

Arusha [Rwandan government and RPF finally agreed to a ceasefire]

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The rebels blamed the government for prolonging the war by violating previous ceasefires, while the government accused the rebels of shelling a refugee camp and attacking civilians.

But the government and the RPF finally accepted that a ceasefire signed in Nsere, Zaire, in March had broken down because both sides had breached it. They were expected to discuss the formation of a monitoring group during the closing session of the talks.

The chief rebel delegate, Pasteur Bizimungu, demanded that the government allow thousands of mainly Tutsi refugees to return home safely and absorb RPF fighters into the army.

But Rwanda has one of Africa's highest population densities, and a severe shortage of housing and farm-

land, observers at the talks noted.

Delegates said the agenda for the peace negotiations to begin next week would include the RPF demands, as well as the formation of a new broad-based government, the transition to democratic rule, and human rights.

The two sides agreed that the negotiations should last a maximum of 60 days.

In a sign of mounting international concern about the Rwandan war, officials from the United States, France, Belgium, Uganda, Zaire and Burundi attended the Arusha talks as observers.

The meeting, planned during the Organisation of African Unity summit in Dakar earlier this month, was a follow-up to an earlier round of negotiations in Paris in June.

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