

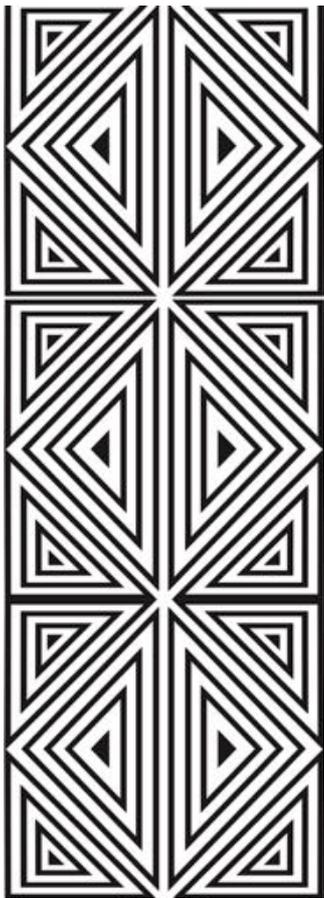
RwandaFul

Monthly Roundup of Rwanda's Stories



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REPUBLIC OF RWANDA
KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS



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**EMBASSY OF THE
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President Kagame Attends Virtual Panel Discussion At The Davos Agenda 2021



On 25 January President Kagame took part in a virtual panel discussion on “Advancing a New Social Contract” as part of the Davos Agenda 2021. The Leadership Panel examined what responses are most effective and what are the emerging features of a new social contract between governments, business and citizens. In his remarks, President Kagame said that this covid-19 crisis has revealed gaps in the existing social protection systems everywhere in the world. The pandemic has also reminded us of how we are interlinked and interdependent in many ways.

The virtual panel discussion was part of the Davos Agenda 2021, a pioneering mobilization of global leaders to shape the principles, policies and partnerships needed as the world faces a challenging new context, the Covid-19 pandemic which has put nearly half of the 3.3 billion global workforce at risk of losing their livelihoods, while revealing the inadequacies of safety nets for the majority of the world’s working population. The Davos Agenda brought together the world’s top academics, politicians, business, youth and civil society leaders to engage in addressing the most pressing issues on the global agenda.

For full remarks, [click here](#)

President Kagame Addresses Climate Adaptation Summit

On 25 January President Kagame addressed the Climate Adaptation Summit. The virtual event was hosted by The Netherlands and convened global leaders and stakeholders to discuss strategies, commitments and partnerships that seek to make the world more resilient to the effects of climate change.



In his remarks, President Kagame said that investment in climate adaptation strengthens our societies for future growth and prosperity. He commended the adaptation as a priority for 2021 and beyond.

The summit saw the launch of a comprehensive Adaptation Action Agenda, setting out clear commitments to deliver concrete new endeavours and partnerships to make the world more resilient to the effects of climate change. [Click here](#) to watch the speech of the President.

Kagame Hails Launch Trading Under AfCFTA

As African countries kick off trading under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) agreement, President Paul Kagame has welcomed the latest development. The African Union launched the start of the trading of the Continental Free Trade Area on January 1, marking a significant milestone towards the world's largest free-trade zone.



“Cheers to the launch of Trading #AfCFTA, to those who put it all together and the rest of us who have to join in to make it work and worthwhile!!” Kagame said. The launch is a culmination of years-long negotiations between African countries, which started in 2018 when a landmark agreement was signed in Kigali by leaders of 44 countries. [Read more.](#)

Rwanda Emerges As World Leader In The Fight Against Covid-19

Australian think tank Lowy Institute has placed Rwanda in sixth place in managing the Covid-19 pandemic and for making its information about the pandemic publicly accessible. The institute ranked 98 countries in total, providing each country's average performance in managing the pandemic within 36 weeks after confirming their 100th coronavirus infection.



Economists believe that Rwanda has emerged as a clear winner in the fight against Covid-19, reporting low mortalities and virus spread through community participation, equity, trust and patient centrisms. Rwanda has set a shining example of how to fight the coronavirus pandemic and safeguard public health as against other advanced economies who have been struggling to battle the virus spread and associated morbidities.

The ranking by Lowy Institute notes how low and technologically less advanced economies like Africa have not only survived the pandemic but provide lessons on how to manage crises in the future. Despite weak health systems and warnings, these countries have been resilient in their fight against the coronavirus pandemic.

Rwanda rebuilt its healthcare system after the 1994 genocide, and just 26 years later, has emerged as a world leader in responding to the pandemic. For

instance, Covid-19 death tolls in the US exceeded 330,000 out of a population of 330 million, while Rwanda reported just 62 deaths amongst a population of 12.3 million.

Dutch newspaper De Volkskrant also published the news and added: 'The most notable country in the top ten is Rwanda, which had only 183 registered corona deaths out of a population of 12.3 million on January 28. Now Rwanda has led more world rankings in recent years. For example, nowhere in the world are more women in parliament (61 percent), it was the first place with a nationally operating, commercial delivery service via drones, it is one of the few countries where decibel meters hang in bars to prevent hearing damage, one of the few countries where plastic bags are banned and, according to the World Resources Institute, Rwanda was one of the first countries to have already taken concrete steps to combat climate change.'

NAEB Announces Results Of 2020/2021 Second Quarter Of Agro-Exports

The National Agricultural Export Development Board (NAEB) announced the performance of agro-exports for the 2020/2021 fiscal year's second quarter (October – December 2020). The consolidated report includes figures of production, export volumes and generated revenues from agricultural commodities. [Read more.](#)



Rwandan Horticulture Fresh Produce On Carrefour Shelves



NAEB started 2021 with an opportunity for Rwanda's producers and exporters of fresh agriexport products and secured a one-year deal with Carrefour hypermarket, supplying to this wide UAE retailing company with passion fruits, apple banana, pineapple and avocado.

The first shipment to this retail shop included avocado and passion fruits. Carrefour hypermarket and supermarkets operate in 30 countries across The Middle East, Africa and Asia. With its 320 stores, it serves more than 750,000 customers daily which makes it a special market. [Read more.](#)

Rwanda Sets A New Coffee Farm Gate Price

The farm gate price for coffee ripened cherries will be increased. This price is set after NAEB considers market price fluctuation and other factors that would influence the coffee business at large. Like, in this year, the new price was referred to production costs and other attendant costs and prices at international market. US Dollar inflation and coffee pricing at New York Commodities Market are other major factors.



This new price is expected to boost farmers' morale, help improve production and attract more people into coffee growing. "The new price will increase household income for farmers." Said one of the local coffee producing companies' owner. [Read more.](#)

Rwanda Stock Market Eyes 2021 Investments

The Rwanda Stock Exchange (RSE) market has set its eyes on pushing for more investments, company listing alongside having the bourse trading activities automated with the regional platform.

RSE Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Pierre Celestin Rwabukumba, who is currently Chairman of the East African Securities Exchanges Association (EASEA) said that the year 2020 had major highlights despite the coronavirus pandemic which has paralyzed global business investment decisions. “This year we will push for more listing of local companies, investments and automation of the stock market. We have already done the testing (automation),” Rwabukumba said. [Read more.](#)



Rwanda Set For First Drone Manufacturing

Charis UAS is a Rwandan drone technology firm and announced major investment into its drone manufacturing ambitions with the latest focus towards setting up the region’s first industrial drone manufacturing plant. The company’s Chief Executive Officer Eric Rutayisire gave an interview to CNBC Africa. [Click here](#) to watch the interview.



Bisate Lodge Listed Among World Most Luxurious Eco-Friendly Hotels

Bisate Lodge, inside the home of Rwanda's rare mountain gorillas' habitat, has been ranked among the top ten world's most luxurious eco-friendly hotels.

Elite Traveler, the company which deals in luxury lifestyle news and travel listed the hotels by continent, and in Africa, Grootbos a Private Nature Reserve in South Africa, and Bisate Lodge were the most convincing on both luxury and eco-friendliness. Before ranking, Elite Traveler reminded something important to attract the attention and said; "Sustainable tourism doesn't mean sacrificing comfort" adding that their top ten hotels are a good indication. [Read more.](#)



Construction Gorilla Conservation Centre Nears Completion



The construction of the Ellen DeGeneres campus which is close to Rwanda's Volcanoes National Park in Kinigi sector of Musanze district is at 50 percent. The groundbreaking ceremony for the Construction of campus, expected to boost mountain gorilla conservation efforts and promote Rwanda's tourism, started in February 2019 and was expected to open in early 2021. [Read more.](#)

Covid-19: Tour Du Rwanda 2021 Postponed To May

The 13th edition of Tour du Rwanda that was slated from February 21-28 has been postponed to May 2-9 by Rwanda's cycling governing body following the recent spike in Covid-19 infections.

According to a statement released by the federation on Friday, January 15, the decision was announced "in reference to the current global situation of the covid-19 pandemic" leaving the federation uncertain of organizing the annual continental cycling event in the best conditions. [Read more.](#)



First Virtual Meeting Between Ambassador Nduhungirehe and RCA-NL

Ambassador Olivier Jean Patrick Nduhungirehe, called on Rwandans living in the country to continue mobilization in the community, ensure empowerment of their members, and promote patriotism among them, taking example of the heroes Rwanda celebrates on every 1st of February.

In his first virtual meeting on 30 January with Rwandans living in the Netherlands, Ambassador Nduhungirehe wished them a Happy New Year 2021, a year of health and many opportunities. "We hope that we will end this year with a decisive win against this epidemic and come back to normal life. These days, however, it is clear that there is a new surge of COVID-19, with the number of cases and deaths rising every day, here in the Netherlands, in Rwanda and elsewhere in the world". He asked the community to comply with the restrictive measures put in place by the Dutch Government, while we are waiting for the vaccine to help us overcoming this epidemic.

Ambassador Nduhungirehe thanked Ambassador Jean-Pierre Karabaranga who had been the Rwandan Ambassador to the country for seven years. He also expressed gratitude to the Committee of the Rwanda Community Abroad – The Netherlands (RCA-NL) for its achievements over the past two years, despite challenges, and to the members of RCA-NL themselves for their unwavering dedication in building the Rwandan community in the Netherlands, working with other Rwandans to rebuild the country, and fighting against those who want to give our country a negative image and spread the genocide ideology.

The Ambassador noted that 2021 is a special year as it the first year after the Vision 2020, and the



country has now moved into another vision, the Vision 2050. He stressed that "in order to achieve this, we need to continue implementing the seven-year Government program – National Strategy for Transformation NST1 - that includes many areas that the Rwandans living abroad must take part". For the RCA-NL specifically, Ambassador Olivier J.P. Nduhungirehe conveyed a three-point message, which is his vision for the community: (1) mobilization of all Rwandans living in The Netherlands, including those who still have concerns; (2) empowerment of Community members, by continue their education and building their capacity; and (3) patriotism, which include our permanent quest for unity and fight against genocide ideology.

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First Virtual Meeting Between Ambassador Nduhungirehe and RCA-NL

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Regarding patriotism, Ambassador Nduhungirehe called on RCA-NL members, young and old, to be brave as Rwanda celebrates the Heroes' Day: "Heroism that should characterize us is (1) to continue learning from our heroic ancestors and other people who have done or are doing important deeds; (2) to preserve our achievements and increase them in quantity and quality, (3) to always aim at doing good and reject evil, including Genocide and its ideology, (4) to have the knowledge and skills needed today and tomorrow, (5) to promote our culture, to cherish the values of the Rwandan culture, to speak our language and to caring of the "forbidden" (kirazira) in our culture."

Claude Ndabarasa, President of the Rwandan community in the Netherlands (RCA-NL), welcomed Ambassador Nduhungirehe: "It is a great opportunity to welcome Ambassador Nduhungirehe, and we assure you that we will work together to show the positive image of today's

Rwanda and to be good ambassadors," he said. Mr Ndabarasa highlighted the achievements of Rwandans in the Netherlands over the years and presented activities that RCA-NL are planning for the future.

The Director of Rwanda Community Abroad (RCA) in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation (MINAFFET), Sandrine Uwimbabazi Mazyateke, who was invited in the meeting, praised the members of the RCA-NL for their achievements, for the fact that they care about their roots and express solidarity with their relatives in the country, be it in good or hard times.

To conclude this first meeting with members of the RCA-NL, Ambassador Olivier J.P. Nduhungirehe assured the participants that the staff of the Embassy of Rwanda in The Netherlands, and himself, will work together with them on all issues discussed in the meeting and will always be available for any support they may need.

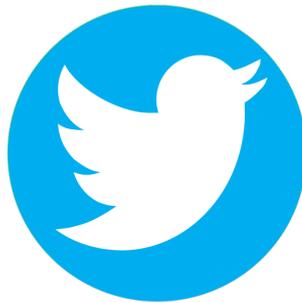


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