Subject: MM. Aimable Nkurunziza, Joseph Nzeyimana, and Masumbuko

Palo Alto, USA, November 11, 2003,

Dear Minister,

I am writing you to express my worries regarding Aimable Nkurunziza, Joseph Nzeyimana, and Masumbuko, currently detained in gendarmerie custody in Rumonge, after being arrested on or around 21 October 2003 there. It is thought that they could be, or could have been, transferred against their will to Rwanda.

If so, I call on you for the men to be protected from torture and other forms of ill-treatment, and “disappearance”, for their place of detention to be made public and for them to have immediate and sustained access to their families, medical care and legal counsel, as well as human rights and humanitarian organizations.

I would also like you to clarify the legal grounds for the men’s transfer to Rwanda and the reasons for their continued detention.

Thanking you in advance for your time on this important and urgent matter, I am respectfully,

Cc.: President Paul KAGAME (fax: + 250 84769 / 84390)  
Ambassador Dr Zac Nsenga (fax: (202) 232 4544)