

*For immediate release*

**Statement by Ms. Alice Wairimu Nderitu, Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide on conclusion of her visit to Rwanda 22- 29 July 2024**

**(Kigali, Rwanda, 29 July 2024)** I was here in April this year, at the start of KWIBUKA30. I have come back in July to mark the end of 100 days of Remembrance. It has been 30 years since the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in which also Hutu and others who opposed it were killed and we all have an eternal duty to remember the victims and survivors.

I have held meetings focused on the importance of learning from Rwanda's experience in forgiving and rebuilding in preventing genocide, raising awareness about the risk factors, causes, and consequences of genocide, countering hate speech and addressing genocide denial in Rwanda and in the wider region.

We also discussed plans to partner and support the proposed genocide prevention center the Special Envoy of the African Union on Genocide Prevention Adama Dieng, is working to set up.

With Aegis Trust of Action for Media Stakeholders to Address Hate Speech and Prevent Incitement to Violence that could lead to Genocide and Related Crimes Action named for the Nyamata Church - to pay respects to the victims and honor their memory.

International Courts of Law have determined conclusively that the media played a significant role to incite and enable the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda. Holding this workshop in Rwanda was societies and on the role that media can play in enabling genocide and related crimes. The workshop brought out the is proliferating at an unprecedented speed, often spread by individuals with authority and influence.

-level conference on Listening and Leading gathered over 400 participants during three days of meaningful discussions on the lessons learned from Rwanda and other places in the world that experienced genocide. I spoke at the keynote framing panel on global perspectives of the state of genocide prevention, various prevention approaches and lessons learned. We also visited the site of the proposed Isoko Peace Institute in the Bugesera District. I was also honored to co-present, as part of the conference, the Aegis Award to the faith leaders of the Central African Republic. Cardinal Dieudonné

Also present was the family of another Righteous honored, Mr. Pierantonio Costa, an Italian businessman and later diplomat who during the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi saved around 2000 people.

The third person honoured in this garden is Mr. Raphael Lemkin the Polish Jewish lawyer gave us the

-

