co.rw; internet www.finabank.com; f. 1983 as Banque Continentale Africaine (Rwanda); name changed 2005; cap. 1,650m., res 1,028.7m., dep. 22,730m. (Dec. 2006); privatized; Chair. ROBERT BINYON; Man. Dir STEPHEN Caley; 5 brs.

Development Banks

Banque Rwandaise de Développement, SA (BRD): blvd de la Révolution, BP 1341, Kigali; tel. 250573569; e-mail brd@brd.com.rw; internet www.brd.com.rw; f. 1967; 56% state-owned; cap. and res 4,104.6m., total assets 17,647.8m. (Dec. 2003); Man. Dir JACK NKUSI KAYONGA (acting).

Banques Populaires du Rwanda (Banki z’Abaturage mu Rwanda): BP 1348, Kigali; tel. 250573579; fax 250573580; e-mail infob@brd.com.rw; internet www.bpr.rw; f. 1975; cap. and res 1,180.5m., total assets 20,433.8m. (Dec. 2002); Pres. MANASSE TWAHIRWA; CEO BEN KALIMAN; 145 brs.

INSURANCE

Compagnie Générale d’Assurances et de Réassurances au Rwanda (COGEAR): ave de l’Armée, BP 2753, Kigali; tel. 250576041; fax 250576082; Dir-Gen. ANAISATE MUNYANDAMUTSA.

Société Nationale d’Assurances du Rwanda (SONARWA): 2417 blvd de la Révolution, BP 1035, Kigali; tel. 250572101; fax 250572025; e-mail sonarwa@rwan date1.rwanda1.com; internet www.sonarwa.rw; f. 1975; 35% owned by Industrial and General Insurance Co Ltd (Nigeria); cap. 500m.; Pres. FRANÇOIS NGARAMBI; Dir-Gen. HOPE MUREMU.

Société Rwandaise d’Assurances, SA (SORAS): blvd de la Révolution, BP 924, Kigali; tel. 250573712; fax 250573362; e-mail info@oras.co.rw; internet www.soras.co.rw; f. 1984; cap. 1,002m. (2007); Pres. CHARLES MIRONIYI; Dir-Gen. MARC RUGENERA.

Trade and Industry

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Rwanda Agricultural Development Authority (RADA): BP 538, Kigali; tel. 755102618 (mobile); e-mail info@rada.gov.rw; internet www.rada.gov.rw; f. 2006; contributes towards the growth of agricultural production through the development of appropriate technologies, providing advisory, outreach and extension services to stakeholders in agriculture; Acting Dir-Gen. NORBERT SENDEREGE.

Rwandainvestment and Export Promotion Agency: Kimihurura, ave du Lac Muhazi, POB 6239, Kigali; tel. 250510248; fax 250501109; e-mail riap@radianvest.com; internet www .rwandainvest.com; f. 1998 as Rwanda Investment Promotion Agency; Dir-Gen. FRANÇOIS GATARE.

Rwandainvestment and Export Promotion Agency: ave de la Paix, POB 4276, Kigali; tel. 250501143; fax 250501402; e-mail riap@radianvest.com; internet www.rwandainvest.com; f. 2008 to replace the Nat. Tender Bd (f. 1998); organizes and monitors general public procurement; Dir-Gen. AUGUSTUS SEMINEGA.

Deutschwirtschaft und Auslandsgesellschaft (DAG): ave de la Paix, POB 3987, Kimihurura, Kigali; tel. 250658520; fax 250578488; e-mail cgt@ rrg.gov.rw; internet www.rrg.gov.rw; f. 1970 to maximize revenue collection; Commissioner-Gen. MAry BAINE.

DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS

Coopérative de Promotion de l’Industrie Mènière et Artisanale au Rwanda (COOPIMAR): BP 1139, Kigali; Dir DANY BURANDI.

24 www.europaworld.com
Transport

RAILWAYS

There are no railways in Rwanda, although plans exist for the construction of a line linking Kigali and Isaka in Tanzania, and this project was expected to be completed in the mid-2010s. Rwanda has access by road to the Tanzanian railways system.

ROADS

In 2004 there were an estimated 14,006 km of roads, of which 2,662 km were paved. There are road links with Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Internal conflict during 1994 caused considerable damage to the road system and the destruction of several important bridges.

Office National des Transports en Commun (ONATRACOM): BP 619, Kigali; tel. 25057654; fax 25057654; e-mail onatracom@rwanda1.com; f. 1978; Dir-Gen. ESPRAS NKUNDUMUKIZA.

INLAND WATERWAYS

There are services on Lake Kivu between Cyangugu, Gisenyi and Kibuye, including two vessels operated by ONATRACOM.

CIVIL AVIATION

The Kanombe international airport at Kigali can process up to 500,000 passengers annually. There is a second international airport at Kamembe, near the border with the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Bugesera International Airport, currently under construction, was expected to receive its first flight in 2015. There are airfields at Butare, Gahiro, Ruhengeri and Gisenyi, servicing internal flights.

Rwandair: Kigali Int. Airport Bldg, Top Floor, BP 7275, Kigali; tel. 250503687; fax 250503686; e-mail info@rwandair.com; internet www.rwandair.com; f. 1998; privately owned; international services; Chair. JOHN MIRENGE; CEO RENE JANATA.

Tourism

Attractions for tourists include the wildlife of the national parks (notably mountain gorillas), Lake Kivu and fine mountain scenery. Since the end of the transitional period in late 2003, the Government has increased efforts to develop the tourism industry. In 1998 there were only an estimated 2,000 foreign visitors to Rwanda, but by 2001 the annual number of tourist arrivals had increased to 113,185. Total receipts from tourism were estimated at US $66m. in 2007. The number of tourist arrivals had increased to 113,185. Total receipts from tourism were estimated at US $66m. in 2007.

Office Rwandais du Tourisme et des Parcs Nationaux (ORTPN): blvd de la Revolution 1, BP 905, Kigali; tel. 250576514; fax 250576515; e-mail info@rwandatourism.com; internet www.rwandatourism.com; f. 1973; govt agency; Dir-Gen. Rosette RUGAMBA.

Defence

As assessed at November 2009, the total strength of the Rwandan armed forces was estimated at 33,000, comprising an army of 32,000 and an air force of 1,000. In addition, there were an estimated 2,000 local defence forces. A programme to restructure the army, which was expected to be reduced in size to number about 25,000, was
planned and a Rwanda Demobilization and Reintegration Commission was mandated to facilitate the reintegration of discharged military personnel to civilian life.

**Defence Expenditure:** Budgeted at 43,400m. Rwanda francs in 2009.

**Chief of Defence Staff:** Lt.-Gen. CHARLES KAYONGA.

**Chief of Staff, Land Forces:** Lt.-Gen. CÉSAR KAVIZARI.

**Chief of Staff of the Air Force:** (vacant).

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**Education**

Primary education, beginning at seven years of age and lasting for six years, is officially compulsory. Secondary education, which is not compulsory, begins at the age of 14 and lasts for a further six years, comprising two equal cycles of three years. In 2003, however, the Government announced plans to introduce a nine-year system of basic education, including three years of attendance at lower secondary schools. Schools are administered by the state and by Christian missions. In 2006/07 96% of children in the relevant age-group (males 95%, females 97%) were enrolled in primary schools, according to UNESCO estimates, while secondary enrolment in 2006/07 was equivalent to only 13.4% of children in the appropriate age-group (males 14.2%, females 12.7%) in 2004/05. The Ministry of Education established 94 new secondary schools in 2003, and a further 55 in 2005. Rwanda has a university, with campuses at Butare and Ruhengeri, and several other institutions of higher education, but some students attend universities abroad, particularly in Belgium, France or Germany. In 2004/05 the number of students in tertiary education (there are six public higher education institutions and seven private higher institutions) was 26,378. In 2008 the Government decreed that English would henceforth be the language of instruction in all Rwandan educational establishments. In 2005 spending on education represented 12.2% of total budgetary expenditure.

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Bibliography


