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## Letter dated 28 December 2006 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 918 (1994) concerning Rwanda addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 918 (1994) concerning Rwanda (see annex), which was adopted by the Committee under the no-objection procedure on 28 December 2006, and is being submitted in accordance with the note by the President of the Security Council of 29 March 1995 (S/1995/234). On behalf of the Committee, I wish to draw the attention of the Council especially to the observations contained in paragraphs 7 and 8 of the report, in which the Committee seeks the Council's action.

(Signed) César Mayoral Chairman Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 918 (1994) concerning Rwanda



### Annex

## Report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 918 (1994) concerning Rwanda

### A. Introduction

- 1. The present report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 918 (1994) concerning Rwanda covers the period from 1 January to 31 December 2006.
- 2. The previous report of the Committee, submitted to the Security Council on 9 February 2005 (see S/2005/76), covered the period from 1 January to 31 December 2004. A letter from the Chairman of the Committee on behalf of the Committee's members, addressed to the President of the Council, dated 9 March 2006, covered the implementation of the relevant Council resolutions during the period from 1 January to 31 December 2005 (S/2006/164).

## B. Background

3. Although the restrictions imposed by paragraph 13 of resolution 918 (1994) on the sale or supply of arms and related materiel to the Government of Rwanda were terminated on 1 September 1996 in accordance with paragraph 8 of resolution 1011 (1995), all States are required to continue to implement the measures with a view to preventing the sale and supply of arms and related materiel to non-governmental forces for use in Rwanda. In addition, paragraph 11 of resolution 1011 (1995) stated that "States shall notify all exports from their territories of arms or related materiel to Rwanda to the Committee established by resolution 918 (1994)" and that "the Government of Rwanda shall mark and register and notify to the Committee all imports made by it of arms and related materiel".

## C. Bureau of the Committee for 2006

4. For 2006, the Bureau of the Committee consisted of Ambassador César Mayoral (Argentina) as Chairman, with the delegations of Greece and Qatar providing the two Vice-Chairmen.

# D. Summary of the activities of the Committee during the reporting period

5. During 2006, the Committee held three informal consultations. At its informal consultations on 25 April, 10 August and 3 November 2006, the Committee considered a letter dated 10 March 2006 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1533 (2004) concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo addressed to the Chairman. In the letter, the Chairman of that Committee observed that an arms export/import transaction from Bulgaria to the Government of Rwanda, referred to in the report of the Group of Experts on the Democratic Republic of the Congo (see S/2006/53), might fall under

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paragraph 11 of Security Council resolution 1011 (1995), in which the Council requested States to notify the Committee of such imports/exports.

On 10 November 2006, the Chairman sent a letter in reply to the Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1533 (2004), in which the Committee established pursuant to resolution 918 (1994), inter alia, (a) acknowledged that, on 11 September 1996, it had issued a press release stating that no notifications were required to be submitted by States of exports from their territories of arms and related materiel to the Government of Rwanda or by the Government of Rwanda of imports of arms and related materiel, (b) observed that this understanding was later reiterated in the Committee's report to the Security Council for 1996 (see S/1997/15), and (c) noted that the Committee was of the view that Bulgaria and Rwanda had acted in accordance with the understanding of the Committee, articulated to Member States and the Security Council as referred to above, when they did not notify the Committee about the transfer of arms to the Government of Rwanda. The Committee has come to this conclusion on the basis, inter alia, of formal advice from the Office of Legal Affairs. The Chairman concluded his letter by noting that the Committee was currently reviewing the notification mechanism requirement for any future arms transfer to the Government of Rwanda within the scope of paragraph 11 of resolution 1011 (1995).

#### E. Observations

- 7. On the basis of the discussions of the Committee during 2006, in particular at its informal consultations on 3 November 2006, the Chairman wishes to inform the Security Council that the Committee has been unable to reach agreement on the future status of the notification requirement due to differing views among its members. In this regard, the Chairman wants to draw the attention of the Council to the ambiguity with respect to the duration of the notification requirement as set out in paragraph 11 of resolution 1011 (1995), as well as to the issuance of the press release of the Committee on 11 September 1996 (SC/6265) stating that no notifications are required to be submitted by States of exports from their territories of arms and related materiel to the Government of Rwanda or by the Government of Rwanda of imports of arms and related materiel, which the Committee later reiterated in its report to the Security Council (S/1997/15).
- 8. The Committee hereby asks the Security Council to decide on the future status of this notification requirement. The Chairman encourages the Council, in its deliberations on the future status of this requirement, to take into consideration the current situation in Rwanda as well as the need for a coherent approach to foster peace and stability in the whole Great Lakes region.

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