

31 October 2006
MR/E41/06



**UNITED NATIONS
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Rwanda President Kagame to Speak at UNU

Event: Lecture by H.E. Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda
Theme: “Reconciliation and Reconstruction in Rwanda”
Date/Time: 8 November 2006 (Wednesday), 13:00-15:00
Venue: UN House, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo (U Thant International Conference Hall)
Organizers: United Nations University (UNU) and the African Diplomatic Corps (ADC)
Supporter: Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA)

- Paul Kagame has played a major role in Rwanda’s recent history, first as leader of the expatriate rebel movement that halted the 1994 genocide, and then as Vice President (1994–2000) and President (since 2000) of the recovering nation.
- In his lecture, President Kagame will focus on Rwanda’s successful recovery from the 1994 genocide, when as many as one million were killed, and the nation’s steady progress on the path to peace and development.
- Following President Kagame’s lecture, there will be brief comments by Professor Peter Hitjitevi Katjavivi, Chair, Council of the United Nations University, followed by a question and answer session moderated by UNU Rector Hans van Ginkel.
- Simultaneous Japanese–English interpretation will be provided.
- For those unable to attend, the President Kagame’s lecture will be webcast live, and archived, at <http://c3.unu.edu/unuvideo/?111>.

About the Speaker:

Born in 1957 in Rwanda, Paul Kagame fled persecution and violence in Rwanda with his family in 1960. He attended primary and secondary school as a refugee in Uganda. After 30 years in exile, he returned to Rwanda in 1990 to lead the Rwandan Patriotic Army (RPA) in the struggle for liberation.

In 1994, he was appointed Vice-President and Minister for Defence in the Rwanda Government of National Unity, and in 1998 was elected Chairman of the Rwandese Patriotic Front. In 2000, he was unanimously elected President of the Republic of Rwanda by the Transitional National Assembly. He subsequently won a landslide victory in August 2003 in Rwanda’s first-ever democratically contested multiparty elections, and was sworn in as President of the Republic of Rwanda in September 2003. His democratic election brought an end to the transition period.

President Kagame currently serves as Chairman of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA). He holds a diploma in Professional Management and Business Studies from the Open University of London (UK).

To confirm your attendance at the lecture, or to request an interview with President Kagame, please contact Naoko Yano, UNU Office of Communications (tel: 03-5467-1311; e-mail: media@unu.edu).