

**TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF  
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**This petition of The Australian Adoption Community**

**Draws to the attention of the House:**

**To the need for the Attorney General to initiate an Intercountry Adoption program with Burundi to allow Australian parents to adopt Burundian orphans. According to UNICEF, there are around 500,000 orphans in Burundi while the National Council of the fight against AIDS recently concluded that there are more than 830,000 Burundese orphans living in extreme conditions. Burundi is a signatory to the Hague Convention for the protection of children and has been since 1993. Burundian orphans have been successfully adopted in Italy, France, the USA, Canada and Australia.**

**We therefore ask the House to:**

**Implement an adoption program with Burundi.**