



REPUBLIKA Y'U RWANDA

National Commission for the Fight against Genocide
Commission Nationale de Lutte contre le Génocide
Komisiyo y'Igihugu yo Kurwanya Jenocide

-CNLG-



**The National Commission against Genocide welcomes the
decision to reject the request for review of the
Ngirabatware Augustin convictions.**

On 24/9/2019, the International Residual Mechanism of the Criminal Courts decided to reject the request for review of the Ngirabatware convictions.

The National Commission for the Fight against Genocide (CNLG) welcomes this decision because it has repeatedly expressed its concern when the request for revision of Ngirabatware's judgment was made for the purpose of overturning its condemnation for genocide.

In particular, the CNLG has shown that the admissibility of the application for review would call into question the ICTR's convictions of génocidaires in several cases. It would also be a work of minimizing the gravity of the genocide committed against the Tutsi, and a consecration of the culture of impunity.

The goal behind the request to review Ngirabatware's judgment was not only to acquit him, but above all to create case law for the review of other final judgments pronounced by the ICTR, and thereby overturn their legality and legitimacy.

We must remember that Augustin Ngirabatware was found guilty on December 20th 2012 by the Trial Chamber of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) of "genocide, direct and public incitement to commit genocide and rape". The Tribunal found that Ngirabatware incited, aided and abetted militiamen from his Nyamyumba district in Gisenyi prefecture to kill their Tutsi neighbors and rape Tutsi women in April 1994. The Tribunal sentenced him to 35 years' in prison. The Appeals Chamber presided by judge Theodor Meron also found him guilty of genocide, incitement to genocide, but reduced the sentence to 30 years' imprisonment after acquitting him on the charge of rape.

On 8th July 2016, Ngirabatware applied for a review of his conviction, claiming to have discovered new evidence in his case. On 25th July 2016, the President of the Mechanism, Judge Theodor Meron, appointed a bench in the Appeals Chamber to hear this case, which he chaired himself. On 19th June 2017, the Appeals Chamber granted the request for review of Ngirabatware's conviction and scheduled the hearings to commence on 16th September 2019.

jlB



As soon as the review date for Ngirabatware's trial was communicated, the latter set up a team to bribe the witnesses in order to discredit all charges for which he was found guilty. This team of plotters is composed of the following persons: Maximilian TURINABO, Anselme NZABONIMPA, Jean NDAGIJIMANA Jean, Marie Rose FATUMA and Dick Prudence Munyeshuli.

CNLG hopes that this decision will serve as a precedent for other applications for review by genocidaires convicted by the ICTR.

CNLG calls on the Mechanism to redouble its efforts to apprehend and try the main fugitives suspected of genocide. Those fugitives are Augustin Bizimana, Protais Mpiranya, Felicien Kabuga, Kayishema Fulgence, Munyarugarama Pheneas, Ndimbati Aloys, Ryandikayo Charles and Sikubwabo Charles.

Dr. BIZIMANA Jean Damascène

Exucutive Secretary



P.O Box: 7035 Kigali – Hotline: 3560, E-mail: administrator@cnlg.gov.rw – Web site: www.cnlg.gov.rw