

REPUBLIC OF RWANDA

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The Ministry of Information informs the public of the immediate suspension of all BBC Radio local language (Kinyarwanda).. This is a result of the total disregard that these programs have consistently shown for Rwanda's unity and reconciliation efforts, despite repeated written and verbal protests from the Government of Rwanda.

The divisive and disparaging nature of these programs --as they stand today-- is no longer acceptable, in light of the hard-earned peaceful coexistence of the people of Rwanda over the last 15 years.

Parts of today's "Imvo n'Imvano" show as broadcast in a trailer on BBC's airwaves on the evening of April 24, and the subsequent show on April 25 amount to blatant denial of the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi of Rwanda, and constitute unacceptable speech.

Rwanda believes in difference of opinion and enforces press freedom in its laws and practices, which is why the Government of Rwanda has patiently continued to seek common ground and cooperation on the part of the BBC Great Lakes leadership.

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