



STOP RAPE NOW
UN ACTION AGAINST SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN CONFLICT

**Statement by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on
Sexual Violence in Conflict Margot Wallström**

***TRANSFER OF CALLIXTE MBARUSHIMANA TO THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL
COURT***

(25 January 2011)

I welcome the transfer today of Callixte Mbarushimana, affiliated with the FDLR (*Forces Démocratiques pour la Libération du Rwanda*), from France to the International Criminal Court (ICC) in The Hague. I also want to congratulate the French authorities for their swift and active cooperation with the ICC in enforcing the court's warrant of arrest and surrender. This is a very important signal to all perpetrators in the DRC and beyond, that crimes of sexual violence are not tolerated and that the international community is fully committed to bringing alleged offenders to justice.

Callixte Mbarushimana, a 47-year old Rwandan citizen who is believed to be Executive Secretary of the 'Steering Committee' of the FDLR, is accused of crimes against humanity (murder, torture, rape and inhumane acts), as well as war crimes (attacks against the civilian population, destruction of property, murder, torture, rape, inhuman treatment and persecution). According to the ICC, Callixte Mbarushimana has personally and intentionally contributed to a common plan of conducting attacks against the civilian population in order to create a 'humanitarian catastrophe' and to launch an international campaign to extort concessions of political power for the FDLR.

We now need to use all the resources at our disposal to apprehend every individual and commander allegedly involved in orchestrating the mass rapes which occurred in Walikale, Fizi and elsewhere in eastern DRC.

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