

**July 20, 2003**

KIGALI, Rwanda -- Four candidates have been given approval to run for president in Rwanda's first election in nine years, electoral officials said. They are incumbent President Paul Kagame, former prime minister Faustin Twagiramungu, Rwanda's first female presidential candidate, Alvera Mukabaramba, and former member of parliament Nepomuscene Nayinzira.

The election is Rwanda's first since the 1994 genocide, when Hutu extremists slaughtered 800,000 Tutsis and moderate Hutus.