



RWANDA HIGH COMMISSION IN KENYA

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Rwanda High Commission In Kenya

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Foreword

Dear reader,

Welcome to this edition of our newsletter, covering key developments from October 2025—a month that underscored Rwanda's growing role on the continental and global stage. This past month, we mourned the loss of a Pan-African giant Raila Odinga who was towering figure in African politics and democracy.

President Kagame joined the continent in paying tribute to a leader whose dedication to justice, unity, and progress will be remembered for generations. October was also a month of dynamic diplomacy and strategic partnerships. President Kagame engaged with U.S. Senior Advisor Massad Boulos on peace initiatives in the Great Lakes region, welcomed Senegal's President Bassirou Diomaye Faye for a historic state visit that yielded five bilateral agreements, and secured a significant €95 million investment from the European Union to advance Rwanda's vaccine manufacturing capabilities—a critical step toward health sovereignty for Africa.

Kigali continued to cement its reputation as a hub for global dialogue and innovation. The city hosted over 4,000 delegates from 109 countries at the Mobile World Congress, bringing together leaders in digital transformation and connectivity.

Rwanda also welcomed Land Forces Commanders from across Africa and beyond for discussions on continental security, and witnessed the Professional Fighters League Africa semifinals, marking Rwanda's debut on the global mixed martial arts stage.

Looking ahead, Rwanda will host the 46th Ministerial Conference of La Francophonie this November—a testament to our commitment to multilateral engagement and regional leadership. On the home front, significant strides were made in national development. The rollout of Rwanda's Single Digital ID registration exercise began, promising to revolutionize access to essential services.

More than 12,000 former combatants have been successfully reintegrated into



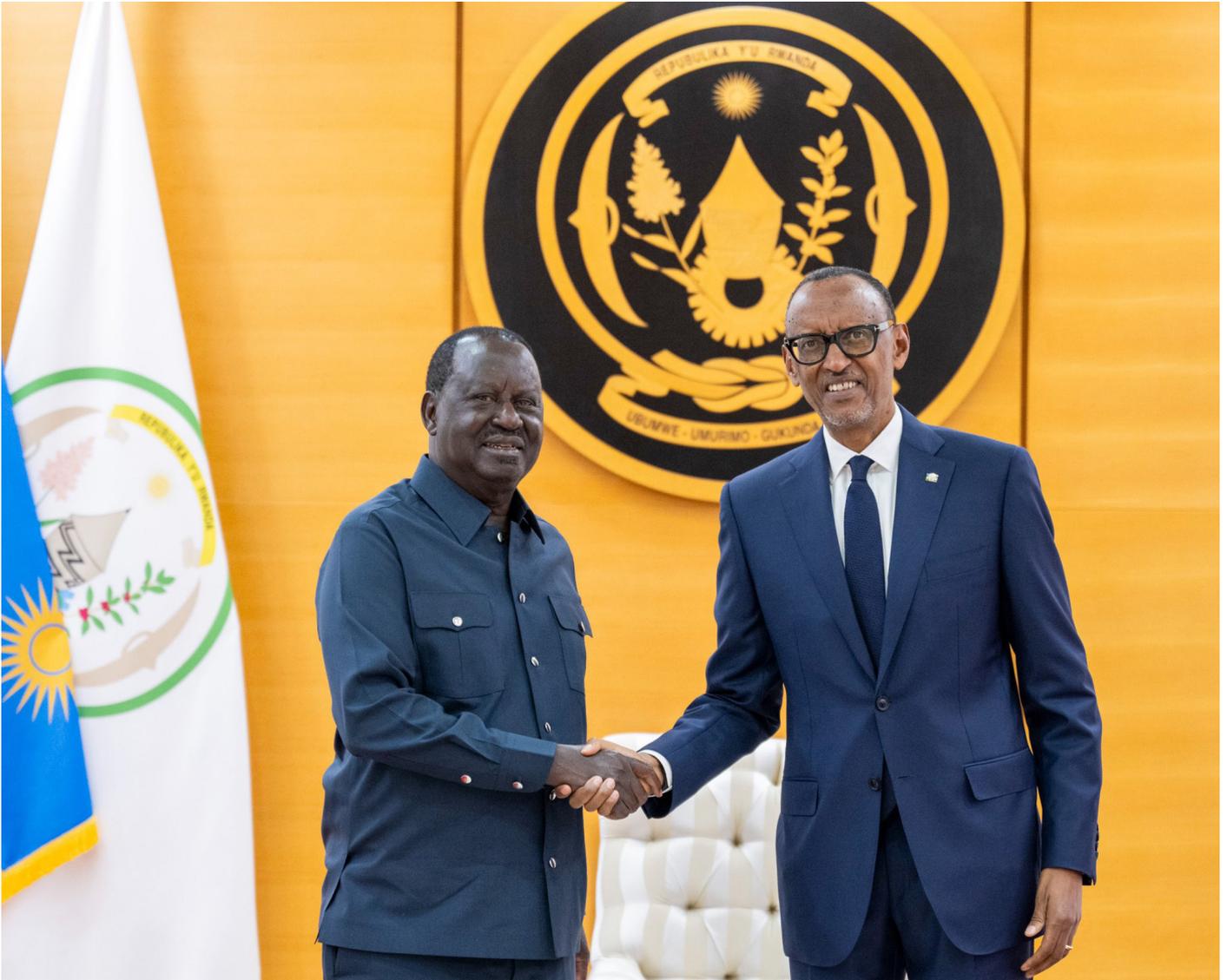
H.E. Ernest Rwamucyo
*High Commissioner of the
Republic of Rwanda to Kenya*

society since 2001, demonstrating Rwanda's commitment to peace, reconciliation, and inclusive development. From new partnerships with Jordan and Hong Kong to the debut of Hilton's Tapestry Collection in Kigali, Rwanda's economic horizons continue to expand. This edition captures a nation in motion—deepening partnerships, advancing innovation, celebrating culture, and building peace.

It is my hope that you will enjoy reading this edition.

Thank you.

President Kagame hails Raila Odinga's enduring legacy



President Paul Kagame has extended his condolences to the family of Raila Odinga, Kenya's former Prime Minister, who passed away on October 15, 2025, saying his legacy will be long-lasting.

"On behalf of the people of Rwanda and on my own behalf, I extend my deepest condolences to the family of the Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga, to my brother President William Ruto, and to the people

of Kenya," President Kagame wrote in a post on X.

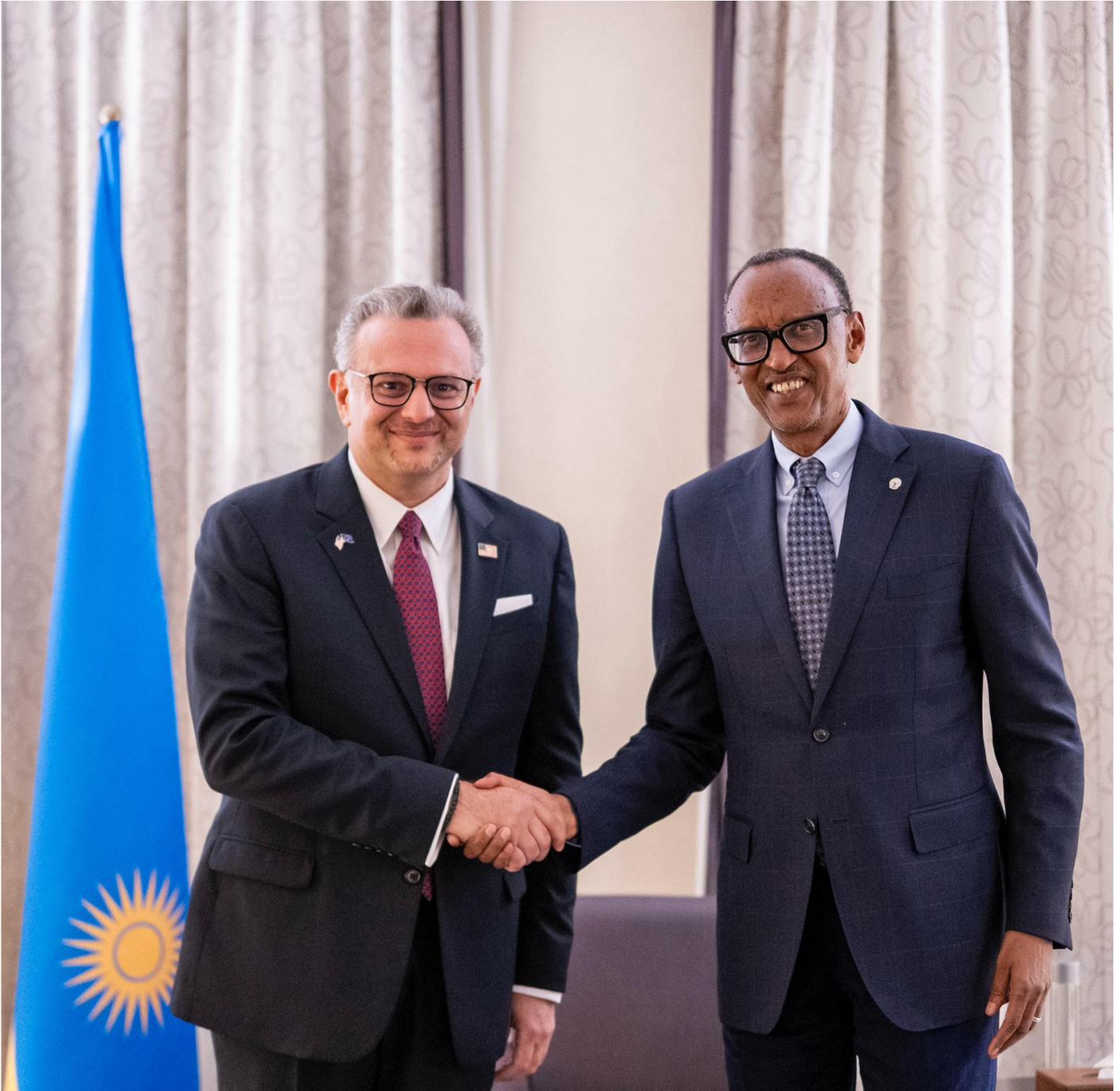
His lifelong dedication to public service, he added, and his steadfast commitment to democracy, justice, and unity in Kenya and across Africa will be remembered for generations to come.

"We stand in solidarity with the government and people of Kenya during this time of national mourning," the President added.

Odinga's last visit to Rwanda was in March 2024, after he had announced his bid to head the African Union Commission.

President Kagame had endorsed his candidacy for the Chairperson position of the African Union Commission (AUC), commending his performance when he was AU High Representative for Infrastructure Development, a position he held from 2018 to 2023.

President Kagame meets U.S. Senior Advisor Boulos, discuss peace in the region



On October 9, 2025, President Kagame met with Massad Boulos, U.S. Senior Advisor for Africa.

According to the President's Office, their discussions focused

on ongoing efforts to advance peace in the Great Lakes region, and Rwanda's continuous commitment to lasting peace and security.

The meeting came at a critical

moment in the U.S.-mediated peace process between Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), following the Washington Accord signed between the two countries on June 27, 2025.

Rwanda receives additional €95 million from EU to support vaccine manufacturing

Rwanda's efforts to advance vaccine production received a major boost after the European Union (EU) committed a new €95 million investment.

The funding was announced on October 9, 2025, by Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission, following a meeting with President Paul Kagame in Brussels, Belgium.

The announcement took place on the sidelines of the Global Gateway Forum. The package also includes investments in health and the economic inclusion of refugees. The agreement was signed by von der Leyen and President Kagame, with Uğur Şahin, CEO of BioNTech, and Nadia Calviño, President of the European Investment Bank, also in attendance.

Rwanda's vaccine production drive began in 2023 with the in-

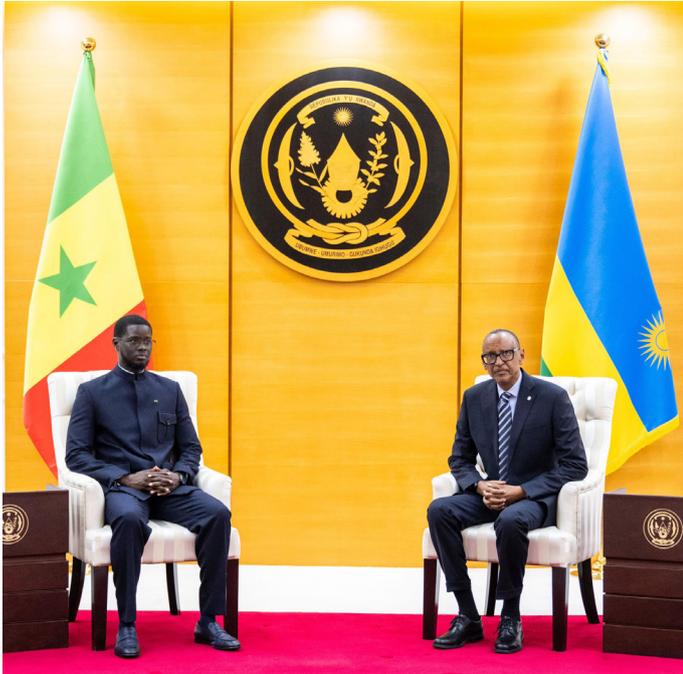


auguration of BioNTech's first African manufacturing site in Kigali. The EU has been a key partner in the journey, having already invested more than €93 million in the

initiative to strengthen local research and development, nurture biotech start-ups, and build the country's scientific and technical talent pool.



President Kagame receives President Bassirou Diomaye Faye of Senegal



On October 17, 2025, President Paul Kagame received his Senegalese counterpart President Bassirou Diomaye Faye who was in Kigali for a three-day official visit.

The visit aimed to strengthen the bonds of friendship and cooperation between Rwanda and Senegal.

In their remarks after a one-on-one meeting, the two Heads of State commended the strong relations between the two countries and highlighted ways to deepen collaboration.

“Rwanda and Senegal are guided by the same values: putting people first, delivering results, and pursuing a bold, transformative vision. We also share the vision of a self-reliant, united continent, guided by accountable governance and inclusive development,” President Kagame said.

President Kagame also pointed out that he and President Faye share a deep concern for Africa’s

future, particularly the vital role of its youth.

President Faye said relations between Senegal and Rwanda are excellent, adding that they are built on a shared vision of development, peace, and solidarity across the African continent.

The friendship and fraternity between the Senegalese and Rwandan peoples, he added, are equally strong.

Five bilateral agreements signed

During the visit, both Heads of State witnessed the signing of several agreements aimed at strengthening bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

The agreements include the exemption of visa requirements for holders of diplomatic, service, and ordinary passports; a protocol on bilateral cooperation in the fields of agriculture and livestock; and a protocol on partnership in the de-

velopment of strategic programs.

The two countries also signed a memorandum of understanding on cooperation in correctional services and penitentiary affairs, and a protocol on collaboration in the health sector.

While concluding his visit, President Bassirou Diomaye Faye joined his host President Kagame and thousands of Kigali residents for the Car Free Day mass sports event.

The popular bimonthly event attracts people from all walks of life who take part in jogging, cycling, skating, and walking.

Over the years, Kigali’s Car-Free Zone has expanded beyond group calisthenics to include activities such as tennis, table tennis, children’s entertainment, and blood donation drives. The initiative not only promotes fitness and social interaction but also contributes to reducing gas emissions and fostering a cleaner, greener city.

Rwanda hosts PFL Africa semi-finals



On October 18, 2025, Rwanda hosted semi-finals of the third edition of the Professional Fighters League Africa, the first PFL event to be held in East Africa and the country's official debut on the global mixed martial arts (MMA) stage.

Held at the BK Arena, the championship is an upcoming mixed martial arts event produced by the Professional Fighters League (PFL), one of the world's leading mixed martial arts organizations, headquartered in the United States.

PFL made its first major move into the African continent in 2024, announcing the creation

of PFL Africa, a regional branch designed to discover and develop homegrown fighting talent.

The initiative was led by Francis Ngannou, the former UFC Heavyweight Champion from Cameroon and now PFL's Chairman for Africa, with a goal of creating a legitimate platform for African fighters to compete professionally without having to leave the continent.

In one of his interviews, Ngannou praised Rwanda's readiness and sporting vision, saying the country's infrastructure and organisation made it the natural choice to host PFL Afri-

ca's semifinals for the first time.

"After seeing the facilities and the arena, it was clear Rwanda was ready," Ngannou added, referring to the BK Arena. "Besides the infrastructure and the organisation surrounding it, the excitement about the event itself is very impressive."

The league's debut event, PFL Africa 1, was held in South Africa, followed by PFL Africa 2 in Nigeria, both of which attracted continental attention and showcased raw talent. The winners of the semi-finals held in Kigali will now move on to the finals in Benin, where four PFL Africa champions will be crowned.

From October 21-23, 2025, Land Forces Commanders and military leaders from over 30 African countries and beyond convened in Rwanda to discuss strategies to enhance peace and security on the continent.

Held under the theme “Leveraging Land Forces Capabilities for Enhanced Implementation of Peace and Security Strategies,” the symposium focused on how land forces can adapt to drone warfare and how bilateral defense cooperation can complement broader multilateral frameworks.

At least 18 land forces commanders represented their countries at the two-day event, with partner states including France, Jordan, and Qatar delegating senior military officials.

While officially opening the symposium, President Paul Kagame called on African land forces commanders to strike a balance between speed and accuracy in responding to emerging security threats, warning that excessive bureaucracy and external interference continue to slow down the continent’s response to crises.

Rwanda hosts Land Forces Commanders Symposium



He said that today’s conflicts are increasingly asymmetric and complex, often requiring land forces to act as first responders and stabilizers in volatile environments.

“Land forces are the first to deploy and the last to leave. Speed matters because conditions on the ground evolve rapidly. But speed without accuracy is dangerous, and accuracy without

speed is pointless. There has to be a balance between the two,” he remarked.

The President also stressed that while agility is vital in modern military operations, so is the trust between armies and the civilians they serve. He reminded commanders that their proximity to citizens places a special duty on them to act with discipline and professionalism.



More than 4,000 delegates gather in Kigali for Mobile World Congress



From October 21-23, 2025, over 4,000 delegates from 109 countries across digital and telecommunications sectors gathered in Kigali for Mobile World Congress (MWC) 2025, the world's largest and most influential event for the mobile and connectivity industry.

Organized by the Global System for Mobile Communications Association (GSMA) in partnership with Rwanda's Ministry of ICT and Innovation, this year's congress was held under the theme "Converge, Connect, Create."

In his address at MWC 2025, President Paul Kagame stressed that digital innovation doesn't

belong to one part of the world.

"In just a few years, Africa has gone from limited connectivity to a mobile-driven economy. Mobile money is a good example of this. What began as a solution for those excluded from formal banking has grown into a global model of financial inclusion," he said.

"This initiative proves that innovation does not belong to one part of the world alone. It can emerge anywhere, from anyone, given the chance," the President added.

The Minister of ICT and Innovation, Paula Ingabire, emphasised Rwanda's rapid digital growth,

noting that active 4G users have risen from 500,000 in 2023 to 5 million in 2025, thanks to national broadband policies, reforms, and strong public-private partnerships.

"Rwanda's vision is to create a competitive, inclusive broadband ecosystem that leaves no one behind," Ingabire said.

She also noted that Rwanda has connected nearly 1,000 health facilities and 4,000 schools to the internet, trained 4.5 million citizens in digital literacy through the Digital Ambassadors program, and launched a \$1 billion initiative to develop Africa's next generation of digital innovators.

Rwanda to host the 46th Ministerial Conference of La Francophonie



Rwanda will welcome ministers and senior delegates from the global Francophone family this November when Kigali hosts the 46th Ministerial Conference of La Francophonie (CMF46).

The ministerial meeting is scheduled for November 19-20, 2025, and will bring together foreign ministers and policy leaders from the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie (OIF) membership to review

policy priorities and prepare for the 2026 Francophonie Summit.

The development underscores Kigali's growing profile as a hub for high-level diplomacy and multilateral engagement in Africa.

CMF46 is expected to focus on key themes including linguistic and cultural promotion, democratic governance, economic cooperation, and youth and education in Francophone coun-

tries.

Rwanda's bid to host the conference was welcomed by OIF members during the previous ministerial session, and Rwandan officials have since been active in preparations and diplomatic outreach. At the time, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said the selection reflects Rwanda's commitment to promoting inclusive multilateral dialogue and strengthening ties within the Francophone community.

Somalia, Rwanda to strengthen military cooperation



The Chief of Defence Forces of the Somali National Armed Forces, Major General Odawa Yusuf Rage, and his delegation, on October 7, 2025, visited Rwanda Defence Force (RDF) headquarters to strengthen the existing defence cooperation between the two countries' armed forces.

During the six-day-long visit, Major General Rage held a meeting with Rwanda's Minister of Defence, Juvenal Marizamunda, and RDF Chief of Defence Staff, General Mubarakh Muganga.

The visit, according to the defence ministry's statement, aligns with the Somali National Armed Forces' strategic plan to strengthen defence cooperation and mutual support among East African partners, which is



considered as a critical factor in transforming security gains into sustainable peace and long-term regional stability.

During the meeting, the Somali National Armed Forces delegation was briefed on regional security dynamics, including

Rwanda's contribution to Peace and Security in Africa.

The Somali National Armed Forces delegation also visited the Kigali Genocide Memorial, where they paid tribute to the victims of the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi.

Rwanda and Somalia on October 27, 2025, signed a General Cooperation Agreement aimed at strengthening bilateral relations and expanding collaboration across key sectors.

The agreement was signed in Kigali by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Olivier Nduhugirehe, and his Somali counterpart, Abdisalam Abdi Ali, who was on a two-day official visit to Rwanda.

During their meeting, the two ministers agreed to establish a Joint Permanent Commission (JPC) to oversee the effective implementation of the agreement and to explore new areas of partnership. The JPC will coordinate cooperation in areas including justice, education, agriculture, ICT, trade, and mutual legal assistance.

“Both Ministers reaffirmed that relations between Rwanda and the Federal Republic of Somalia are founded on mutual respect, shared aspirations, and a strong spirit of Pan-African solidarity,” the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation said in a statement.

The ministry added that the Somali minister’s visit “marks a new chapter in the strengthening of bilateral ties and the deepening of cooperation across all sectors of mutual interest.”

The two ministers also recognized the positive impact of existing collaboration in sectors such as political consultations, investment promotion, policing, and defence. They further emphasized the importance of working closely within international and mul-

Rwanda, Somalia sign General Cooperation Agreement



tilateral platforms to advance shared interests.

In a post on X, Minister Abdisalam noted that the agreement “aims to deepen bilateral relations and enhance collaboration between Somalia and Rwanda in key sectors includ-

ing diplomacy, trade, investment, and capacity building.”

He described it as “a significant step forward in strengthening our partnership and advancing shared interests that promote regional peace, stability, and prosperity.”

Rwanda rolls out Digital ID registration exercise

The nationwide identity verification and photo registration exercise for Rwanda's upcoming Single Digital ID kicked off on October 28, 2025, starting with Huye, Gisagara and Nyanza districts in Southern Province.

The exercise to verify citizens' information and capture updated photos for the e-Ndangamuntu will continue until November 23.

Thousands of citizens attended the event in Nyanza, where officials from the province and the National Identification Agency (NIDA) explained the significance of the digital ID, especially in promoting effective governance and improving government service delivery

through an integrated system.

During verification, citizens are required to bring key documents, including their current national ID card, the ID numbers of their parents if available, the spouse's ID number for those who are married, a personal identification number, and an application number for those who have not yet received their national ID.

A total of 1,144 field officers have been deployed in the pilot phase in the three districts, supported by fully equipped registration centers featuring biometric kits and digital systems capable of instant verification.

In addition, mobile units and multilingual service desks will

reach citizens in remote and marginalized communities.

According to NIDA, the digital ID will be issued within three years to all Rwandans, including newborns and children under five, a demographic often excluded from traditional ID systems.

This new digital ID is also designed to serve as a single, verified identity for all Rwandans, simplifying access to essential services such as banking, SIM card registration, health insurance, and government programmes.

To implement the project, the government has allocated Rwf12.2 billion in the 2025/2026 fiscal year.

The Ministry of ICT and Innovation has announced that the Single Digital ID project will cost \$70 million (over Rwf101 billion) upon completion.



Rwandan peacekeepers receive UN medals



On October 22, 2025, Rwandan peacekeepers, comprising Rwanbatt-3 and the Rwandan Aviation Unit (RAU-13), serving under the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), were awarded UN medals in recognition of their exemplary service in peacekeeping operations.

The medal parade took place at the Rwanbatt-3 Base Camp in Durupi, Central Equatoria State.

Presiding over the ceremony, the UNMISS Force Commander, Lieutenant General Mohan Subramanian, commended the Rwandan peacekeepers for their outstanding professionalism and dedication. He noted that Rwanda is among the top five troop-contributing countries to UN peacekeeping missions globally.

Lt Gen Subramanian praised the peacekeepers for their discipline,



unwavering commitment, and significant contribution to the maintenance of peace and stability in South Sudan.

Colonel Leodomir Uwizeyimana, Rwanbatt-3 Contingent Commander and Senior National Representative, expressed his

gratitude to the UNMISS leadership for their ongoing support and recognition, reaffirming the battalion's commitment to upholding Rwanda's esteemed reputation in international peacekeeping and to fulfilling the mission's mandate to protect civilians and promote peace.

Rwanda, Hong Kong ink new tax pact



On October 9, 2025, Rwanda and Hong Kong have signed a Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) aimed at eliminating double taxation, preventing tax evasion, and strengthening economic cooperation.

The signing of the agreement which took place in Hong Kong, was conducted by Yusuf Murangwa, Rwanda's Minister of Finance and Economic Planning, and Christopher Hui, Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury of Hong Kong.

The new pact is expected to increase investor confidence and make cross-border business smoother, according to the agreement. Under the treat-

ty, income from business, employment, or investment will be taxed in the country where it is earned, without facing additional taxation at home.

The DTAA also sets reduced withholding tax rates on cross-border payments, including dividends up to 7.5%, interest up to 8%, royalties up to 9%, and fees for technical services up to 10%.

Public entities such as Rwanda's National Bank, RSSB, Agaciro Development Fund, and Development Bank of Rwanda, as well as Hong Kong's Monetary Authority and Exchange Fund, will be fully exempt from these taxes. Both governments will share relevant tax informa-

tion to strengthen enforcement and combat tax evasion, while ensuring strict confidentiality.

A protocol accompanying the treaty extends these provisions to additional taxes in Rwanda, including Value Added Tax, Excise Duty, Tax on Minerals, and Gaming Tax. Investors will continue to benefit from existing tax incentives for up to five years after the treaty takes effect.

The agreement also introduces a Mutual Agreement Procedure for resolving disputes, ensuring companies or individuals are not taxed inconsistently with the treaty. The DTAA is scheduled to take effect from January 1, 2026, in Rwanda, and April 1, 2026, in Hong Kong.

Nairobi: More than 500 Rwandans attend inaugural Cultural Gala and Exhibition



The Rwandan community in Kenya, in collaboration with the Rwanda High Commission in Nairobi, celebrated a historic milestone on October 11, 2025, with the inaugural Rwanda Cultural Gala & Exhibition at the United Kenya Club.

This vibrant event, themed “Our Culture, the Pillar of Our Unity,” attracted over 500 attendees, including Rwandans and friends of Rwanda.

The gala featured lively cultural performances, showcasing traditional music and dance that

created an atmosphere of joy and unity. Attendees enjoyed exhibitions displaying authentic Rwandan artifacts and locally crafted products, highlighting the richness of Rwandan heritage.

High Commissioner Ernest Rwamucyo commended the event as crucial for strengthening cultural ties between Rwanda and Kenya. He encouraged the younger generation to connect with their roots and emphasized the importance of preserving Rwandan culture within the diaspora.

A highlight of the evening was an awards ceremony honoring four Rwandan teams from the Imena Football Tournament 2025, underscoring the community’s commitment to youth engagement through sports.

Organizers expressed hope that the Rwanda Cultural Gala will become an annual tradition, celebrating heritage and fostering unity among Rwandans abroad. This inaugural event not only strengthened community bonds but also reinforced the importance of cultural pride in the diaspora.

Rwanda's tourist attractions showcased at Magical Kenya Tourism Expo

Rwanda participated in the 15th Magical Kenya Tourism Expo held from 1 to 3 October 2025 at Uhuru Gardens, Nairobi.

Running under the theme "Unlocking Africa's Potential through Sustainable Tourism", the expo brought together over 400 exhibitors from more than 40 countries, with Rwanda proudly represented by 16 tourism companies which showcased the country's unique touristic attractions, as well as investment and business opportunities in the tourism sector.

The Rwandan booth was among those visited by Deputy President Kithure Kindiki while officially opening the exhibition.

Rwandan exhibitors who attended the expo said it was significant event that helped them network and connect with different prospects from around the world.



Top American hotel chain Hilton expands to Rwanda

Hilton, a top American hospitality company has announced the debut of its lifestyle brand 'Tapestry Collection by Hilton' in Sub-Saharan Africa, following the signing of an agreement with Zaria Court Kigali.

Tapestry Collection by Hilton is a gathering of original upscale hotels that caters to guests seeking reliability and value in their independent hotel choices, with each stay backed by the reassurance of the Hilton name and award-winning 'Hilton Honors' programme.

Located next to BK Arena, the hotel will feature a rooftop lounge, pool, co-working space

and sports bar, further expanding Kigali's offering for business and leisure travellers.

Hilton is a leading US-based global hospitality company with a portfolio of 22 world-class brands comprising nearly 7,300 properties and more than 1.1 million rooms, in 123 countries and territories, according to Hospitality Net – a global, business-to-business-focused online resource for the hotel and hospitality industry.

According to Rwanda Development Board (RDB), the investment by Hilton reflects growing confidence in Rwanda as a tourism and hospitality destination,

while contributing to local jobs, enhanced guest experiences and a diversified accommodation portfolio.

Developed by US National Basketball Association (NBA) Champion Masai Ujiri's Zaria Group, Zaria Court Kigali will mark the global hospitality firm's first property in Rwanda which is opening later this year.

Adjacent to Kigali's BK Arena and Amahoro Stadium – home to international concerts, conferences and major sporting events – the hotel is surrounded by popular restaurants and bars, retail stores, sports courts and is just 15 minutes from Kigali International Airport.

Overall, Hilton currently operates 64 hotels in Africa, with another 106 properties in the pipeline.



Kigali to host the 2025 African Cycling Awards



The Confederation of African Cycling (CAC) has named Kigali as the host city of 2025 African Cycling Excellence Awards (ACEA) scheduled to take place from November 28-29.

This comes after the Rwandan capital became the first city to ever host the UCI Road World Championships on African soil in September. The same city will host the 2026 awards before rotating annually among different African countries.

The African Cycling Excellence Awards event brings together members of the African cycling community and key stakeholders for an official ceremony rec-

ognizing the continent's finest cycling talents of the year, both men and women, across professional and amateur categories.

Under the leadership of Dr. Yao Allah-Kouamé, President of the African Cycling Confederation (CAC), and coordinated by the ACEA Secretariat, the event will honor African champions who have demonstrated exceptional performance and contributed significantly to promoting the sport globally.

A jury of African and international cycling experts, alongside public votes (each counting as one vote) will determine the winners.

The award categories will feature

unique trophies, each designed as a distinct work of art, to honor outstanding achievements in African cycling.

The main awards will include best male cyclist (all categories), best female elite cyclist, best amateur Male cyclist, and best African national cycling team.

As the host nation, Rwanda will also present additional special awards to recognize local and regional excellence. These include the best Rwandan elite male cyclist, best Rwandan elite female cyclist, as well as honorary trophies for the best male cyclist and best female cyclist from the East African Community (EAC).

Over 12,000 ex-combatants reintegrated into Rwandan society since 2001

Speaking during a ceremony marking the discharge of 143 ex-combatants making up the 75th cohort on October 30, 2025, RDRC Chairperson Valerie Nyirahabineza announced that the Rwanda Demobilization and Reintegration Commission (RDRC) had successfully reintegrated 12,602 former combatants from armed groups operating in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo since the year 2001.

“I am pleased to inform you that, since 2001, 12,602 former combatants have been reintegrated. This program has provided thousands of former fighters and their families with tangible assistance, including civic education, vocational training, and support to enhance livelihoods and economic opportunities,” she stated.

Among the reintegrated former combatants, some have returned with their families. The training program lasted between three to six months.

Nyirahabineza called on Rwandans still in the forests of the DRC to lay down their arms, emphasizing that being used as foreign mercenaries to destabilize their own country would lead to nothing positive.

“We urge all Rwandans involved in the FDLR and its affiliated groups to lay down their arms and return home. As the RDRC, we are ready to welcome them and assist in their reintegration into society,” she stated.

A peace agreement signed be-



tween Rwanda and the DRC in June 2025 calls for the elimination of the FDLR, with its combatants to be repatriated and reintegrated into society.

In line with these agreements, on October 10, the DRC military urged FDLR combatants to surrender their weapons to either the DRC authorities or

United Nations peacekeepers, warning that those who resist will face military action.

Nyirahabineza emphasized that Rwanda is prepared to receive any FDLR combatants wishing to return, offering them the same support provided to those who have come before them.

Rwanda, Jordan sign agreements on trade and investment



The governments of Rwanda and Jordan have signed several new Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) in environment, food and drugs, cultural exchanges, and tourism, aimed at strengthening and expanding bilateral cooperation.

Some of the agreements were signed during the Rwanda-Jordan Trade Committee Ministerial meeting on October 8, 2025, while others were signed on October 9, 2025, during the first Rwanda-Jordan Business Forum, held in Kigali.

The MoUs were signed in the

presence of a high-level delegation from Jordan, including the Minister of Trade and heads of the country's Chambers of Commerce, alongside officials from Rwanda's Ministry of Trade and Industry, Rwanda Development Board (RDB), and business leaders from both countries.

"The objective of this forum, the first of its kind, is to deepen cooperation across sectors such as real estate, manufacturing, pharmaceuticals, and tourism," said Jean-Guy Afrika, CEO of RDB.

He emphasised that the agree-

ments lay the groundwork for a policy framework to facilitate trade and investment.

"Anytime you establish a legal framework between two countries to promote investment and trade, you facilitate match-making between enterprises and build trust. This time, we are going further," he said.

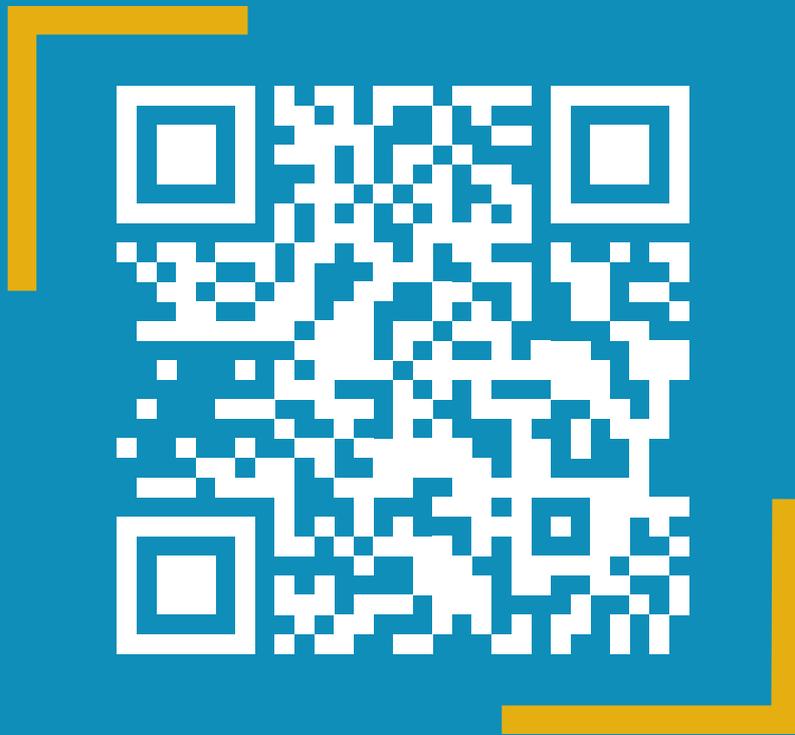
He also highlighted that discussions have begun on a preferential trade agreement that could liberalise trade and reduce tariffs between Rwanda and Jordan.

"We also examined the logistical requirements to facilitate the flow of trade. By combining legal frameworks with solutions for logistical challenges, we are confident this will deepen trade and investment," Afrika said.

The agreements, he noted, also align with Rwanda's vision of positioning the country as a logistical hub, not only for the region but for the wider African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

Fathi Jaghbir, President of the Jordan Chamber of Industry, acknowledged that current trade between Jordan and Rwanda is modest but said it presents an opportunity for growth.

"Our industry, ranging from pharmaceuticals and chemicals to food processing, ventilators, and textiles, has built a reputation for quality, humanity, and innovation. We believe that this is the right time to improve industrial and trade relations between Jordan and Rwanda."



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