

Date of Independence:

July 1, 1962

Capital:

Kigali

Population:

5,720,000

Head of State and Head of

His Excellency Major-General

Government:

Juvénal Habyarimana

Economy:

Predominantly subsistence agriculture (95%), the principal export is coffee, with a

little tea and cinchona.

Canada/Rwanda Relations: Canadian presence in Rwanda dates back to 1963, when missionaries founded the National University of Rwanda, which has been funded by the aid program since 1971. CIDA is also conducting major projects in the sectors of agricultural development, telecommunications and geophysical exploration. In 1984, Canadian food aid totalled \$3 million. Bilateral relations outside the co-operation program are limited to exchanges within the framework of La Francophonie.

His Excellency Major-General Juvénal Habyarimana: Born in 1937. Army officer. Minister of the National Guard and the Police from 1965. In 1973, took power following a coup d'état. Founded the National Revolutionary Movement for Development, Rwanda's only party. Re-elected on June 30, 1983.