



# RWANDA HIGH COMMISSION IN KENYA

NEWSLETTER ISSUE 10 - JULY 2025

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# Rwanda High Commission In Kenya

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# Foreword by the High Commissioner



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

*Dear reader,*

It is my privilege to present to you the 10th edition of our monthly newsletter, which reflects Rwanda's continued advancement in inclusive development, international co-operation, and regional solidarity.

This edition comes at a time of significant progress in our bilateral and multilateral engagements. In recent months, relations between Rwanda and Kenya have been further strengthened through high-level diplomatic exchanges and expanded partnerships. These developments affirm the depth of our historical ties and our shared commitment to regional integration, economic transformation, and sustainable peace.

Rwanda's progress across key sectors — including health, environmental protection, security, and youth empowerment — continues to attract international recognition. From surpassing global health targets to earning accolades for sustainable urban development, our nation stands as an example of what can be achieved through visionary leadership and collective effort.

We continue to play an active role in regional and global forums, making meaningful contributions to humanitarian relief, peacebuilding, and innovation. Rwanda's expanding footprint in international sport and cultural exchange — evidenced by recent high-profile events and others in the pipeline— underscores our spirit of openness and aspiration.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the Rwandan community in Kenya and to our partners for their unwavering support.

May this edition inspire us to renew our shared commitments and reinforce our collective determination to build a prosperous, peaceful, and united future.

# President Kagame receives former Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta

On July 11, President Paul Kagame received former Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta, at Village Urugwiro.

Kenyatta currently serves as one of the EAC-SADC

Facilitators for the Eastern DRC peace process.

Their discussions focused on the ongoing efforts to achieve durable peace in Eastern DRC and address the root causes of the conflict.



# Minister Kabarebe meets President Ruto

On July 17, President William Ruto received Rt. Gen. James Kabarebe, President Paul Kagame's Special Envoy and Minister of State for Regional Integration in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, reaffirming the strong and growing ties between Rwanda and Kenya.

Their discussions covered a wide range of bilateral and regional issues, with a shared commitment to strengthening cooperation in peace and security, trade, and regional integration.

"Kenya and Rwanda remain steadfast partners in advancing stability and prosperity across the East African region," said President Ruto in a post on his X account.

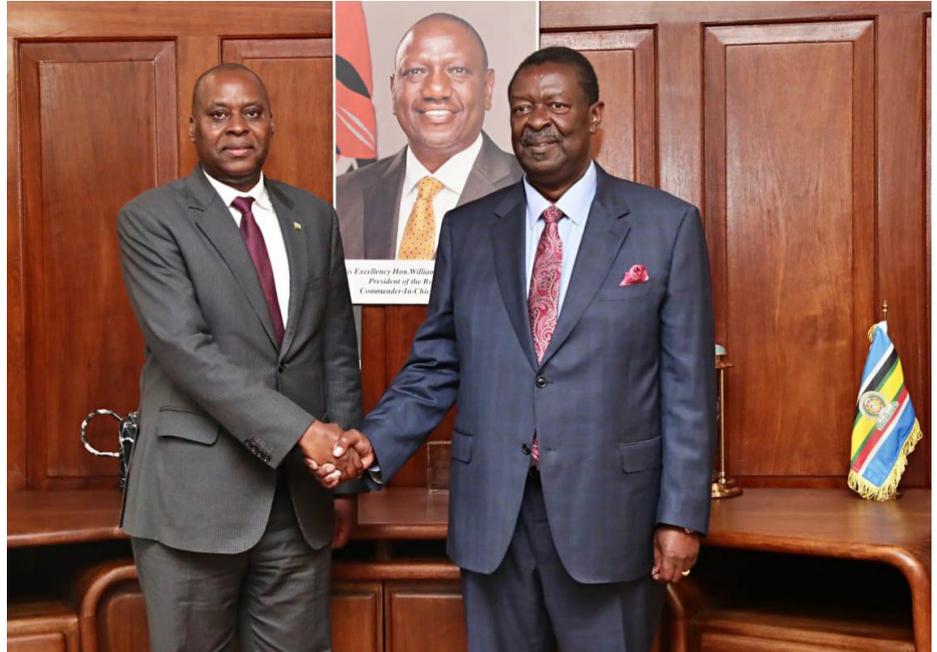
Rwanda and Kenya enjoy strong bilateral and multilateral ties, with key areas of cooperation including trade and investment, education, agriculture, security, and the promotion of peace and stability through regional integration.



# High Commissioner Rwamucyo pays a courtesy call on CS Mudavadi

On July 17, High Commissioner Ernest Rwamucyo paid a courtesy call to Dr. Musalia Mudavadi, Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs.

During the meeting, they discussed a wide range of bilateral issues of mutual interest and reaffirmed the excellent ties between Rwanda and Kenya.



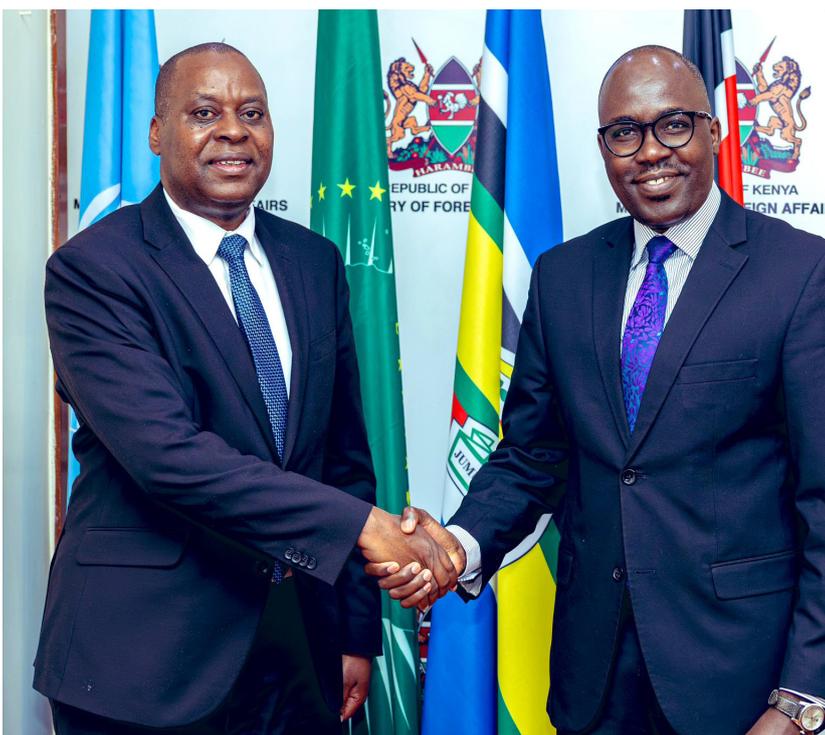
## High Commissioner Rwamucyo pays a courtesy call on Foreign Affairs PS Korir

On July 10, High Commissioner Ernest Rwamucyo paid a courtesy call on Kenya's Foreign Affairs Principal Secretary Korir Sing'Oei.

During the meeting, they affirmed the two countries' shared commitment to work in concert towards East African Community (EAC) integration through expanded trade and investment as well as people to people exchanges.

"While our two countries have strong and vital brotherly relations since independence with Kenya playing a key role in supporting Rwanda's recovery after the unfortunate events of 1990s, it is the energy and vision of our two leaders that defines our current strategic partnership," PS Korir posted on his X account after the meeting.

Rwanda and Kenya have enjoyed strong bilateral ties for decades, with key areas of cooperation including trade and investment, education, agriculture, and security among others.



## Rwandans in Kenya celebrate 31st Liberation Day



Around 700 people, including members of the diplomatic corps, friends of Rwanda, and members of the Rwandan community in Kenya, gathered at the Rwanda High Commission to celebrate the 31st Anniversary of Rwanda's Liberation.

Liberation Day is celebrated annually on 04th July, a date on which the then Rwanda Patriotic Army (RPA) stopped the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi which claimed a million lives in 100 days, and liberated Rwanda.

In his remarks, High Commissioner Ernest Rwamucyo said that Kwibohora celebrations provide an opportunity for Rwandans to reflect on how far the nation has come, and to share Rwanda's liberation story—the journey of unity and reconciliation, as well as the country's



ongoing renewal and vision for a brighter future.

He also noted that the celebration should serve as a reminder of what can be achieved when people come together with a shared vision and the courage to pursue it, even against all odds.

Speaking at the event, Dr. Caroline Wanjiru Karugu, Principal Secretary at Kenya's State Department for East African Community (EAC), Ministry of



East African Community, commended Rwanda's remarkable transformation after the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi.

She underscored that Rwanda's story is a testament to the strength, forgiveness, and determination of its people, adding that the leadership of President Paul Kagame has transformed Rwanda into a model of inclusive development and a symbol of what is possible when a nation unites around a common vision.

# Rwanda's economy grows by 7.8 percent



Rwanda's economy registered a growth rate of 7.8% in the first quarter of 2025. This positive performance was mainly driven by strong growth in the industrial and service sectors, while the agriculture sector saw modest progress.

According to data released by the National Institute of Statistics Rwanda (NISR), the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at current market prices was estimated at Frw 5,255 billion, up from Frw 4,486 billion in the same period last year. The services sector contributed the most to GDP, accounting for 46%, followed by agriculture at 24%, and industry at 23%. Net direct taxes made up 7% of the total.

Yusuf Murangwa, Rwanda's Minister of Finance and Economic Planning, highlighted that while a 7.8% growth rate is encouraging, it still falls short of the 9.3% target outlined in the National Strategy for Transformation (NST2).



**Under normal circumstances, 7.8% GDP growth is very good. However, as an ambitious nation, we aim for higher growth, which requires the timely and effective implementation of NST2.**

**Yusuf Murangwa**

# Rwanda ranked second safest country in East Africa



Rwanda has been ranked the second safest country in East Africa and 91st globally in the newly released 2025 Global Peace Index (GPI), reaffirming the country's strong regional standing in safety and security.

On the continental scale, Rwanda holds the 15th position among 44 assessed Sub-Saharan African nations.

The GPI, compiled annually by the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP), is the world's most comprehensive measure of global peacefulness. Now in its 19th edition, the 2025 report assessed 163 countries based on 23 qualitative and quantitative indicators, grouped into three key domains: societal safety and security, ongoing conflict, and militarisation.

The GPI findings align closely

with local sentiment. According to the 2024 Rwanda Governance Board (RGB) Citizen Report Card, security and public tranquillity scored the highest among governance pillars, with a citizen satisfaction rate of 93.82%.

This continues to reflect the country's investment in public safety, community policing, and post-genocide reconciliation efforts.

# Rwanda's parliament passes law ratifying peace agreement between DRC and Rwanda

End July, the Plenary Sitting of the Chamber of Deputies passed the law approving the ratification of the peace agreement between the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Republic of Rwanda, signed in Washington in June this year.

The provisions of the agreement are structured around four main components, namely: Security, economy, politics and humanitarian situation.

Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Hon. Nduhungirehe Olivier, noted that the agreement is the outcome of extensive negotiations between both parties, facilitated by the United States, with support from the Government of Qatar and the African Union.

He noted that the pact represents a significant step toward restoring peace, security,

and confidence between the Republic of Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

“The foundation for this agreement was laid by the Declaration of Principles signed by both parties on April 25, 2025. These principles outline the commitments and pathways necessary for the effective implementation of the accord.” Added Minister Nduhungirehe.



# Rwanda sends additional humanitarian assistance to Gaza



In July, the Government of Rwanda, in partnership with the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, delivered over 40 tons of food and medical supplies to support ongoing humanitarian efforts in Gaza.

This marks Rwanda's largest consignment to Gaza since it began supporting humanitarian ef-

forts in the region.

Prior to this, the country delivered similar aid shipments in May and November 2024. The November shipment of over 19 tons included fortified food for children, essential medicines, and medical consumables.

## WHO honours President Kagame for championing global pandemic prevention initiative



President Paul Kagame was on July 10 recognized by the World Health Organisation (WHO) for his leadership in advocating for a global legally binding instrument to strengthen prevention, preparedness, and response to health emergencies.

He was recognised among 20 global champions for advancing what has been described as “a historic pandemic treaty”.

The “World Together” certificate was presented by WHO Director General Dr Tedros Ad-

hanom Ghebreyesus during the inaugural WHO Pandemic Agreement meeting in Geneva, and was received by Rwanda’s Ambassador to Switzerland and Permanent Representative to the UN Office in Geneva, Urujeni Bakuramutsa, on behalf of the President.

President Kagame has on various occasions called for robust health systems, especially in African countries to be able to deal with the continent’s disease burden as well as health emergencies.

Speaking at a high-level meeting on domestic health financing in Africa in February this year, President Kagame called for collaboration on health care among governments, businesses, and philanthropies.

The President has also on several occasions advocated local capacity building and manufacturing of medicines and vaccines. In this spirit, Rwanda has partnered with global pharmaceutical companies such as BioNTech in setting up vaccine manufacturing facilities in the country.

Rwanda is one of the few countries to have achieved the 95-95-95 targets set by UNAIDS to help end the AIDS epidemic by 2030.

The target is to ensure that 95 percent of people living with HIV know their status, 95 percent of those diagnosed are on antiretroviral treatment (ART), and 95 percent of those on treatment achieve viral suppression.

Rwanda's HIV programme is guided by key national frameworks, including the Sustainable Development Goals, the Health Sector Strategic Plan, and the National HIV Strategic Plan 2024–2027. Its implementation relies on strong partnerships with civil society, donors, and international organisations, with local leadership supporting to drive progress.

So far, the government of Rwanda has reduced new HIV infections by 82 percent and AIDS-related deaths by 86 percent.

According to Rwanda Biomedical Centre (RBC), the country's progress in the fight against AIDS is due to strong government support, health services that reach people where they are, and continued involvement from communities.

"The government has focused on taking HIV services closer to the people, making testing and treatment easier to access, and including HIV care in general health services," said Dr. Gallican Rwibasira, the Division Manager for HIV, STIs, Viral Hepatitis and Other Viral Diseases at RBC.

He noted that this progress didn't happen by chance. "The

## How Rwanda met global HIV targets ahead of schedule



country had strong political commitment, engaged communities, data to guide our actions, and healthcare providers at every level working together. That made it possible to reduce infections and improve retention."

Existing efforts to expand HIV prevention in the country also include pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), with around 30 percent of high-risk people currently using it.

Rwanda is also mulling the use of a newly approved HIV prevention drug, lenacapavir, which is set to be introduced in at least nine countries in early 2026.

The Minister of Health, Dr Sabin Nsanzimana, recently said that Rwanda is interested in adopting the new HIV prevention drug and is currently in the planning and consultation phase, with implementation expected once agreements are finalised.

# President Kagame meets IAEA's Director, discuss nuclear energy cooperation



President Paul Kagame in July this year received Rafael Mariano Grossi, the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), who was in Rwanda for the inaugural Nuclear Energy Innovation Summit for Africa held in Kigali.

The first-ever Nuclear Energy Innovation Summit for Africa brought together global policy-makers, scientists, and industry leaders, to discuss the role of advanced nuclear technologies in addressing the continent's ener-

gy needs.

During the meeting, President Kagame and Grossi discussed the potential of nuclear energy for economic transformation and the progress Rwanda has made towards the use of Small Modular and Micro Reactors.

Grossi reaffirmed IAEA's readiness to support Rwanda's nuclear ambitions, emphasizing the agency's commitment to using nuclear science and technology for sustainable development.



# World Kiswahili Language Day celebrated in Kigali



On July 6, Rwanda hosted celebrations of the 4th World Kiswahili Language Day, an occasion to recognise the growing importance of Kiswahili not only as a means of communication but also as a vehicle for education, peacebuilding, and economic integration in Africa and beyond.

Held under the theme: “Kiswahi-

hili, Inclusive Education, and Sustainable Development”, the two-day event brought together over 300 participants, including senior government officials, delegates from EAC Partner States, Kiswahili experts, academics, and university students.

Speaking during the opening ceremony, Rwanda’s Minister of State for Regional Cooperation,

Gen (Rtd) James Kabarebe, said that Kiswahili is a powerful tool for regional integration, cultural unity, and sustainable development.

He continued to explain that even though Kiswahili was rooted in East Africa, it has now grown into an international language.

Meanwhile, EAC Deputy Secretary General Andrea Aguer Ariik highlighted Kiswahili’s broader impact beyond communication, describing it as a tool for promoting equity, access, and empowerment across the region.

“Kiswahili offers a practical and inclusive solution to some of our biggest challenges. As one of the most widely spoken African languages and the only one officially recognized by the African Union, it has the potential to close the gap between policy and people, between education and equity, and between tradition and innovation,” he stated.

# Rwanda Hosts Giants of Africa Festival, Showcasing Talent, Culture, and Pan-African Unity

In July, Rwanda proudly played host to the second edition of Giants of Africa Festival, a week-long celebration of youth empowerment, basketball talent, and African unity.

The vibrant event brought together hundreds of young athletes, coaches, mentors, and international guests from across the continent and beyond.

Held primarily at the BK Arena in Kigali, the festival was part of a broader mission led by Masai Ujiri, President of the Toronto Raptors and co-founder of Giants of Africa. The initiative, launched in 2003, aims to harness the power of sport, especially basketball, to educate and empower African youth both on and off the court.

The second Rwandan edition of the festival saw the participation of youth athletes from over 15 African countries, including Nigeria, Kenya, Ghana, South Sudan, Egypt, and more.

Through a series of high-level training sessions, leadership workshops, and cultural showcases, the festival celebrated Africa's rising potential and reinforced the value of discipline, resilience, and community service.

President Paul Kagame officially welcomed the guests and participants, reiterating Rwanda's commitment to youth development and the promotion of sport as a tool for national and continental transformation. "Sport builds character, bridges divides, and opens global opportunities," he said during the festival's opening ceremony.



Meanwhile, speaking at the closing ceremony, Ujiri expressed gratitude to the people of Rwanda for their hospitality and vision. "Rwanda represents what is possible on this continent when leadership and ambition align. This is only the beginning," he stated.

One of the standout moments was the inauguration of a new basketball court in one of Kigali's communities, built by Giants of Africa in partnership with lo-

cal organizations. The initiative is part of the foundation's plan to build 100 courts across Africa, providing safe spaces for youth to play, learn, and grow.

The event also included a star-studded concert and appearances by African entertainers and cultural icons. Musical performances lit up the BK Arena in a fitting conclusion to the festival, turning it into a fusion of talent, culture, and celebration.

# Rwanda steps up final preparations to host historic UCI Road World Championships



With less than two months to go, Rwanda is fast approaching the historic milestone of becoming the first African nation to host the UCI Road World Championships- the most prestigious event on the global cycling calendar.

Scheduled for September 21–28, the competition is set to transform Kigali into the epicenter of elite cycling, attracting the world’s top riders and cycling fans from around the globe.

According to Samson Ndayishimiye, President of the Rwanda Cycling Federation (FERWACY), the country’s bid stood out for its consistent delivery of international cycling events such as the Tour du Rwanda, now in its 17th edition.

Additionally, Rwanda’s hilly terrain, passionate fans, security, and favorable weather all helped convince the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI) that Kigali could successfully host the global championship.

Preparations are now in full swing. Currently, a dedicated local organising committee is overseeing nine workstreams covering infrastructure, logistics, accommodation, security, and more.

Infrastructure improvements are among the most visible signs of readiness. Road works, including the removal of over 30 humps on race circuits and a facelift at the Kigali Convention Centre (KCC) roundabout, are being completed to meet inter-

national standards.

The competition will span three main circuits: Individual Time Trials (September 21–23), a Mixed Team Relay (September 24), and Road Races (September 25–28). The Time Trials will make history by starting inside BK Arena — a first for any UCI event. With a grueling elevation gain of over 5,400 meters, the Kigali route is expected to be one of the toughest in UCI championship history.

In addition to the elite racing, the event will feature side activities designed to involve the broader community and visiting guests. These include a public social ride on September 20 and a VIP cycling experience on September 28 among others.

## Rwanda's Nyandungu Eco-park recognised among world's best wetland education centers



Rwanda's Nyandungu Eco-Park has earned global recognition as one of the world's leading wetland education centres, winning the prestigious Star Wetland Centre Award at the Convention on Wetlands (COP15) held on July 27, 2025, in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe.

Among just sixteen global winners, Nyandungu Eco-Park received a Full Star accreditation alongside category Stars for "People" and "Biodiversity," highlighting its excellence in community engagement and ecological conservation.

The award, presented by Wetland Link International (WLI), is the only global quality mark dedicated to wetland educators and visitor attractions, recognising sites that promote conservation and public awareness of wetlands such as rivers, marshes, and coasts.

Located in Kigali, a Ramsar-accredited Wetland City, Nyandungu Eco-Park has rapidly become a flagship urban nature sanctuary. Since opening to the public in July 2022, following six years of extensive restoration, the park has seen a steady rise in visitors, welcoming 76,754 people in 2024, up from 67,222 in 2023 and 48,813 in 2022.

Spanning 121 hectares, including 70 hectares of rehabilitated wetlands and 50 hectares of forest, the park is home to nearly 200 bird species and more than 62 indigenous plant species.

Nyandungu offers visitors a unique combination of recreation and education with features such as a medicinal garden, the Pope's Garden, five catchment ponds, three recreational ponds, 10 kilometres of walkways and cycling lanes, an information centre, and a restaurant.

# MEET RWANDA'S NEW CABINET MEMBERS



**Dr. Justin Nsengiyumva**  
Prime Minister



**Judith Uwizeye**  
Minister in the Office of the President



**Ines Mpambara**  
Minister in the Office of the Prime Minister



**Yusuf Murangwa**  
Minister of Finance and Economic Planning



**Godfrey Kabera**  
Minister of State in Charge of the National Treasury



**Mutesi Linda Rusagara**  
Minister of State for Resource Mobilisation and Public Investment



**Amb. Olivier Nduhungirehe**  
Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation



**Gen (Rtd) James Kabarebe**  
Minister of State for Foreign Affairs in charge of Regional Cooperation



**Dr. Ugirashebuja Emmanuel**  
Minister of Justice /Attorney General



**Juvenal Marizamunda**  
Minister of Defence



**Consolee Uwimana**  
Minister of Gender and Family Promotion



**Dr. Vincent Biruta**  
Minister of Interior



**Mr. Dominique Habimana**  
Minister of Local Government



**Marie-Solange Kayisire**  
Minister of State for Local Government



**Dr. Jimmy Gasore**  
Minister of Infrastructure



**Jean de Dieu Uwihanganye**  
Minister of State in the Ministry of Infrastructure



**Paula Ingabire**  
Minister of ICT and Innovation



**Joseph Nsengimana**  
Minister of Education



**Claudette Irere**  
Minister of State for Education



**Dr. Jean Damascene Bizimana**  
Minister of National Unity and Civic Engagement



**Dr. Mark Cyubahiro Bagabe**  
Minister of Agriculture and Animal Resources



**Dr. Telesphore Ndabamenye**  
Minister of State for Agriculture and Animal Resources



**Dr. Sabin Nsanzimana**  
Minister of Health



**Dr. Yvan Butera**  
Minister of State in the Ministry of Health



**Amb. Christine Nkulikiyinka**  
Minister of Public Service and Labor



**Prudence Sebahizi**  
Minister of Trade and Industry



**Dr. Bernadette Arakwiye**  
Minister of Environment



**Maj Gen Albert Murasira**  
Minister in charge of Emergency Management



**Nelly Mukazayire**  
Minister of Sports



**Rwego Ngarambe**  
Minister of State in the Ministry of Sports



**Dr. Utumatwishima Jean Nepo Abdallah**  
Minister of Youth and Arts



**Sandrine Umutoni**  
Minister of State for Youth



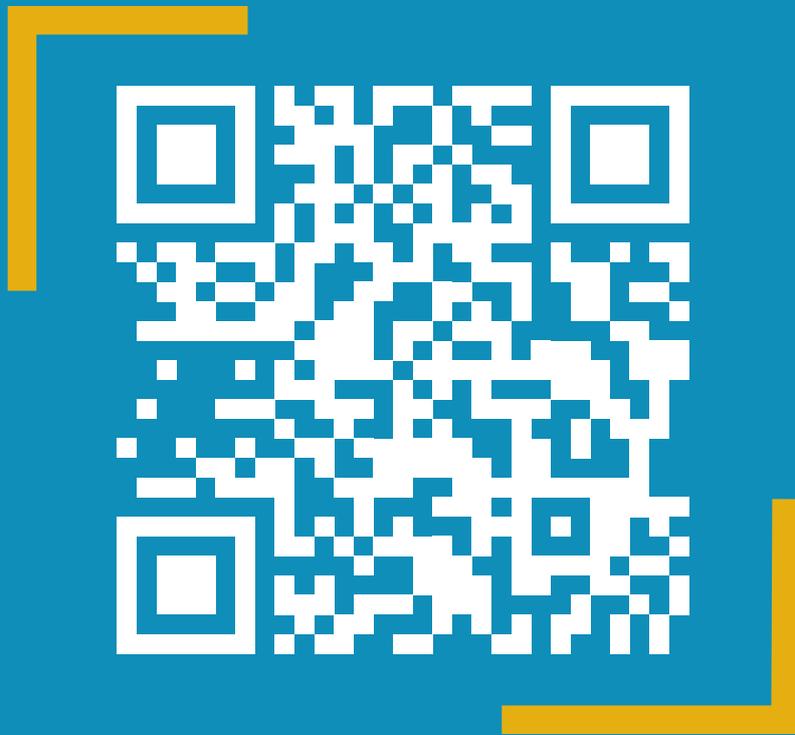
**Jean-Cuy Afrika**  
Chief Executive Officer of The Rwanda Development Board (RDB)



**Dr. Doris Uwicyeza Picard**  
Chief Executive Officer of Rwanda Governance Board (RDB)







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