

<b>Country/entity</b>	Rwanda
<b>Region</b>	Africa (excl MENA)
<b>Agreement name</b>	N'SELE Ceasefire Agreement 29 March 1991 between the Government of the Republic of Rwanda (GRR) and the Rwandese Patriotic Front as amended at Gbadolite on 16 September 1991 and at Arusha 12 July 1992
<b>Date</b>	12 Jul 1992
<b>Agreement status</b>	Multiparty signed/agreed
<b>Interim arrangement</b>	Yes
<b>Agreement/conflict level</b>	Intrastate/intrastate conflict

### **Rwandan Civil War (1990 - 1994)**

The origins between the ethnic tensions between the Tutsi and Hutus in Rwanda are found in the original waves of migration and later into the domination of the Kingdom of Rwanda formed by the Tutsi clans. The Kingdom of Rwanda became the framework used by the German colonials to exercise power. Although the economy was reformed following the transfer to Belgian rule after World War I, the Hutu majority remained disenfranchised. Socio-economic differences were further cemented in 1935, when the Belgians introduced identity cards with Hutu or Tutsi distinctions.

Relations deteriorated after World War Two when a Hutu elite formed, and in 1959, what began as attacks on Tutsi targets evolved into the Rwandan revolution. The Belgian colonials began a programme of promotion for Hutus and following elections in the mid-1960s, the Hutus took control of most constituencies. More than 336,000 Tutsis fled Rwanda during the revolution and a failed insurgency was launched in the late 1960s.

By the late 1980s, many former Tutsi refugees in Uganda had gained integral roles in the Ugandan National Army following the overthrow of Milton Obete by Yoweri Museveni. In 1990, a Tutsi faction within the Ugandan Army, the Rwandan Patriotic Front, led by Fred Rwigyema invaded Uganda. However, the RPF came in disarray following Rwigyema's death on the second day of the attack. This led another Tutsi officer from the Ugandan Army, Paul Kagame, to step in. The troops were reassembled and another campaign was launched in 1991. By 1992, the Arusha Accords were signed in Tanzania, providing for a power-sharing government. The war took a turn for the worst when on April 6, 1994, the plane of then-President Juvénal Habyarimana, a Hutu, was shot over Kigali killing everyone on board. The next day, the Rwandan Army, alongside civilians began killing Tutsi and moderate Hutu leaders, which marked the beginning of the 3-month long genocide of Tutsis in Rwanda, until the killing was ended in July 1994 when the RNF forced the interim government into exile. Approximately 2,000,000 Hutus also fled to the Democratic Republic of Congo, Burundi, Tanzania and Uganda.

Close

Rwandan Civil War (1990 - 1994)

<b>Stage</b>	Ceasefire/related
<b>Conflict nature</b>	Government
<b>Peace process</b>	Rwanda-RPF process
<b>Parties</b>	Government of Rwanda and Rwandese Patriotic Front
<b>Third parties</b>	<p>For the facilitator (the United Republic of Tanzania): Hon. Ahmed Hassan DIRIA, Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation</p> <p>In the presence of the Representative of the Secretary-General of the OAU, M. T. MAPURANGA, Assistant Secretary-General in Charge of Political Affairs</p>
<b>Description</b>	<p>This short agreement recognises ceasefire as the first stage of a peace process to culminate in a Peace Agreement. It agrees to put together a neutral military observer group under Organisation for African Unity (OAU) supervision. It provides for the establishment of Joint Political Military Commission (with Rwandan Government and RPF representatives); the formation of a national army with Government and RPF forces; and power-sharing framework; and set a timetable for further negotiations.</p>

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**Agreement document**      [RW\\_920712\\_N'seleCeasefire.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

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## **Groups**

<b>Children/youth</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Disabled persons</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Elderly/age</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Migrant workers</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Racial/ethnic/ national group</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Religious groups</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Indigenous people</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Other groups</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Refugees/displaced persons</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Social class</b>	No specific mention.

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## **Gender**

<b>Women, girls and gender</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Men and boys</b>	No specific mention.
<b>LGBTI</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Family</b>	No specific mention.

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## **State definition**

<b>Nature of state (general)</b>	No specific mention.
<b>State configuration</b>	No specific mention.

**Self determination** No specific mention.

**Referendum** No specific mention.

**State symbols** No specific mention.

**Independence/  
secession** No specific mention.

**Accession/  
unification** No specific mention.

**Border delimitation** No specific mention.

**Cross-border  
provision** No specific mention.

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## **Governance**

**Political  
institutions (new or  
reformed)** No specific mention.

**Elections** No specific mention.

**Electoral  
commission** No specific mention.

**Political parties  
reform** No specific mention.

**Civil society** No specific mention.

**Traditional/  
religious leaders** No specific mention.

**Public  
administration** No specific mention.

**Constitution** No specific mention.

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## **Power sharing**

### **Political power sharing**

Power sharing→Political power sharing→General  
State level

Page 5, Article V:

The signatories of the present agreement accept the following principles whose modalities of implementation shall be specified during the political negotiations.

[...]

3. Establishment of power-sharing within the framework of a broad-based transitional government.

### **Territorial power sharing**

No specific mention.

### **Economic power sharing**

No specific mention.

### **Military power sharing**

Power sharing→Military power sharing→Merger of forces

Page 5, Article V:

The signatories of the present agreement accept the following principles whose modalities of implementation shall be specified during the political negotiations.

[...]

2. Formation of a national army consisting of Government forces and those of the Rwandese Patriotic Front.

Power sharing→Military power sharing→Joint command structures

Page 5, Article IV:

1. A Joint Political Military Commission composed of 5 representatives of the Rwandese Government and 5 of the Rwandese Patriotic Front is established;

2. The OAU and the following countries are invited to participate, as observers, in the Joint Commission: Burundi, United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda, Zaire, Belgium, France and the United States of America;

3. The Joint Commission shall have the following mandate:

To ensure the follow-up of the implementation of the Cease-fire Agreement;

To ensure the follow-up of the implementation of the peace Agreement to be signed at the conclusion of the political negotiations;

4. The Joint Commission shall be based at the OAU Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The Commission's Headquarters may be moved upon agreement by both parties;

5. The Joint Commission shall hold its inaugural meeting not later than 26th July 1992.

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## **Human rights and equality**

### **Human rights/RoL general**

Page 5, Article V:

The signatories of the present agreement accept the following principles whose modalities of implementation shall be specified during the political negotiations.

1. Establishment of the rule of law, that is, based namely on national unity, democracy, pluralism, and respect for human rights

**Bill of rights/similar** No specific mention.

**Treaty incorporation** No specific mention.

**Civil and political rights** No specific mention.

**Socio-economic rights** No specific mention.

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### **Rights related issues**

**Citizenship** No specific mention.

**Democracy** Page 5, Article V:  
The signatories of the present agreement accept the following principles whose modalities of implementation shall be specified during the political negotiations.  
1. Establishment of the rule of law, that is, based namely on national unity, democracy, pluralism, and respect for human rights

**Detention procedures** No specific mention.

**Media and communication** No specific mention.

**Mobility/access** No specific mention.

**Protection measures** No specific mention.

**Other** No specific mention.

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### **Rights institutions**

**NHRI** No specific mention.

**Regional or international human rights institutions** No specific mention.

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## **Justice sector reform**

**Criminal justice and emergency law** No specific mention.

**State of emergency provisions** No specific mention.

**Judiciary and courts** No specific mention.

**Prisons and detention** No specific mention.

**Traditional Laws** No specific mention.

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## **Socio-economic reconstruction**

**Development or socio-economic reconstruction** No specific mention.

**National economic plan** No specific mention.

**Natural resources** No specific mention.

**International funds** No specific mention.

**Business** No specific mention.

**Taxation** No specific mention.

**Banks** No specific mention.

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## **Land, property and environment**

**Land reform/rights** No specific mention.

**Pastoralist/nomadism rights** No specific mention.

**Cultural heritage** No specific mention.

**Environment** No specific mention.

**Water or riparian rights or access** No specific mention.

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## **Security sector**

**Security Guarantees** No specific mention.

**Ceasefire** Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision  
The whole agreement provides for a ceasefire and its modalities.

Length: The cease-fire commences at midnight (Rwanda time) on 31st July 1992 at the same time as the deployment of the Neutral Military Observer Group; and it is expected to be permanent (Page 3, Article 1).

**Police** No specific mention.

**Armed forces** Page 5, Article V:  
The signatories of the present agreement accept the following principles whose modalities of implementation shall be specified during the political negotiations:  
[...]  
2. Formation of a national army consisting of Government forces and those of the Rwandese Patriotic Front.

**DDR** No specific mention.

**Intelligence services** No specific mention.

**Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces** No specific mention.

**Withdrawal of foreign forces** Page 3, Article II:  
The cease-fire shall imply:  
[...]  
6. The withdrawal of all foreign troops after the effective deployment of the Neutral Military Observer Group (NMOG) except for Military Officers serving in Rwanda under bilateral Cooperation Agreements.

**Corruption** No specific mention.

**Crime/organised crime** No specific mention.



**Drugs** No specific mention.

**Terrorism** No specific mention.

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**Transitional justice**

**Transitional justice general** No specific mention.

**Amnesty/pardon** No specific mention.

**Courts** No specific mention.

**Mechanism** No specific mention.

**Prisoner release** Page 3, Article II:  
The cease-fire shall imply:  
[...]  
4. The release of all prisoners-of-war; the effective release of all persons arrested because and as a result of this war within five days following the entry into force of the Cease-fire Agreement.

**Vetting** No specific mention.

**Victims** Page 3, Article II:  
The cease-fire shall imply:  
[...]  
5. The possibility of recovering the remains of the dead.

**Missing persons** No specific mention.

**Reparations** No specific mention.

**Reconciliation** No specific mention.

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**Implementation**

<b>UN signatory</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Other international signatory</b>	For the facilitator (the United Republic of Tanzania): Hon. Ahmed Hassan DIRIA, Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation  In the presence of the Representative of the Secretary-General of the OAU, M. T. MAPURANGA, Assistant Secretary-General in Charge of Political Affairs
<b>Referendum for agreement</b>	No specific mention.
<b>International mission/force/similar</b>	Page 3, Article I: 1. A cease-fire is hereby established throughout the territory of the Republic of Rwanda/ between the Government Forces and those of the Rwandese Patriotic Front. The cease-fire shall enter into force at midnight (Rwanda time) on 31st July 1992 at the same time as the deployment of the Neutral Military Observer Group.  Page 4, Art III: 1. The verification and control of the cease-fire shall be conducted by the neutral military observer group under the supervision of the Secretary-General of OAU; 2. The Neutral Military Observer Group shall be composed of: 10 Officers from Nigeria; 10 Officers from Senegal; 10 Officers from Zimbabwe; 10 Officers from an African country to be chosen by the current Chairman of the OAU in collaboration with the President of the United Republic of Tanzania; 5 Officers from the Government of Rwanda; 5 Officers from the Rwandese Patriotic Front; 3. The Neutral Military Observer Group shall report any violation of the cease-fire to the Secretary-General of OAU and a joint political military commission; 4. The Neutral Military Observer Group shall set up the organs and machinery required for the control and verification of the cease-fire. It shall draft its own rules of procedure. It shall enjoy a status that would enable it to perform its mission as provided in the Cease-fire Agreement; including privileges and immunities enjoyed by the OAU personnel as enshrined in the general agreement; 5. The Neutral Military Observer Group shall have full communication and other equipment it deems necessary to perform its mission. The NMOG officers may have specific uniforms with insignia for easy identification, and light weapons for self-defence.
<b>Enforcement mechanism</b>	Page 5, Article IV: [...] 3. The Joint Commission shall have the following mandate: - To ensure the follow-up of the implementation of the Cease-fire Agreement; - To ensure the follow-up of the implementation of the peace Agreement to be signed at the conclusion of the political negotiations;
<b>Related cases</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Source</b>	<a href="http://peacemaker.un.org">http://peacemaker.un.org</a>