

**ORGANIC LAW N° 29/2004 OF 03/12/2004 ON RWANDAN NATIONALITY
CODE**

We, KAGAME Paul,
President of the Republic;

**THE PARLIAMENT HAS ADOPTED AND WE SANCTION, PROMULGATE
THE FOLLOWING LAW AND ORDER IT TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE
OFFICIAL GAZETTE OF THE REPUBLIC OF RWANDA.**

The Parliament :

The Chamber of Deputies, in its session of June 21, 2004;

The Senate, in its session of October 5, 2004;

Given the Constitution of the Republic of Rwanda of June 4, 2003 as amended to date especially in its Articles 7, 62, 88, 90, 92, 93, 108, 118-7° and 201;

Revisited the law of September 28, 1963 on Rwandan nationality code, as modified to date;

ADOPTS :

TITLE ONE : GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article one :

A Rwandan national is anyone who holds the Rwandan nationality under the provisions of this organic law or whoever acquired it under earlier laws on Rwandan nationality.

Article 2 :

Dual Nationality is permitted.

Article 3 :

Under this organic law, the majority age is fixed at eighteen (18) complete years of age.

TITLE II : RWANDAN NATIONALITY BY ORIGIN

CHAPTER ONE : RWANDAN NATIONALITY BY DESCENT

Article 4 :

Any child whose one of his or her parents is a Rwandan, is a Rwandan.

Article 5 :

Parental descent is effective in matters of granting nationality only where it has been provided for by laws in force in Rwanda.

CHAPTER II : RWANDAN NATIONALITY BY BIRTH IN RWANDA

Article 6 :

A child born in Rwanda from unknown or stateless parents or to whom at least one of his or her parents' nationality cannot be granted is a Rwandan.

New born babies found on the Rwandan territory are considered as born in Rwanda at their birth in case of default of proof to the contrary.

Article 7 :

Every foreigner born from alien parents on Rwandan territory residing in Rwanda can, from the age of eighteen (18) years acquire the Rwandan nationality provided he or she applies for it to the Registrar of civil status in his or her area of residence in accordance with procedures provided for by the Minister having civil status in his or her attributions.

Article 8 :

In this organic law, Rwandan territory means such area of land, water, marshland and airspace within the borders of the Republic of Rwanda.

In determining the Rwandan territory, consideration is given to Rwanda boundaries as indicated by public deeds of the Rwandan Administration or by International treaties signed by Rwanda.

TITLE III : ACQUIRED RWANDAN NATIONALITY

CHAPTER ONE : RWANDAN NATIONALITY BY MARRIAGE

Article 9 :

A foreigner or stateless person married to a Rwandan after two (2) years from the date of civil marriage celebration, can acquire the Rwandan nationality upon his or her request made before the Registrar of civil status in accordance with procedure

determined by the order of the Minister having civil status in his or her attributions and should have continued to stay together with his or her spouse until the day of his or her request.

The marriage however, can not grant one nationality if not found recorded in a Rwandan Registry of civil status.

The Government of Rwanda can within a period of one year from the day the request of Rwandan nationality was accepted, reject the alien or stateless person married to a Rwandan from acquiring the Rwandan nationality if it deems it unworthy.

When the Rwandan Government rejects to grant the foreigner a Rwandan nationality, he or she is considered to have never acquired it. However, such deeds made within the time of the request and the rejection by the Rwandan Government can not be invalid for the reason that he or she could not acquire the Rwandan nationality.

Dissolution of marriage after acquisition of Rwanda nationality cannot have adverse effects on the Nationality acquired by the spouse and his or her children in good faith.

Article 10 :

A foreigner or a stateless person married to a Rwandan acquires Rwandan Nationality from the day the Registrar of civil status registers him or her in a relevant register as a Rwandan in accordance with provisions of article 9 of this Organic law.

CHAPTER II : RWANDAN NATIONALITY BY BIRTH OR ADOPTION

Article 11 :

A child who possesses a foreign nationality or who is stateless, who has not yet attained the majority age or who has never been emancipated, is automatically a Rwandan if he or she is adopted by a Rwandan.

Article 12 :

A minor who is not emancipated as well as his or her parents whose birth was accepted by Rwandan laws is automatically a Rwandan if his or her father or mother acquired Rwandan nationality.

Article 13 :

Without prejudice to Government's right of rejection, every emancipated person adopted by a Rwandan in accordance with law acquires the Rwandan nationality if he or she fulfils the following conditions:

- 1° demonstration of the will of being a Rwandan;
- 2° he or she should have resided in Rwanda at least for the past five (5) years;
- 3° he or she should be of good morals, characterised by patriotism and not to have been finally convicted to a sentence of imprisonment equal to or above five (5) years for any offence committed and has never been rehabilitated.

He or she is considered as a resident in Rwanda, where he or she is outside Rwanda either on a state mission or on studies with the direct or indirect permission from the Rwandan Authorities.

CHAPTER III : RWANDAN NATIONALITY BY NATURALISATION

Article 14 :

Rwandan nationality is granted through an order of the Minister having civil status in his or her attributions and published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Rwanda.

Article 15 :

Every applicant for nationality by naturalisation is required to fulfil the following conditions :

- 1° be of at least eighteen (18) years of age and a resident in Rwanda for at least the past five (5) years at the time of submission of his or her application, including time spent abroad either on state mission or on studies with the direct or indirect permission from the Rwandan Authorities. Such a period of five (5) years is reduced to two (2) years if the applicant performed outstanding services to Rwanda;
- 2° be of good behaviour and morals and not to have been finally convicted to a sentence of a non deferred imprisonment of above six (6) months or there existed no rehabilitation. Sentences made abroad may not be considered;
- 3° not to have been subjected to a definitive decision of expelling him or her from the country;
- 4° not to be a burden to the nation and the people;
- 5° must know Kinyarwanda. However, this may not be considered due to the national interest;
- 6° present a receipt of payment to the Public Treasury of a non-refundable fee
- 7° determined by an Order of the Minister having civil status in his or her attributions.

Article 16 :

Every applicant for nationality writes a letter to the Minister having civil status in his or her attributions with a copy to the Prefect of Province or the Mayor of the City of Kigali depending on the applicant's residence. The application shall be accompanied by all the necessary documents to ascertain the applicant's legal status together with justifying reasons for the acceptance of his or her request.

The Prefect of Province or Mayor of City of Kigali, upon receiving the copy of the application for nationality, forwards without delay to the Public Prosecutor the file containing the documents mentioned above together with his or her opinion and the general conduct of the applicant.

After the Prosecutor of the Province or that of the City of Kigali receives the file of the applicant of nationality, he or she makes a brief statement which is published in Official Gazette of the Republic of Rwanda and it is displayed in an appropriate place.

Thereafter he or she shall conduct an inquiry on the acceptance of the request and seek the advice of the National Security Service on the application. Within two (2) months following the reception of the file, the Public Prosecutor of the Province or that of the City of Kigali forwards to the Minister having the registry of civil status in his or her attributions a complete file of application containing letters of the applicant and the following documents :

- 1° report of the inquiry on the admission of the file of the applicant;
- 2° opinion from the National Security Service;
- 3° his or her own legal opinion on the admission of the applicant and the appropriate action.

The Minister verifies whether the legal requirements are satisfied. If not, he or she declares the application unsuccessful and informs the applicant by a legally decisive letter indicating the reasons of rejection. Where the application is accepted, the Minister following a complimentary inquiry if deemed necessary, decides whether the nationality may be granted or not. Where in his or her opinion, there is cause not to grant nationality, he or she rejects the application and informs the applicant. And when he or she deems it necessary that nationality may be granted, he or she makes an order to grant it.

The order to grant nationality is recorded in the Registry of civil status of the area where he or she wishes to reside upon request of the applicant and after payment of charges mentioned in article 18 of this organic law. Its effectiveness starts from the day of its transcription.

Article 17 :

Every person, upon acquiring the Rwandan nationality, as provided by law, enjoys as from such a date on which he or she acquired it all rights there to attached, except where otherwise provided for by particular laws.

Article 18 :

At every time nationality is granted, the applicant pays a chancery fee determined by the order of the Minister having the Registry of Civil Status in his or her attributions.

TITLE IV : RENOUNCING THE RWANDAN NATIONALITY

Article 19 :

Persons with the majority age having any other nationality or willing to acquire another nationality from another country, shall be deprived of the Rwandan nationality if they demonstrate the will to renounce it.

Article 20:

Renouncing the Rwandan Nationality must, in order not to be null and void, be recorded with the registry of civil status of the residence or domicile of the stating person when he or she is a resident in Rwanda or at the Rwandan Embassy or

Consulate for statements made abroad. It shall also be published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Rwanda upon request by the receiving Registrar of civil status. Renouncing the Rwandan nationality is accompanied by returning identity and travel documents he or she acquired by virtue of being a Rwandan.

TITLE V : DEPRIVATION OF THE RWANDAN NATIONALITY

Article 21 :

He or she may be deprived of the Rwandan nationality by naturalisation if :

1° he or she has been sentenced by Rwandan Courts for treason or any other offence against the State's internal or external security;

2° he or she has been sentenced in Rwanda or abroad, for any offence punished by an imprisonment of ten (10) years or more which led to an effective imprisonment of at least five (5) years;

3° he or she, in accordance with this organic law, acquired or recovered the Rwandan nationality but through manoeuvres, false statement, falsified document, fraud, corruption to one of the members among those who had a role in the relevant procedures or any other fraudulent nature. Deprivation may be declared even where the applicant satisfies the requirements of the law but who employees fraudulent means.

With exception of provisions of item three (3°) of paragraph one of this article, the deprivation of nationality can not be declared if it may cause statelessness to the applicant.

No one shall be deprived of the Rwandan nationality by origin.

Article 22 :

Deprivation of the Rwandan Nationality is prosecuted, if necessary reasons arise, by the Public Prosecution in a period not exceeding ten (10) years in a competent court of the defendant's residence or domicile. Decision shall be made in a period not exceeding three (3) months from the day the case is presented.

Both the Public Prosecution and the deprived defendant have the right to appeal through procedures provided by the other laws.

Where the case of deprivation of nationality is finally determined, its terms related to decisions are published in the Official Gazette of Republic of Rwanda and recorded with the Registry of civil status at the place where the deprived person was recorded.

Article 23 :

Deprivation of Rwandan nationality can not have adverse effects on the deprived person's children who have not attained the majority age. Such children are entitled to the right of retaining the Rwandan nationality in accordance with provisions of article 7 of this organic law.

TITLE VI : RECOVERY OF RWANDAN NATIONALITY

Article 24 :

Recovery of Rwandan Nationality may be requested to and accepted by the officer in charge of civil status of the residence or domicile of the applicant. The applicant for recovery of the nationality provides the concrete evidence for his earlier status as a Rwandan.

Article 25 :

He or she can not recover the Rwandan nationality if :

1° he or she was deprived of Rwandan nationality in accordance with provisions of Article 21 of this organic law unless he or she is rehabilitated of the offence that led to the deprivation of the nationality;

2° he or she is a security threat, of whom a decision to expel him or her from the country was taken or whose decisions related to his or her security were rendered.

Article 26 :

Rwandans or their descendants who were deprived of their Rwandan nationality, between November 1, 1959 and December 31, 1994, due to acquisition of foreign nationalities re-acquire their Rwandan nationality, without prior application, if they return to settle in Rwanda.

All persons originating from Rwanda and their descendants are upon their request from the registrar of civil status entitled to Rwandan nationality.

TITLE VII : PROOF OF NATIONALITY

Article 27 :

The proof of Rwandan nationality of origin is the birth certificate. Proof of one's acquisition or deprivation of Rwandan nationality is indicated by producing the legal deed which led to its acquisition or deprivation.

Article 28 :

The Registrar of civil status is the one in charge of issuance of certificates for Rwandan nationality upon request by concerned individuals.

Article 29 :

The burden of proof, in Rwandan nationality matters, rests with the person whose nationality is contested. However, this burden shall rest with the contesting person

who is doubtful on an individual who possesses a Rwandan identity card, passport or temporary movement pass used as a Rwandan passport or a Rwandan Nationality certificate.

Article 30 :

A Rwandan identity card, a passport or a temporary movement pass used as a Rwandan passport and any Rwandan Nationality certificate are considered truthful if they correspond to what is recorded in the registers of civil status in regard to nationality recorded therein.

However, there may be used any other means to indicate that it is not true if the registration of the nationality did not occur, or if it was not recorded in the registers of civil status of the owner.

TITLE VIII : NATIONALITY CLAIMS

Article 31 :

Contentious matters on nationality, either in isolation or arising from appeals upon administrative decisions are settled by competent jurisdictions.

Arguments against a party based on nationality of foreign nationality are public matters which the court examines even if the parties do not invoke them. Such arguments based on nationality are examined before the case, which renders the court, to mean while, adjourn the case related to the subject matter.

Article 32 :

Legal proceedings related to nationality matters are initiated by summoning the accused party. Anybody seeking a statement to confirm or reject his or her Rwandan nationality sues the Public Prosecution as the only competent authority to defend such an action without prejudice to the right of intervention from any interested third parties to be entitled to have a say in such a case or to be summoned.

Article 33 :

The Public Prosecution is also the only competent authority to initiate legal proceedings to demonstrate if one possesses Rwandan nationality or not. Third parties may also be allowed to intervene in these matters.

This Public prosecution acts on its initiative or upon request by public administration or any other person who presided over the proceedings of the nationality case before any court of law that adjourned the proceedings.

The Public Prosecution must be summoned even if the case of nationality is not principal and the court must listen to the submissions of the prosecution.

The Public prosecution is bound to sue upon request by the Public Administration or any other person who presided over the case of nationality before a court of law that adjourned the case in accordance with provisions of paragraph 2 of this Article.

TITLE IX : SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES RELATING TO DUAL NATIONALITY

Article 34 :

For persons holding more than one nationality including that of Rwanda, only the latter is considered if Rwandan law is to be respected.

Article 35 :

In case there is a problem of knowing the nationality that should be considered for a person with more than one nationality, the nationality of the country the person with many nationalities resides in, is the one to be considered, in case of its absence, consideration is given to the nationality of the country with which he or she has the closest relationships.

TITLE X : TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 36 :

A child born before 1st December 2001 from parents one of whom a Rwandan mother, and a father with a foreign nationality, acquires the Rwandan nationality if one of its parents or its tutor, or itself if he or she attained the majority age, upon application to the registrar of civil status of his or her residence or domicile through procedures determined by the Minister having civil status in his or her attributions.

A child born on 1st December 2001 or thereafter, from a Rwandan mother and a father with a foreign nationality, is a Rwandan from birth.

Article 37 :

A foreigner who is legally married to a Rwandan woman before this organic law comes into force, acquires the Rwandan nationality upon his or her request to the registrar of civil status of his or her residence or domicile through procedures determined by the Minister having the Registry of civil status in his or her attributions.

Article 38 :

Every Rwandan having dual nationality is required to declare it before the Immigration and Emigration Services while in Rwanda, or when abroad to the Rwandan Embassy or Consulate in a period not exceeding three (3) months following the coming into force of this organic law to a person who has it at this date, and not exceeding three (3) months from the period he or she acquires another nationality, in case he or she acquires it after this date.

Article 39 :

Law of 28 September 1963 on Rwandan nationality as modified to date and all previous legal provisions contrary to this organic law are hereby abrogated.

Article 40 :

This organic law comes into force on the day of its publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Rwanda.

Kigali, on 03/12/2004

The President of the Republic
KAGAME Paul
(sé)

The Prime Minister
MAKUZA Bernard
(sé)

The Minister of Local Government, Good Governance, Community
Development and Social Affairs
MUSONI Protais
(sé)

The Minister of Internal Security
BAZIVAMO Christophe
(sé)

The Minister of Justice
MUKABAGWIZA Edda
(sé)

Seen and sealed with the Seal of the Republic :

The Minister of Justice
MUKABAGWIZA Edda
(sé)

MINISTERIAL ORDER N° 74/11 OF 31/08/2005 DETERMINING THE PROCEDURE OF ACQUISITION AND DECLARATION OF THE RWANDAN NATIONALITY

The Minister of Justice,

Given the Constitution of the Republic of Rwanda of 4th June 2003, as amended to date, especially in its Articles 120 paragraph one, 121 paragraph one and 201;

Given Organic Law n° 29/2004 of 3rd December 2004 establishing the Rwandan nationality code, especially in its Articles 7, 9 paragraph one, 36 paragraph one and 37;

After consideration and approval by Cabinet, meeting in its session of 27 July 2005;

ORDERS:

CHAPTER ONE : The scope of application.

Article One:

This order determines the procedure of acquisition and declaration of the Rwandan nationality.

CHAPTER 2: The procedure of acquisition of the Rwandan nationality by foreigners born on the Rwandan territory to alien parents residing in Rwanda.

Article 2:

Every foreigner born on the Rwandan territory to alien parents residing in Rwanda can, from the age of eighteen (18), acquire the Rwandan nationality on condition that he/she requests for it in accordance with the procedure determined by this order.

Article 3:

The request for the Rwandan nationality is addressed to the Registrar of civil status of the District/Town in his/her area of residence.

Abroad, the request is sent to the Rwandan Embassy or Consulate.

Article 4:

Along with the application letter, the applicant will provide:

- 1° a birth certificate;
- 2° a certificate of complete identity;
- 3° a police record certificate;

- 4° a copy of passport or a registration certificate if any;
- 5° prove that his/her parents were residing in Rwanda on the date of his/her birth.

Apart from the above documents, the applicant has to fulfil the following conditions.

- 1° Attest that he/she has been registered as a foreigner by the Immigration and Emigration Service;
- 2° Attest that he/she has not been subjected to a definitive decision of expelling him/her from the Rwandan territory;
- 3° Not to be a burden to the nation and the people;
- 4° Give evidence of a Kinyarwanda command. However, this condition may not be considered due to national interest;
- 5° Prove that he/she has uninterruptedly resided in Rwanda for the past two (2) years. Included in this period is the time he/she may have stayed abroad either on State mission or on studies with the direct or indirect permission from the Rwandan Authorities.
- 6° Present a receipt of payment to the Public Treasury of a non- refundable amount of fifty thousand Rwanda francs (50,000Rwf) or the equivalent for file fee.

Article 5:

The request addressed to the authority referred to in article 3, is recorded in a document in duplicate, dated and signed by this authority and the applicant.

This document mentions:

- 1° the name and the title of the authority receiving the application;
- 2° the civil status and the exact residence of the applicant;
- 3° the subject of the application;
- 4° submitted documents referred to in article 4 of this order.

The Registrar of the civil status immediately provides the applicant with an acknowledgement of receipt.

This written proof serves as a request deed and the Registrar of civil status notifies the applicant of the application effects and the competent authority to grant the nationality.

Article 6:

The Registrar of the civil status of the District/Town transmits to the Minister having civil status in his/her attributions copies of documents mentioned under article 4 with carbon copy for advice sent to, not beyond three months as from the day documents are received:

- 1. The District/Town Mayor;
- 2. The Provincial Governor or Mayor of the City of Kigali;
- 3. The Provincial or Kigali City Prosecutor;
- 4. The Immigration and Emigration Service;
- 5. and to the Minister having foreign affairs in his/her attributions if the request was made abroad pursuant to article 3 of this order.

This transmission is effected not later than five (5) days as from the date the request was made.

The Minister having civil status in his/her attributions to whom the copies are addressed records the receipt of the latter in a relevant register.

Article 7:

If the applicant meets the conditions mentioned under articles 4, 5 and 6 of this order, the Minister having civil status in his/her attributions grants the Rwandan nationality through an order. The grant is only final as from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Rwanda.

The grant of the Rwandan nationality is issued not later than three (3) months as from the day the Minister having civil status in his remit receive the complete file. Beyond this period, it will be deemed to have been accepted. The applicant willing to have his rights respected petitions the competent jurisdiction which will issue the nationality attestation.

If the concerned does not meet the required conditions, the Minister having civil status in his/her attributions does not grant, through a ministerial order, the Rwandan nationality. The concerned can then petition the competent jurisdiction which rules on whether he/she can be granted the Rwandan nationality or not.

Article 8:

The concerned who has legally acquired the Rwandan nationality enjoys, as from the date of this acquisition mentioned in the preceding article, paragraph one, all rights pertaining to the Rwandan nationality, except as otherwise stated by particular laws.

CHAPTER 3: The procedure of acquisition of the Rwandan nationality by an alien or stateless person who marries a Rwandan national

Article 9:

An alien or stateless person who marries a Rwandan national can, within two (2) years' period as from the date of the civil wedding celebration, acquire the Rwandan nationality on condition that he/she requests it in accordance with the procedure determined by this order.

Article 10:

The request is addressed to the Registrar of civil status of the District/Town in the area of the applicant's residence.

Abroad, the request is sent to the Rwandan Embassy or Consulate.

Article 11:

Along with the application, the applicant will provide:

- 1° a birth certificate;
- 2° a police record certificate;

- 3° a passport or a registration certificate if he/she has got another nationality;
- 4° a marriage certificate;
- 5° a birth certificate for children under age born before or after marrying the Rwandan national and establishing the relationship with regard to the husband and wife;
- 6° a police record certificate or an equivalent document from a country or countries other than Rwanda where he/she resided or from a country of his/her nationality;
- 7° a certificate of civil status or any other documents from the Rwandan authorities likely to prove that his/her spouse had and still have the Rwandan nationality on the date of the wedding day.

Apart from these documents, the applicant has to fulfil the following conditions:

- 1° Attest that he/she has been registered as a foreigner by the Immigration and Emigration Service.
- 2° Prove, by a certificate issued by the local authorities, that he/she has been living as a husband or wife for two (2) last years;
- 3° Give evidence of a residence permit of their children who have usually resided with him/her for two (2) years;
- 4° Provide a receipt of payment to the Public Treasurer of a non-refundable amount of three thousand Rwandan francs (3.000 Rwf) or the equivalent for a file fee.

Article 12 :

The request addressed to the authority referred to in article 10 of this order, is recorded in a document in duplicate, dated and signed by this authority and the concerned.

This document mentions:

- 1° the name and the title of the authority receiving the application;
- 2° the civil status and the exact residence of the applicant;
- 3° the subject of the application;
- 4° documents referred to in article 12 of this order submitted by the applicant to the authority.

The Registrar of civil status of the District/Town immediately provides the applicant with an acknowledgement of receipt.

The written proof serves as a request deed and the registrar of civil status of the District/Town notifies the concerned of the application effects and the competent authority to grant the nationality.

Article 13:

Upon the receipt of the request, the Registrar of civil status of the District/Town registers the applicant as Rwandan and verifies whether he/she has got a document issued by local authorities proving that he/she has been living as husband or wife for two (2) last years.

Local Authorities, the Immigration and Emigration Service and the Minister having civil status in his/her attributions can, within six (6) months' period as from the registration of the application, object to the acquisition of the Rwandan nationality by the alien spouse on unworthiness' grounds.

Article 14:

The concerned who has legally acquired the Rwandan nationality enjoys, as from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Rwanda, all rights pertaining to the Rwandan nationality, except as otherwise stated by particular laws.

CHAPTER 4: The procedure of declaration of the Rwandan nationality for a child born before the 1st December 2001 to a Rwandan mother and an alien father.

Article 15:

Every child born before the 1st December 2001 to a Rwandan mother and a father with a foreign nationality, acquires the Rwandan nationality if either of his/her parents or tutor if he/she is under age or himself/herself if he/she is of age or emancipated, expresses the intention thereof through a declaration in accordance with the procedure determined by this order.

Article 16:

The declaration for acquisition of the Rwandan nationality is addressed to the Registrar of civil status of the District/Town in the area of the applicant's residence.

Abroad, the request is sent to the Rwandan Embassy or Consulate.

Article 17:

Along with the declaration, the concerned provides:

- 1° a birth certificate;
- 2° a certificate of complete identity;
- 3° any document likely to prove that the mother is of Rwandan nationality;
- 4° a copy of passport or a registration certificate, if he/she has got another nationality;
- 5° Provide a receipt of payment to the Public Treasurer of a non-refundable amount of three thousand Rwandan francs (3.000Rwf) or the equivalent for a file fee.

Article 18:

The declaration addressed to the authority mentioned in article 16 of this order is recorded in a document in duplicate, dated and signed by this authority and the concerned.

This document mentions:

- 1° the name of the registrar of civil status who receives the declaration;
- 2° the civil status and the residence of the applicant;
- 3° the subject of the application;
- 4° documents mentioned in article 17 of this order.

The Registrar of civil status of the District/ Town immediately provides the applicant with an acknowledgement of receipt.

This written proof serves as a declaration deed and the Registrar of civil status of the District/ Town notifies the concerned of declaration effects.

Article 19:

As a result of the examination of the above mentioned documents, the Registrar of civil status confirms by a document the Rwandan nationality of the applicant, and informs the provincial Governor or the Mayor of the City of Kigali, the Immigration and Emigration Service and the Minister having civil status in his/her attributions.

The confirmation takes place not later than two (2) months as from the day the file is complete. Beyond this period, the positive reply will be deemed to have been issued.

In case of non-confirmation, the concerned can petition the competent jurisdiction which rules on whether the Rwandan nationality can be granted or not.

Article 20:

The concerned who has legally acquired the Rwandan nationality enjoys, as from the date of this acquisition mentioned under the preceding article of this order, all rights pertaining to the Rwandan nationality, except otherwise stated by particular laws.

CHAPTER 5: The procedure of the declaration of the Rwandan nationality for an alien man married to a Rwandan woman before the enforcement of the organic law n°29/2004 of 3rd December 2004 on the Rwandan nationality code.

Article 21:

An alien man married to a Rwandan woman before the enforcement of the organic law n° 29/2004 of 3rd December 2004 on the Rwandan nationality, can acquire the Rwandan nationality on condition that he expresses the intention thereof in accordance with the procedure determined by this order.

Article 22:

The conditions and procedure are the same as those provided for by

However, the alien man mentioned under the preceding article of this order:

1° is exempted from obligations referred to in article 12, paragraph 2-2° and 4° of this order;

2° Provide a receipt of payment to the Public Treasurer of a non- refundable amount of three thousand Rwandan francs (3.000Rwf) or the equivalent for a file fee.

3° not have divorced with his/her husband/spouse

CHAPTER 6 : General, Transitional and Final provisions

Article 23:

All persons referred to in chapter 3, 4 and 5 of this order who are provided with an indigence certificate issued by competent authorities and who are meeting all other requirements are registered as Rwandese.

Article 24:

All requests aiming at acquiring the rwandan nationality initiated before this order comes into force are deemed to have been introduced on the date this order comes into force. The applicants are requested to meet all requirements provided by this order.

Article 25:

All previous legal provisions that are contrary to this order are hereby repealed.

Article 26:

This order comes into force on the day of its publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Rwanda.

Done at Kigali, on 31/08/2005

The Minister of Justice
MUKABAGWIZA Edda
(sé)

Seen and sealed with the Seal of the Republic:

The Minister of Justice
MUKABAGWIZA Edda
(sé)

***MINISTERIAL ORDER N° 75/11 OF 31/08/2005 DETERMINING
NATURALISATION FEES***

The Minister of Justice,

Given the Constitution of the Republic of Rwanda of 4th June 2003, as amended to date, especially in its Articles 120 paragraph one, 121 paragraph one and 201;

Given Organic Law n° 29/2004 of 3rd December 2004 on the Rwandan nationality, especially in its Article 15-6°;

After consideration and approval by Cabinet in its session of 27 July 2005;

ORDERS:

Article One:

Upon the introduction of a request for naturalisation, a non-refundable amount of eighty thousand Rwanda francs (80,000Rwf) is deposited in the Public Treasury as a file fee.

Article 2:

All previous legal provisions that are contrary to this order are hereby abrogated.

Article 3:

This order comes into force on the day of its publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Rwanda.

Done at Kigali, on 31/08/2005

The Minister of Justice
MUKABAGWIZA Edda
(sé)

Seen and sealed with the Seal of the Republic:

The Minister of Justice
MUKABAGWIZA Edda
(sé)

**MINISTERIAL ORDER N° 76/11 OF 31/08/2005 DETERMINING THE
CHANCELLERY FEES RELATING TO NATURALISATION**

The Minister of Justice,

Given the Constitution of the Republic of Rwanda of 4th June 2003, as amended to date, especially in its Articles 120 paragraph one, 121 paragraph one and 201;

Given Organic Law n° 29/2004 of 3rd December 2004 on the Rwandan nationality, especially in its Article 18;

After consideration and approval by Cabinet in its session of 27 July 2005;

ORDERS:

Article One:

Upon every request for naturalisation, a chancellery fee of five hundred thousand Rwanda francs (Rwf 500,000) is collected.

Article 2:

The Ministerial order n° 209/06 of 30/09/1976 determining the chancellery fee relating to naturalisation as modified and completed to date is abrogated.

Article 3:

This order comes into force on the day of its publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Rwanda.

Done at Kigali, on 31/08/2005

The Minister of Justice
MUKABAGWIZA Edda
(sé)

Seen and sealed with the Seal of the Republic:

The Minister of Justice
MUKABAGWIZA Edda
(sé)

