

**UNITED NATIONS
PRESS RELEASE**

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Statement by Adama Dieng, United Nations Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide on the situation in Burundi

(New York, 24 August 2016) The United Nations Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, Adama Dieng, expressed his concern at inflammatory statements by public officials that could constitute incitement to violence including, most recently, by a senior official of the ruling CNDD-FDD political party.

In a statement on 16 August 2016 that was published on the CNDD-FDD website, Pascal Nyabenda, who was at the time President of the CNDD-FDD party and President of the National Assembly, suggested that the genocide in Rwanda was a fabrication of the international community, (“*montages genocidaires contre le Gouvernement dit Hutu de Kigali*”) that was used to remove the Hutu government that was in place at the time.

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has the potential to inflame et

the 20 August meeting of the party, a new head of the CNDD-FDD was appointed but Mr. Nyabenda continues in his role as President of the National Assembly.

The situation in Burundi continues to be marred by instability and reports of serious human rights violations, including allegations of extra-judicial killings, disappearances, torture, and arbitrary detention of members of the opposition, civil society and those suspected of opposing the G