REPUBLIC OF RWANDA

DECLARATION UNDER ARTICLE 34 (6) OF PROTOCOL TO THE AFRICAN CHARTER ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES’ RIGHTS ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AFRICAN COURT ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES’ RIGHTS

WHEREAS on 5th day of May, 2003 Rwanda ratified the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on the Establishment of an African Court on Human and Peoples’ Rights (hereinafter referred to as “the Protocol”);

WHEREAS Article 5 (3) of the Protocol stipulates that the Court may entitle relevant Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) with observer status before the Commission and individuals to institute cases directly before it, in accordance with article 34 (6) of this Protocol;

WHEREAS Article 34 (6) of the above mentioned Protocol stipulates that at the time of the ratification of the Protocol or any time thereafter, the State shall make a declaration accepting the competence of the Court to receive cases under article 5 (3) of the Protocol, and that the Court shall not receive any petition under article 5 (3) involving a State Party which has not made such a declaration;

NOW THEREFORE, The Republic of Rwanda declares that The African Court on Human and Peoples’ Rights may receive petitions involving the Republic of Rwanda, filed by Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) with observer status before the African Commission of Human and Peoples’ Rights and individuals, subject to the reservation that all local remedies will have been exhausted before the competent organs and jurisdictions of the Republic of Rwanda.

Done at Kigali this 22 Day of January 2012.

Louise MUSHIKIWABO
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COOPERATION
REPUBLIC OF RWANDA