<u>Press Releases: Commemoration of the</u> 24th Anniversary of the 1994 Genocide <u>in Rwanda</u>

Press Statement John J. Sullivan

Acting Secretary of State

Washington, DC April 7, 2018

We stand today with the people of Rwanda in commemorating the 1994 genocide during which more than 800,000 men, women, and children were brutally murdered. On this solemn occasion, we remember those who lost their lives and honor the courage of those who risked their lives to save others.

The United States values its strong partnership with Rwanda, and we are inspired by the remarkable progress that Rwanda has made in rebuilding since 1994. We are proud to support Rwanda as it continues to fight impunity for atrocities, lift millions of its people out of poverty, and build a peaceful and prosperous future for its citizens.

We also honor the contributions of Rwandans such as Godelieve Mukasarasi, recipient of the Department's 2018 International Woman of Courage Award, who have dedicated their lives to fighting for a culture of peace and nonviolence in Rwanda. We are inspired by their bravery and dedication to justice and reconciliation.

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