

REPUBLIC OF RWANDA



MINISTRY OF JUSTICE
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Remarks of the Minister of Justice/Attorney General at the International Homeland Security Forum

Jerusalem-Israel
13th June 2018

Minister Gilad Erdan, permit me, on behalf of the Government of the Republic Rwanda to thank you for inviting us and to thank you for the wonderful hospitality my delegation and I have enjoyed since our arrival in Jerusalem.

Colleagues, ladies and gentlemen, the security and safety of our people, protection of our respective ways of life, defence of our democracies is an obligation we owe our populations.

Terror or the threat of it are perhaps, the most important contemporary challenges that we face. None of our countries is safe by reason of being far, near, neutral, active or inactive as it used to be.

Terror, whether by lone wolves or organized has people a common denominator; people who think terror is the right thing to do. It is our collective obligation to do what it takes and do not allow terror to beat us at getting these people.

Minister Gilad, Rwanda is very happy to hear of Israel's intention and plans to reach out to Israel's 20% Arab and minority populations, to cause inclusive development, to

include all your citizens in the ownership of the country's security and future. This will substantially diffuse the disinformation that the State aims to destroy mosques. Indeed this acts as a rallying call terrorists use not just here but far beyond your shores to populations linked by religion but have no access to accurate information. This turns some of them, into apologists or potential agents of terror! Our sincere thanks for these initiatives.

Inclusive development, inclusive participation in governance, equitable obligations in the management of the country have been instrumental in stabilising Rwanda. Our past was divisive. The imperative of the involvement of government, civil society, faith based organisations, youth and academia has never been more important, I can attest that it works.

Terror of whatever motivation affects us all and the enabling link might easily be the low alert state which has not experienced an attack. It should therefore be reason enough to bring us here.

The internet has no borders, our young people are especially using it and will, consciously or unconsciously, be targets for radicalization. As governments we need to ensure through policy and legislation that terrorists lone wolves or organized groups do not succeed with our youth.

Ministers, ladies and gentlemen, Rwanda commits to bilateral and multilateral cooperation to ensure a safer, free and fairer world. To deliver on commitments we make will remain high on our agenda.

We subscribe to the continuity of this forum including, you will agree with me, holding sessions on the African continent. Rwanda will, if the idea is found useful, humbly offer to play first host.

Once again thank you Minister Gilad Erdan for convening this very important forum and for inviting Rwanda to participate.

I thank you