



REMARKS BY MINISTER OLIVIER NDUHUNGIREHE

Session on “Peace and Stability: Ensuring Human Dignity and Human Security”

Yokohama, 20 August 2024

I thank you for the opportunity to speak on this important topic. Africa, and the world at large stand at a critical juncture.

Recent economic, geopolitical and climate-related crises have disproportionately affected our Continent.

This has led to increased challenges across the board, and even setbacks in development gains.

While we strive to build more resilient digital economies, we are reminded that the foundation remains peace and stability.

As a Continent, we have made noticeable steps in the right direction.

I would like to highlight in particular the African Union Peace Fund, which reached its 400-million-dollar target, with increased participation from the private sector.



Rwanda remains a committed partner to peace across our region. Ours is a holistic and human-focused approach to peace support.

At the formal request of partner countries, we have deployed forces in the Central African Republic (CAR) and Mozambique, and we continue to contribute to peacekeeping efforts in South Sudan and CAR.

These efforts reflect my country's commitment to African solutions to African problems.

In this context, I wish to recall the Kigali Principles on the Protection of Civilians, adopted in 2015. They remain an essential framework to guide a robust, effective accountable, and people-centered peacekeeping.

I would like to also underscore the important role that regional economic organizations can play in addressing the root causes of insecurity.

In the African Great Lakes region, for example, commendable efforts are currently being led by the East African Community (EAC) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC), under the coordination of the African Union, to support a sustainable solution for peace in the region.



These efforts are further strengthened by ongoing diplomatic tracks of the Washington Peace Agreement and the Doha Process.

We believe that our aspiration to “*Silencing the Guns*” on the Continent can be achieved by the end of the decade.

However, renewed urgency is needed in addressing the underlying root causes of conflicts such as bad governance, corruption, discrimination, and genocide ideology, which are deeply rooted in countries such as the DRC.

I wish to conclude by stressing that TICAD offers a unique platform to collectively address these challenges, whose spillover effects are felt around the world. Because Africa is set to be the engine of global growth and innovation in the future, now is the time for us to act.