

October 4, 2020

Honourable Johnston Busingye,  
Minister of Justice and Attorney General,  
Ministry of Justice  
P.O. Box 160  
Kigali, Republic of Rwanda  
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Honourable Mr. Busingye,

We are members of the Unitarian Congregation in Mississauga, near Toronto, Canada, and we urge you As Justice Minister to defend Mr. Paul Rusesabagina's right to a fair and transparent trial after his arrest a month ago. All defendants must have a right to choose their own defense counsel and have free access to their lawyers, rights which have so far been denied to Mr. Rusesabagina.

We respect the record of Mr. Kagame's government in promoting reconciliation of Hutu and Tutsi citizens after the 1994 genocide, and the government's efforts to improve the economy, health and education of Rwandans. However, we are concerned about freedom of the press and the rights of opposition parties in the past decade in Rwanda. Mr. Kagame cannot rule forever, and an important way to promote future peace and prosperity in Rwanda is to allow peaceful opposition parties to participate in local and national politics.

A publicly fair and transparent trial of Mr. Rusesabagina would help to promote unity in Rwanda, and a closed and unfair trial will exacerbate dissent and disunity. We hope you will choose the right path.

Yours sincerely,

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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