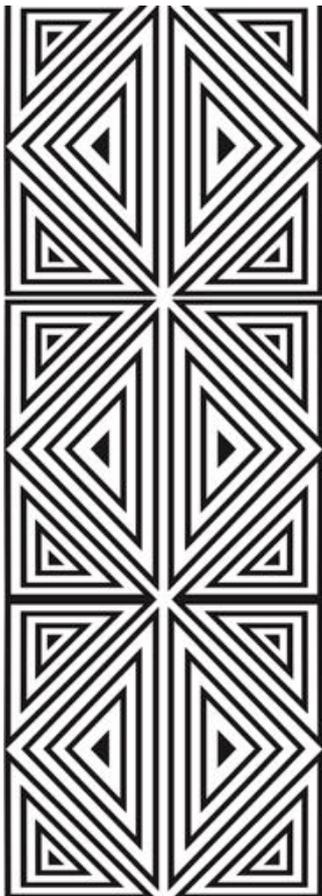


RwandaFul

Monthly Roundup of Rwanda's Stories



EMBASSY OF THE
REPUBLIC OF RWANDA
KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS



IN THIS ISSUE:



Rwanda Marks 27th
Commemoration Of
The Genocide Against
Tutsi

Page 3



Commemoration
'1994 Genocide
Against Tutsi' In The
Netherlands

Page 4, 5, 6



Working Visit Minister
Vincent Biruta To
Belgium & Luxembourg

Page 12

Rwandaful

Monthly Roundup of Rwanda's Stories



**EMBASSY OF THE
REPUBLIC OF RWANDA
KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS**

Content

RWANDA MARKS 27TH COMMEMORATION OF THE GENOCIDE AGAINST TUTSI	PAGE 3
COMMEMORATION '1994 GENOCIDE AGAINST TUTSI' IN THE NETHERLANDS	PAGES 4, 5, 6
VIRTUAL CONFERENCE 'HOW CAN WE END GENOCIDE DENIAL?'	PAGES 7, 8, 9
RWANDANS IN THE NETHERLANDS COMMEMORATE GENOCIDE AGAINST THE TUTSI	PAGE 10
ARSENAL STANDS WITH RWANDA FOR KWIBUKA27	PAGE 10
PARIS SAINT-GERMAIN STANDS WITH RWANDA FOR KWIBUKA27	PAGE 10
PRESIDENT KAGAME COMMISSIONS NEW CADET OFFICERS	PAGE 11
PRESIDENT KAGAME ATTENDS THE CONFERENCE ON AFRICA VACCINE MANUFACTURING	PAGE 11
PRESIDENT KAGAME SPEAKS AT THE TONY BLAIR INSTITUTE	PAGE 11
WORKING VISIT MINISTER VINCENT BIRUTA TO BELGIUM & LUXEMBOURG	PAGE 12
RDB, RRTN PARTNER TO ROLL-OUT ONLINE LEARNING PROGRAMS FOR RWANDANS	PAGE 13
DP WORLD LAUNCHES E-PLATFORM AS A NEW DIGITAL TRADE CORRIDOR FOR AFRICA	PAGE 13
RWANDA AWAITS - VIRTUAL EVENT WITH ARSENAL FOOTBALL CLUB	PAGE 14
NEW WAY TO EXPLORE RWANDA: A SOLAR-POWERED LUXURY HOUSEBOAT	PAGE 14

Rwanda Marks 27th Commemoration Of The Genocide Against Tutsi



Click on the image to start the video of the speech, which is partly in Kinyarwanda and English.

On 7 April, President Kagame joined Rwandans for the 27th commemoration of the 1994 Genocide Against Tutsi. To mark the day, President Kagame and First Lady Jeannette Kagame laid a wreath at the Kigali Genocide Memorial, a final resting place of over 250 000 victims of the Genocide. Thereafter, President Kagame and First Lady Jeannette Kagame lit the flame of remembrance, which will last 100 days.

Rwandans from different sectors of the country gathered at the Kigali Arena to mark the beginning of the commemoration week. In his remarks, President Kagame urged Rwandans to have no fear of fighting the deniers, whom are not ashamed with distorting Rwanda's history. President Kagame also reminded that the currency of forgiveness is the truth, insisting that Rwandans cannot get tired of talking about the realities they have lived.

Furthermore, President Kagame urged Rwandans for remaining dedicated to the task of unity and reconciliation. He also thanked many friends around the world, who have joined with Rwanda over the years in commemorating the Genocide Against Tutsi.

Commemoration '1994 Genocide Against Tutsi' In The Netherlands

On April 7th, the Embassy of the Republic of Rwanda in the Kingdom of the Netherlands held a virtual ceremony marking the 27th Commemoration of the 1994 Genocide against Tutsi. In observance of all measures taken in this country by the Dutch Government aimed at limiting the spread of Covid-19, the online program was developed in cooperation with Ibuka Netherlands.

The online Kwibuka27 ceremony was organised to remember and honour those we lost, comfort those who survived and pay tribute to the sacrifices that brought Rwanda back to life. The diplomatic community, Rwandan nationals living in the Netherlands, friends of Rwanda and many others were invited to join for Kwibuka27.

After a minute of silence, a speech was given by Mrs Christine Safari, President of Ibuka Netherlands, which is an umbrella organization of survivors of the Genocide committed against Tutsis in 1994 in Rwanda. She applauded the genocide survivors for sticking to life. "You find that one accepts consequences of the genocide, then, goes on to become self-reliant, and rebuild themselves. This is great bravery." Mrs Safari also said that she appealed to the Government of the Netherlands to permit to build a genocide memorial site where wreaths can be layed during the commemoration period. "I also appeal to the Government of the Netherlands to continue tracking perpetrators of genocide and bring them to justice. We request everyone's support in fighting genocide minimization which is now on its peak, as these deniers continue to misname and misrepresent the facts by spreading a false narrative of double genocide," she said.

After a moving testimony by Mrs. Naila Clarisse, Genocide survivor, Judge Agius Carmel, President of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals (IRMCT) gave his remarks. He assured that the Rwandan people are more than ever present in his heart and in his mind. "People all over the world are commemorating with you, you are not alone!", he said.



Click on the image to start the video.



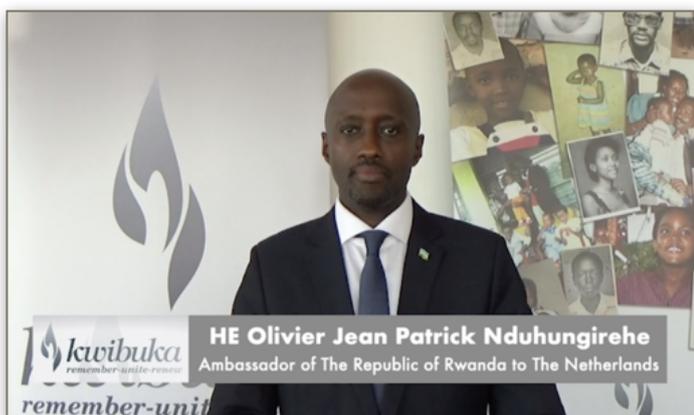
Commemoration '1994 Genocide Against Tutsi' In The Netherlands - continued



Judge Agius Carmel continued to say that denialism does not only affect the pain and suffering of the victims of the genocide, it delays reconciliation and there's an overall danger to peace and security. "Lies written in ink (or on social media) will not erase truth written in blood. Indeed, the ICTR judgements are filled with facts written in blood," the Judge said. "I'm pleased to share with you that the Mechanism has now completed the translations in Kinyarwanda of all remaining ICTR trial judgements and is in the process of making them available and accessible to the Rwandan people in their own language," he added.



Representing the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Secretary General Paul Huijts said in his speech that educating our children about what happened in 1994 is crucial, because they will have to prevent atrocities from happening in their lifetime. "For over 25 years, the Government of the Netherlands has been providing expertise and capacity to help Rwanda rebuild its justice system. To honour our partnership Rwanda and the Netherlands will jointly organize a conference in Kigali in June of this year. We have invited Rwandan and Dutch students to engage in a friendly debate on the last day of the conference. Because the future of justice is in their hands," Secretary General Huijts said. He also said that genocide suspects will not find a safe haven in the Netherlands.



Ambassador Olivier Jean Patrick Nduhungirehe concluded the Kwibuka27 ceremony with his keynote address. He said that 27 years have passed, but the wounds are still fresh and the memories are still vivid. The Ambassador promised that the Government of Rwanda will continue to stand by side of the survivors and support them in the long journey towards healing. "We are particularly grateful to the Kingdom of the Netherlands for the decisive actions it took in this regard. Not only did our host country support our justice sector in the wake of the genocide, but it also investigated, arrested, prosecuted, convicted and extradited a number of genocide fugitives. The Government of Rwanda remains actively engaged with Dutch authorities to ensure that the remaining genocide suspects, who are still roaming the streets of Dutch cities and towns, are also brought to book," Ambassador Nduhungirehe said.

Commemoration '1994 Genocide Against Tutsi' In The Netherlands - continued

The Ambassador continued to say that H.E. Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda, once stated that the security of peoples who have once been targeted for extermination can never be exclusively physical. Until all ideologies which justify killing as a patriotic duty are defeated, our world is not truly safe. "In this regard, I recall that 'Never Again' was the world's commitment after the Holocaust. This commitment was renewed after the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi. It is our view that 'Never Again' should not be just a sincere sentiment or a convenient slogan but should be translated into a fortress against the ever present threat of extermination," the Ambassador stated.

In closing and to honour the victims of 1994 genocide against the Tutsi, Ambassador Nduhungirehe once again invited everyone to remember, unite and renew, by speaking and acting against hate, against racism, against antisemitism, against bigotry, against discrimination, against mass atrocities and against the crime of crimes - Genocide.

More information, including some of the speeches that were given, is available on the following webpage: www.bit.ly/Kwibuka27intheNetherlands



[Click here](#) for the photo album with photos of members of the Rwandan Diaspora & friends of Rwanda in the Netherlands participating in the 'Lighting of Urumuri Rutazima, the never-ending light of hope'

Virtual Conference '27 Years After the Genocide Against the Tutsi: How Can We End Genocide Denial?'

On the 17th of April, the Embassy of the Republic of Rwanda in the Kingdom of the Netherlands hosted a virtual conference with the theme '27 Years After the Genocide Against the Tutsi: How Can We End Genocide Denial?', which was part of the 27th commemoration of the genocide perpetrated against the Tutsi in Rwanda.

The online conference attempted to answer critical questions related to this topic, which were mainly the following: What is genocide denial exactly and what forms does it take? How can we understand it in the context of international rights and freedoms? How can we effectively prevent genocide denial for present and future generations? What can accountability for the crime of genocide itself contribute to the fight against genocide denial? And given the steady rise of genocide denial in the world and the fact that Rwanda and few other countries adopted laws to criminalize the denial of the genocide against the Tutsi, should other countries adopt similar legislations?

Moderator of the conference was Ms. Diana Mpyisi, Founder and Managing Director of Blue Oceans, a media and communications consultancy firm and host of The Square, a weekly current affairs English show on Rwanda Television.

The program started with welcoming remarks by the host, H.E. Olivier J.P. Nduhungirehe, Ambassador of the Republic of Rwanda to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, who said that 27 years after the genocide against the Tutsi, we wish to better understand this concept of genocide denial. "We have indeed been witnessing a resurgence of genocide denial under many forms. Denial is no longer limited to genocide fugitives' circles, it also received support in a number of countries from scholars, regional experts, criminal lawyers and journalists. Let me hope that today's discussion will be enriching for all of us, especially for the young generation and the diplomatic community gathered here with us," Ambassador Nduhungirehe said.



Click on the image to start the video.



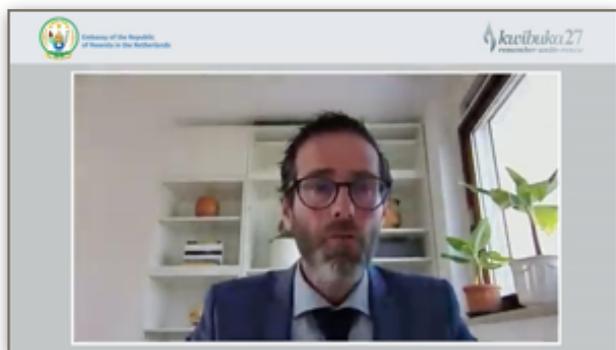
Kwibuka27 virtual conference - continued



The welcoming remarks were followed by remarks by Mr. Serge Brammertz, Chief Prosecutor at the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals (IRMCT). He said that all of us can make important contributions to the fight against genocide denial. “For example, in my last report to the United Nations Security Council, I denounced the lack of cooperation being provided by a number of countries. Public pressure on these countries is important to improve the situation and ensure fugitives are brought to justice,” Mr Brammertz said.



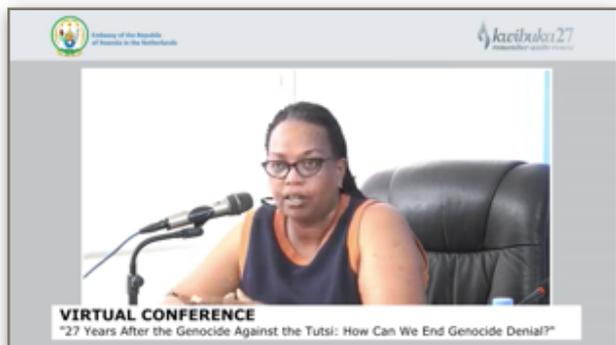
Critical questions related to the main theme were crucial, as they tackled a challenge of Genocide denial and ideology that has been increasing over the past years in many countries globally. Therefore, 3 experts were invited to address this issue and to give the audience a broad and comprehension view of the concept of genocide denial and how to effectively handle it.



The first expert was Dr Roland Moerland, who is Assistant Professor of Criminology at the Maastricht University. He is a member of the International Association of Genocide Scholars and he serves as an editor on the editorial board of *Genocide Studies and Prevention: An International Journal*. He is the author of “The Killing of Death, Denying the genocide against the Tutsi”. He addressed the topic of: “The concept of genocide denial”.



The second expert who shared his views was Mr. Freddy Mutanguha, who is the Executive Director of Aegis and Director of the Kigali Genocide Memorial and he talked about “Commemoration, education and public engagement: tools for the prevention of genocide denial and pillars for unity and reconciliation”.

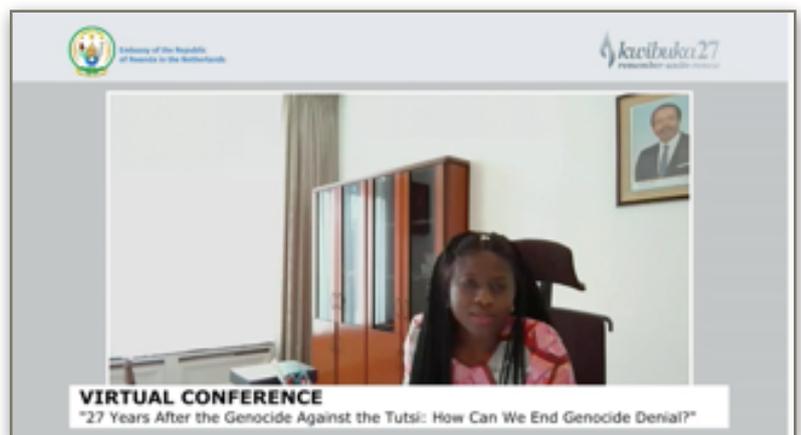
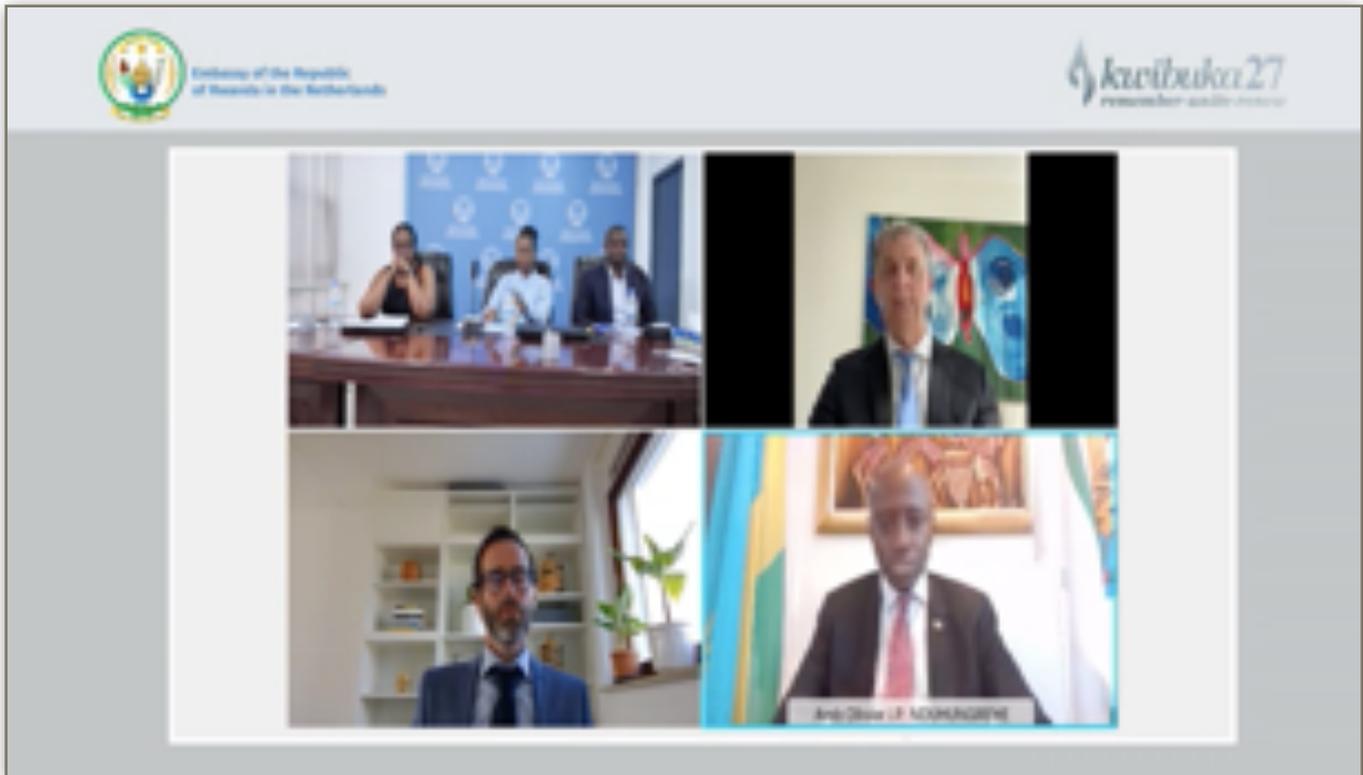


The third expert was Ms Providence Umurungi, who is a Principal State Attorney at the Ministry of Justice of Rwanda, where she is the Head of International Justice and Judicial Cooperation Department since 2016. Prior to her current position, Ms. Umurungi was the Associate Legal Officer at the UN International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda in Arusha, Tanzania; and an Assistant Lecturer at the Law Faculty at the University of Rwanda where she taught Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law courses. She took the audience through the topic “The importance of accountability for genocide and its denial”.

Kwibuka27 virtual conference - continued

After the statements some of the participants, who were members of the Rwandan diaspora and the diplomatic community in the Netherlands and abroad, took the opportunity to ask their questions to Ambassador Nduhungirehe, Mr Serge Brammertz and the 3 experts.

[Click here](#) for more information, including the statements by the speakers and the link to watch the entire conference at a later stage.



Rwandans In The Netherlands Commemorate Genocide

In an exclusive interview with Rwanda TV, Ambassador of the Republic of Rwanda to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Olivier Jean Pierre Nduhungirehe explained how the Rwandan community in the Netherlands paid tribute to the victims of the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi.

Click on the image to start the video.



Arsenal Stands With Rwanda For Kwibuka27



Joining Rwandans in solidarity and marking the 27th Commemoration of the Genocide against the Tutsi, Arsenal Football Club has shared a message of remembrance, recognizing the country's journey of transformation since 1994.

Click on the image to start the video.

Paris Saint-Germain Stands With Rwanda For Kwibuka27

Paris Saint-Germain shared a message of remembrance and hope in solidarity with Rwandans as the world marks the 27th Commemoration of the Genocide against the Tutsi.

Click on the image to start the video.



President Kagame Commissions New Cadet Officers



President Kagame who is also the Commander-in-Chief of the Rwanda Defence Force - RDF has on 26 April commissioned 721 new officer cadets who will be joining the Rwanda Defense Force. The event took place at Gako Military Academy in Bugesera District, Eastern Province. [Read more.](#)

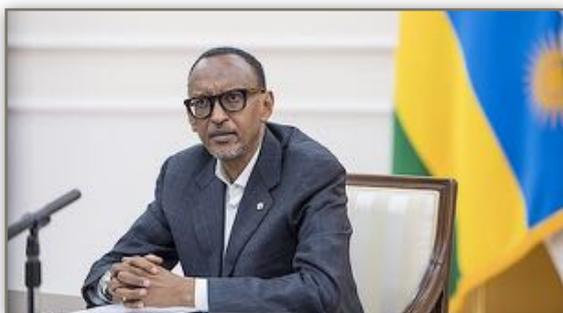
President Kagame Attends The Conference On Africa Vaccine

President Kagame has on Monday attended the virtual Conference on Expanding Africa's Vaccine Manufacturing chaired by President Felix Tshisekedi of the DR Congo, current chairperson of the African Union. Addressing the meeting, President Kagame noted that Africa needs to expand production capacity for vaccines and other essential medical products. "For Africa to move from being very sorry for ourselves, we have to take the blame for that and move from what we know hasn't worked well for Africa to something we can do." President Kagame said.



Click on the image to start the video.

President Kagame Speaks At The Tony Blair Institute



President Kagame has on Wednesday participated in the Tony Blair Institute panel on the impact of COVID-19 in Africa alongside Former British Prime Minister Tony Blair, the Director General of the World Trade Organisation Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, and the Director of the Africa CDC dR. John Nkengasong. In his remarks, President Kagame underlined the domestic health spending calling on everyone to consider health spending from our resources as probably the number one priority. Getting that right will enable dealing with other priorities. [Read more.](#)

Working Visit Minister Vincent Biruta To Belgium & Luxembourg

At the end of the month of April, Minister Biruta was in Brussels for a working visit and met with his Belgian counterpart, Sophie Wilmès. They discussed bilateral relations as well as issues of common interest at the multilateral level, in particular the African Union-European Union partnership, COVID-19 and the recovery of economies.



Minister Biruta also met his Luxembourg counterpart, Jean Asselborn. The two discussed, among other things, the strengthening of relations and the increased resumption of cooperation between Rwanda and Luxembourg, as well as partnerships in the financial sector.

Furthermore, Minister Biruta met with Mr Josep Borrell Fontelles, High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy & Vice-President of the EU Commission. They exchanged on the AU-EU Summit preparations as well as the situation in the Great Lakes Region.



Minister Biruta met with Mrs Jutta Urpilainen, EU Commissioner for International Partnerships. They discussed the Rwanda-EU partnership, COVID-19 global response, recovery and access to vaccines as well as EU programming exercise and policy priorities. They also touched on geopolitical developments in the broader Horn of Africa and Sahel regions.

The program of the working visit of Minister Biruta included more than the meetings mentioned here. [Click here](#) for more information on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

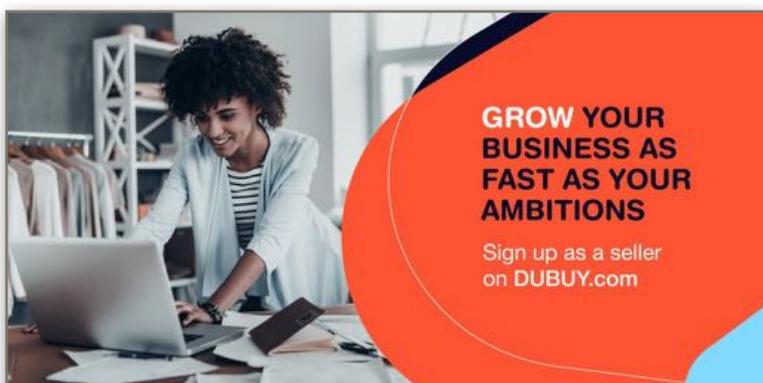
RDB, RRTN Partner To Roll-Out Online Learning Programs For Rwandans

The Rwanda Development Board (RDB), through its Chief Skills Office has partnered with the Rwanda Telecenter Network (RTN) to roll out online learning programs in order to improve the skills of Rwandans. Commenting on the program, Didy Elodie Rusera, the RDB Chief Skills Officer said; “The RDB Skills Office and RTN are working closely with the Ministry of ICT to implement this initiative and supplement other existing initiatives such as the digital literacy program for public servants. With access to 3 popular online learning platforms namely Coursera, Udemy and Google, we are confident that Rwandans will gain the skills needed in the labour market. By the end of 2023, we expect more than 12,000 people will have been trained through this partnership.” [Read more.](#)



DP World Launches E-Commerce Platform As A New Digital Trade Corridor For Africa

Trade enabler DP World has launched DUBUY.com, a global wholesale e-commerce platform. DUBUY.com is available first in Rwanda with plans to expand across Africa and around the world.



Clare Akamanzi, CEO, Rwanda Development Board said, “DUBUY.com will make the previously impossible, possible, for many Rwandan entrepreneurs to trade with the UAE – and beyond. People and companies everywhere are turning to technology to fuel their post-pandemic recovery and improve access to global trade. World class eCommerce platforms backed by innovative, reliable logistical networks can lead the charge, transforming how business is done across the continent.” [Read more.](#)

Rwanda Awaits – Virtual Event With Arsenal Football Club

Visit Rwanda, the official tourism partner of Arsenal Football Club, hosted a virtual event to celebrate and showcase tourism and conservation in Rwanda, as well as discuss the positive impact of the partnership on the country's economic transformation.

Hear from Rwanda Development Board CEO, Clare Akamanzi, Arsenal Commercial Director, Peter Silverstone, Arsenal legend Tony Adams in conversation with Chief Park Warden of Volcanoes National Park, Prosper Uwingeli, as well as a presentation and Q&A with renowned photographer David Yarrow.



Click on the image to start the video.

New Way To Explore Rwanda: A Solar-Powered Luxury Houseboat

Lake Kivu is a Great Rift Valley freshwater lake on Rwanda's western border with the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). It's the largest lake in Rwanda and a relaxing way to see the range of what the country has to offer. Hippo- and crocodile-free, Lake Kivu is safe for kayaking and other water sports.

The brand new Mantis Kivu Queen uBuranga offers the first luxury cruise on the lake. Your voyage begins on the lake's northern shores, in Rubavu, the former colonial beach resort (once called Gisenyi) with its historic mansions lining its promenade and red sand beaches. In the south of the lake, you'll visit the Nyungwe National Park, one of Africa's oldest rainforests and home to chimpanzees and the rare Angolan colobus monkey. You'll also stop at the DRC island of Idjwi. It's Africa's second largest lake island, about the size of Malta. [Read more.](#)

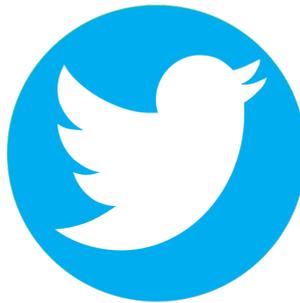


Follow The Embassy On Social Media

We invite our followers on social media to like & share our posts, react to them and post relevant items on our social media pages. This way, you will help spread the emerging great story of Rwanda to those who do not yet know. Murakoze!



FACEBOOK



TWITTER



INSTAGRAM



FLICKR



YOUTUBE



LINKEDIN

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 103

Embassy of the Republic of Rwanda

Parkstraat 15
2514 JD, The Hague
The Netherlands

Tel: +31 70 392 65 71

E-mail: ambalahaye@minaffet.gov.rw

Website: www.rwandainthenetherlands.gov.rw

Dear reader,

You are receiving this newsletter because you have been previously in contact with the Embassy of the Republic of Rwanda in the Netherlands. If you don't wish to receive this newsletter anymore or if you have any remarks or suggestions for this newsletter please inform us at ambalahaye@minaffet.gov.rw

