The search for six miners who went missing after an accident on April 16 has been called off by authorities in Huye district after a 16- day search attempt, a quiet admission that the rescue yelled no results.

The accident occurred on April 19 in the Kinazi sector, Gahana cell. All six people were reported to have been working at the illegal mine not known to the regulatory authorities.

Over the weekend, Minister in the Ministry of local government Assumpta Ingabire while attending a vigil in huye district is reported to have said that there is little chance of finding any of them alive.

“At this point there is little chance that they are still alive,” she told the families of the bereaved adding “We also want to halt the mission because of the likely impact it could potentially have on the environment,”

The Deputy Spokesperson of the Government, Alain Mukuralinda, also said that everything was done to find the six people killed by the mine, but it was in vain.

He then wrote on Twitter saying “After 16 days, there is no chance that they are still alive, and continuing to dig where they have reached 70 meters deep is also damaging the environment”.

“Government condoles with the families and is also committed to supporting them closely,” Mukuralinda said.