

file Rwanda

**REPUBLIC OF RWANDA
MINISTRY OF LOCAL
GOVERNMENT AND
SOCIAL AFFAIRS
P.O-BOX : 3445 KIGALI**

To : Georgia Green
Project Manager of Programs
Fax : 202-659-0210.

From: Dr Odette NYIRAMUJIMU
Minister of state for social affairs
Fax : (250)82228
Tel. : (250) 87741

Subject : Darell and Mrs Hammond's Trip to RWANDA
8th - 15th July, 2000.

*Also, Katy Button, former
Asst. to First Lady Hillary Clinton*

Dear Georgia Green,

This is a tentative program for Darell and Mrs Hammond's visit to Rwanda.

It is subject to be changed depending on his wishes and also on our other partners' suggestions.

- Saturday, 8 July 2000 :

- 8 : 05 P.M : Arrival at Kanombe Airport

- Sunday , 9 July 2000 :

- 10 : 00 A.M : Tour around KIGALI and site visit (Future Play Ground)
- 12 : 30 Lunch offered by the former First Lady
- Discussions on Play Ground's document available

- Monday, 10 July 2000 :

- 9 : 00 A.M : Meeting with the Play Ground's Committee
- Afternoon : free (may be contacts with American Embassy, USAID, IRC ...)

Spore Giddings us Air's

- Tuesday, July 2000 :

- 9 : 00 A.M to 11 : 00 A.M : Meeting with the project steering committee
- 11 : 00 A.M to 12 : 30 A.M :
overview of Children's projects and visit to the Ministry of Local Government and Social Affairs
- 2 : 00 P.M : departure for N'TARAMA Genocide site.

- Wednesday, 12 July 2000 :

- 9 : 00 A.M to 12 : 30 : Meeting with local technicians and a survey team at the playground site.
- Afternoon : free (Shopping maybe ...)
- 7 : 00 P.M : Reception offered by Dr. Odette NYIRAMILIMO, the Minister of State for Social Affairs

- Thursday 13 July 2000 :

- 10 : 00 A.M : Departure for Kibuye (Lake Kivu, About 2 hours 30 min drive)
- 1 : 00 P.M : Pic-nic on the shores of the lake.
- 2 : 00 P.M : Departure for BISESERO Genocide Site.

- Friday 14 July 2000 :

- Enjoy the beauty of KIBUYE
- 4 : 00 P.M : Finalize the playground planning

- Saturday 15 July 2000 :

- 9 : 00 A.M : Departure for KIGALI
- 6 : 00 P.M : Departure for the Airport

Done at KIGALI, 28th June 2000 by Odette, LIZ and Immaculée.



2213 M STREET NW, SUITE 200 • WASHINGTON, DC 20037 • PHONE 202.659.0215 • FAX 202.659.0210

file Rwanda

July 18, 2000

The Honorable Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
Office of the First Lady, Old Executive Building
17th and Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Mrs. Clinton,

KaBOOM! is very pleased to submit this brief update on the playground project in Kigali, Rwanda, which recently has made immense progress, thanks in large part to your support and the support of your enthusiastic staff.

Last February, KaBOOM!'s preferred playground equipment vendor, Playworld Systems, generously pledged to donate \$35,000 worth of playground equipment to the Kigali project. This news coincided with the visit of your Rwandan contact and chair of the local playground planning committee, Dr. Odette Nyiramilimo. During her visit here, Dr. Nyiramilimo updated KaBOOM! staff, as well as Melanne Verveer and Katy Button of the your office, on the status of the playground project in Rwanda. In this brief, but highly informative meeting, Dr. Nyiramilimo described the efficient formation of a local playground planning committee, confirmed support of the then-First Lady of Rwanda Seraphine Bizimungu, and the involvement of a local NGO dedicated to women and children's issues in Rwanda, the Tumurere Foundation.

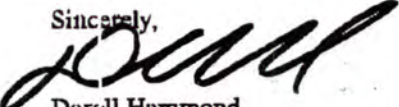
In response to the impressive organization and enthusiasm on the part of the local groups, and especially the many mothers who had become involved, KaBOOM! increased its involvement on the project. A Project Manager, Georgia Green, was assigned to the project and Georgia began to communicate more regularly with Dr. Nyiramilimo. With the intent of reaching out to other international groups involved specifically in children's recreational programming in Kigali, KaBOOM! contacted the International Rescue Committee (IRC) about their programs for children in Rwanda. The original playground planning committee welcomed the IRC's logistical support, and they have since proven to be another resourceful local partner in the playground planning process.

An additional and very significant undertaking by KaBOOM! to support this project was my recent eight-day trip (July 8-July 15) to Kigali. Thanks to you again, Mrs. Clinton, because your financial contribution from proceeds of *It Takes a Village to Raise a Child* helped make this trip possible. Accompanied by my wife and briefly by Katy Button, I met with the local planning committee, evaluated potential sites, and had meetings with both the former First Lady (Mrs. Bizimungu) and current First Lady, Mrs. Kagame. I also met with US Ambassador George Staples. One of the most important outcomes of his trip was the demonstrated willingness, progress, resourcefulness, and energy by a host of local adults and children. Prior to his trip, KaBOOM! created a special section of our Website dedicated to the Rwanda project (www.kaboom.org/rwanda). During his trip, I posted daily dispatches describing my work, thoughts, and impressions. The popularity of this personal communication with the KaBOOM! Web audience illustrated how caring and concerned many Americans are about Rwanda, too.

During my visit, important decisions were made on plans for the actual playgrounds. One large playground will be built using the Playworld Systems equipment at an orphanage managed by the Tumurere Foundation. Three additional, smaller playgrounds will also be built in three separate "communes" (neighborhoods) in Kigali. These smaller playgrounds will be made of local resources (tires, wood, ropes, etc) that are more affordable, and they will be easy to replicate in other communities in the future. KaBOOM! hopes to return with staff and a small crew of US-based volunteers to build the playgrounds in January 2001, when there is a window of dry weather conducive to construction.

KaBOOM! thanks you for your support and interest in the Kigali project thus far, and would be honored to meet with you to discuss next steps and your continued involvement in this exciting opportunity.

Sincerely,


Darell Hammond
CEO and Founder, KaBOOM!

Cc: Melanne Verveer

OUR WORK IS CHILDREN'S PLAY



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Sincerely,

Darell Hammond
CEO and Founder, KaBOOM!

Cc: Melanne Verveer

OUR WORK IS CHILD'S PLAY

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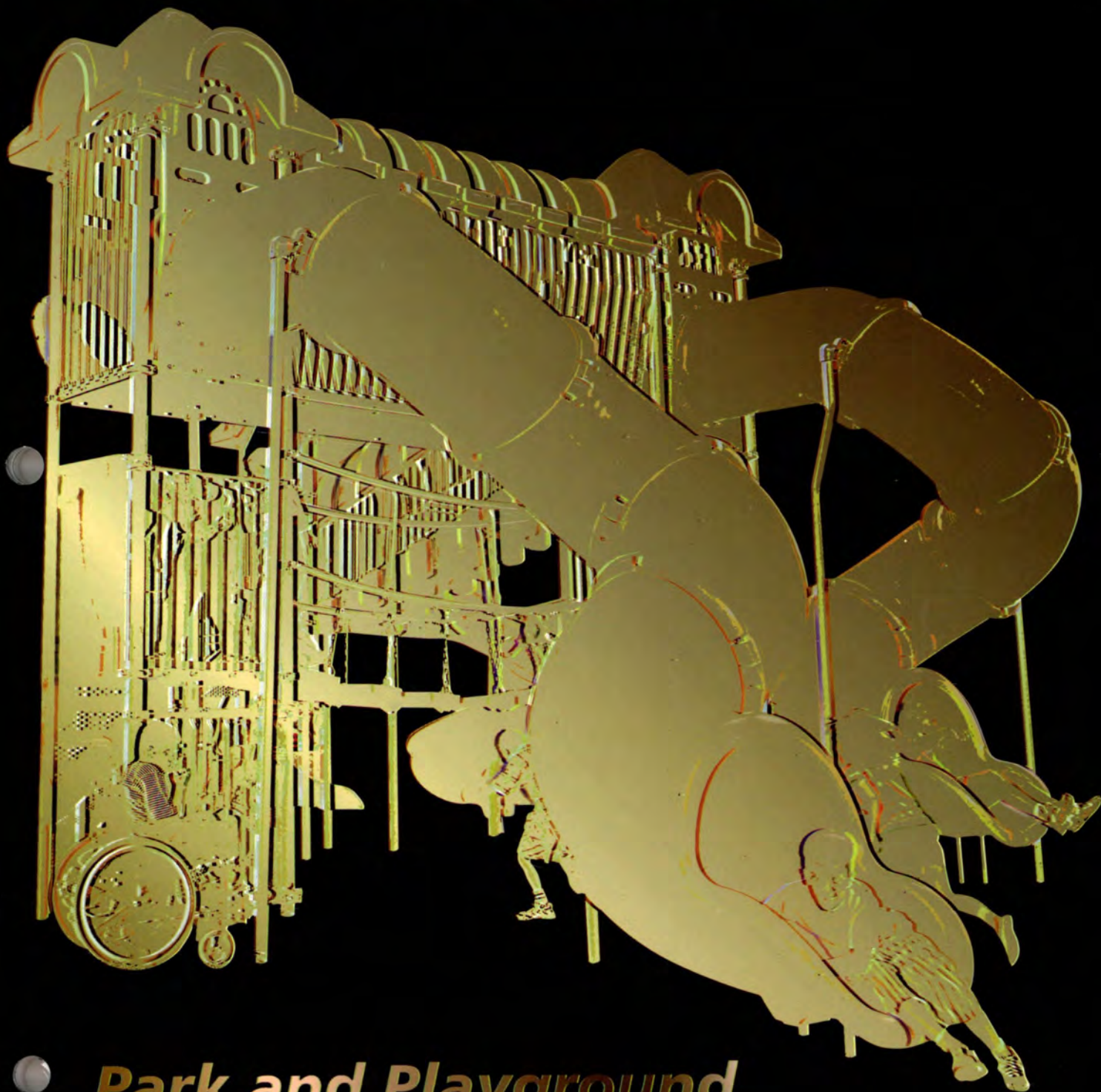
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PLAYWORLD SYSTEMS

Putting The Fun Back Into Playgrounds



Park and Playground
INNOVATIONS FOR 2000

June 6, 1999

R
File
Rwanda

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FIRST LADY

FROM: Katy Button
RE: Kigali Playground Project

Attached is a memo from Dr. Odette Nyiramilimo, the Rwandan woman who you met in April at the Millennium evening. You talked to her about her idea to build a playground for Hutu and Tutsi children in Rwanda. Before she left Washington, we met with her and also had Darrell Hammond from KABOOM! come in to meet with her.

Since then, Dr. Nyiramilimo has been in contact with our AID mission director in Kigali and has talked further with Darrell on fundraising and organizational strategies. Darrell has arranged for a colleague of his currently working on a playground in Kenya to visit Dr. Nyiramilimo and further assist her, especially in making contacts with potential corporate donors.

We will continue to work with Dr. Nyiramilimo and keep you updated on her progress.

as I mentioned to you

Pam

MEMORANDUM FOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

FROM: DR. ODETTE NYIRAMILIMO

CC: MELANNE VERVEER

SUBJECT: RWANDAN INITIATIVE TO CREATE A PEACEFUL ENVIRONMENT FOR HUTU AND TUTSI CHILDREN

DATE: June 3, 1999

One of the most difficult challenges we face in Rwanda, following the 1994 genocide, is teaching our children how to build a peaceful future. Today Tutsi survivors live side-by-side with the many Hutus who took part in the genocide—in this environment it makes it very difficult for Rwandan children to understand the value of peace and to learn tolerance and respect for each other. As we discussed, I am working with women leaders in Kigali—the Women's Initiative Committee—to create a community center for Hutu and Tutsi children to play and learn together. The Rwandan government has donated three hectares (1 hectare=2.47 acres) for this project, and we are now in the planning stages. I am extremely grateful for your support and advice on this project. Following is a summary of this project to date:

VISION:

A peaceful Rwandan society built on tolerance and respect between Hutu and Tutsi people.

OBJECTIVE:

To build a community center in Kigali for Hutu and Tutsi children. The center will allow our youth and families to play and learn together, and to foster genuine relationships of trust and respect. The community center will serve as both a memorial to the past and a symbol of hope for the future—it will give our children the chance to eliminate the long-standing hatred between Hutus and Tutsis, and to build a bridge to a peaceful future.

GOALS:

- To provide a neutral place for Hutu and Tutsi children to play, laugh and learn together
- To build a playground and play environment that meets the following three goals:
 - Age appropriate: ages 2-5, 5-12 and 12-16
 - Multi-generational (e.g., would include picnic benches, bird feeders, trash receptacles, game tables, etc.)
 - Community inclusive—local community involved in organizing, planning and constructing
- To create a community center near the playground and play environment which would include a library, homework area, eating area, arts and crafts room, indoor gymnasium and, perhaps, a swimming pool

NEXT STEPS:

- Formalize the project committee in Kigali and its relationship with American and other international groups
- Create a three phase work plan and timeline, starting with the playground and ending with the full community center
- Establish a fund-raising process—both local and international, and identify cash vs. in-kind support