

ANNEX I TO RWANDA SUBMISSION

OBSERVATION AND ANALYSIS OF ALLEGATIONS OF RADIO COMMUNICATION BETWEEN RDF AND M23 CONTAINED IN UN GROUP OF EXPERTS ADDENDUM REPORT

1. In Paragraph 31(i) of the Addendum, the Group have produced an allegation depending on information they were provided by FARDC regarding an intercepted radio communication between RDF and M23. An extract from M23 of the radio communication is provided on page 16 of the Addendum.

2. Observation: With reference to allegations in paragraph 31(i) and image 10 on page 16 the following need to be taken into consideration as a technical observation:

a. Frequencies used/intercepted:

- (1) 159,500.00 KHz;
- (2) 160,900.00 KHz;
- (3) 161,000.00 KHz;

b. Mode of Communication:

Based on the content of the image 10 in page 16, the communication mode used was single frequency per channel or simplex, which can also be considered as direct mode operation

c. Communication security/Encryption Used:

Communication security/Encryption used seems to be a paper based encryption or manual cipher system known as "SLIDEX..."

3. Analysis:

a. The frequency band used as contained in 1(a) above is VHF (High), and equipments used are commercial standard. They are not compatible to RDF VHF communication system which uses PRC family military standard, with frequency Low VHF range from 30 to 88/108 MHz;

b. The communication security/encryption used is not known nor compatible to RDF military communication since RDF uses Digital encryption that are imbedded in its communication assets;

c. Given the frequency band used (VHF High), and mode of communication indicated in point 1(b) (simplex/direct two way...), it is almost impossible to establish two way communications between any of RDF unit headquarters in the northwest part of the country to any of the location across the border (to date) in the same frequency band, due to the following reasons:

- (1) No line of sight as a result of man obstacles including mountains, vegetations etc
- (2) Short distance of communication due to attenuation caused by the terrain topology and other elements such as thick forest/vegetation.

d. The system of manual and paper based encryption is not used by RDF. RDF use Digital encryption embedded in the communication radios. Slidex system is only used by FARDC and FDLR in the region.