

UNITED NATIONS

TRUSTEESHIP  
COUNCIL



GENERAL

T/PET.3/63  
1 August 1952

ENGLISH

ORIGINAL: FRENCH

PETITION FROM MR. E. RABAUD  
CONCERNING RUANDA-URUNDI

Note by the Secretary-General: In accordance with rule 85 and supplementary rule F of the rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council, the Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the members of the Trusteeship Council and to the Government of Italy as the Administering Authority of the Trust Territory of Somaliland, a communication dated 1 July 1952 from Mr. E. Rabaud, concerning the Trust Territory of Ruanda-Urundi.

LEAGUE FOR THE RIGHTS OF MAN  
AND FOR THE NEW DEMOCRACY

Kisenyi, 1 July 1952

(Ligue des Droits de l'Homme et  
de la Democratie Nouvelle)

Kisenyi Office - B.P. No. 5 (P.O. Box No.5)  
Ruanda-Urundi

To: President of the Trusteeship Council  
United Nations, New York

Sir,

During the interview with which the Visiting Mission of the Trusteeship Council honoured us in August 1951 we were informed that Europeans living and working in Ruanda-Urundi enjoyed the same status as inhabitants and, in theory, the same rights as the indigenous inhabitants.

In a letter dated 22 January 1952, our President, Dr. Van Sacaghem, having to answer specific questions which colonists had asked him, requested the Governor of Ruanda-Urundi for confirmation of their status as inhabitants. In the Governor's absence, we received a brief reply, dated 2 February 1952, stating: "The question you raise is being carefully considered and you will be informed of the results". We are still waiting to hear these results.

We should welcome, Sir, the official and final confirmation of this status as inhabitants which we claim in Ruanda-Urundi during the crucial debates at present being carried on at United Nations Headquarters, in which the future of the countries that we look upon as our new mother lands is being decided.

May we add on this score and on behalf of all those here who are conscious of their civic duties, that we should be deeply disappointed and should very much regret it if final decisions with regard to our country's future were taken without our being previously informed and consulted.

Convinced of your interest in our cause, we have the honour to be, Sir, etc.

For the Committee:

the Secretary: E. Rabaud

(Signed) E. PABAUD

/P.S. It is

P.S. It is our understanding that the term "inhabitant" would apply to any person of foreign origin settling in these areas in order to devote to them his actual and potential abilities and living, working and founding a family here. A person residing only temporarily in the area for the sole purpose of administrative work, employment or business would not be entitled to claim this status.

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Received at United Nations Headquarters on 16 July 1952