



30th Commemoration of the 1994 Genocide Against the Tutsi Held at the Foreign & Commonwealth & Development Office

London, April 25, 2024 – In a solemn event marking the 30th Commemoration of the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi, Rwanda, the United Kingdom, and the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust co-hosted the first-ever joint commemoration at the FCDO. Over 180 guests including Ambassadors, diplomats, senior Home Office representatives, Directors General from FCDO, members of civil society and academia attended.

Speakers at the event expressed solidarity and shared collective determination to combat genocide denial.

HMDT Chief Executive, Olivia Marks-Woldman OBE, shared that: *"The 30th anniversary of the genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda is a powerful reminder that despite the murder of 6 million Jews in the Holocaust and the world's commitment never to let genocide happen again, it still happened in Rwanda, we still have much work to do to make it a reality."*

Deputy Foreign Secretary Andrew Mitchell said: *"In 1994, Rwanda suffered the most tragic and painful experience any nation can endure. My own conversations, including with survivors of these terrible events, will stay with me forever."*

"Memorials like this are vital for continuing our commitment to educate people on the impact of genocides, expanding awareness, and building empathy and understanding."

"To create a world without hatred, discrimination, and genocide, we must remember and learn from the atrocities of the past."

High Commissioner of Rwanda to the UK, Johnston Busingye thanked The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, and Holocaust Memorial Day Trust, expressing profound gratitude on co-hosting this commemoration.

On the rebirth of Rwanda after the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi, HC Busingye mentioned:

"The past thirty years since 1994 are a generation of firsts. Since our independence the past 30 years are the first straight period Rwandans classified



Republic of Rwanda
Rwandan High Commission
London

as Tutsi have lived their lives with no fear of being in the eye of a storm for who they are.

They are the first 30 straight years that no Rwandan, of whatever the background circumstances has had to be required to identify by ethnicity. It's the first 30 straight years that the ethnicity card played no role in politics, in electoral competition, in governance or anywhere else. For the first time we have a generation of Rwandans who know that only their Rwandan identity is their right of passage to do, to be, to achieve anything or to search anywhere”.