



STATEMENT

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PROSECUTOR

Arusha, 21 April 2016

Statement of Prosecutor Serge Brammertz at the Gisozi Memorial

As Prosecutor of the MICT, together with my entire Office, we join Rwanda and the world in remembering and commemorating the victims of the Rwandan genocide.

In just 100 days, hundreds of thousands of innocents were senselessly murdered, tortured, raped and forced to flee their homes. These atrocities were directed by a government that sought to destroy its citizens. The perpetrators, who should have protected the people, instead attacked and victimized the most vulnerable.

What the survivors seek, and what the victims deserve, is justice - to see those most responsible for these crimes judged and punished.

The ICTR Office of the Prosecutor secured 61 convictions for the Genocide, including senior political, military and civil leaders. Your judicial authorities are currently prosecuting more. But the work is not done.

8 MICT fugitives remain at large, including men like Felicien Kabuga and Protais Mpiranya. My Office will redouble our efforts to bring them to justice. We will also provide support to our Rwandan colleagues in tracking the more than 500 fugitives they have indicted. As long as suspected genocidaires remain at large, it is very difficult for the victims and survivors to move forward.

I call on all States in the region and the international community to fully support these efforts and provide all necessary assistance.

The truth of what happened during the Genocide has been repeatedly established by the ICTR's judgments. Yet today, some continue to deny the truth, and the ideology of genocide has not yet been extinguished.

We must clearly and firmly reject genocide denial at all times and in all places. And we must teach future generations the dangers of genocide ideology so they do not have to suffer as this country did.

Together, all States must actively promote memorials like this one, and they must ensure that everyone is taught the truth of what happened here 22 years ago. Only with the truth, justice and education can there be sustainable peace and reconciliation.

Thank you

The Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals (MICT) was established by UN Security Council Resolution 1966 (2010) to complete the remaining work of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia after the completion of their respective mandates. The MICT has two branches, one in Arusha, Tanzania, and one in The Hague, Netherlands.