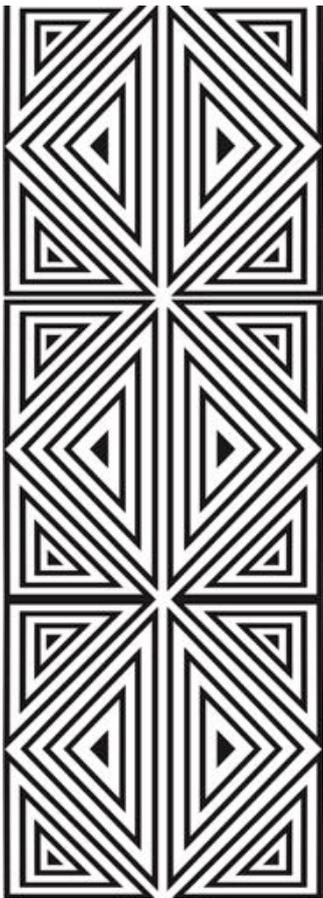


RwandaFul

Monthly Roundup of Rwanda's Stories



EMBASSY OF THE
REPUBLIC OF RWANDA
KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS



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Heroes Day 2022: “Our Heroism, Our Dignity”



Click on the image to start the video

This year, the 28th celebration was held under the theme “Our Heroism, our Dignity” to pay tribute to people who sacrificed for the country and its citizens in various ways.

On 1 February, the wreath-laying ceremony took place at the National Heroes’ Mausoleum in Remera. President Kagame was accompanied by First Lady Jeannette Kagame and the President tweeted on the same day:

“Happy Heroes Day! We honor the lives of the heroes -men and women- of Rwanda, and the sacrifices they made to enable us to build the dignified and united nation we live in today. That puts a heavy responsibility on each of us who are working to transform our country. To our Rwandan youth: we count on you to keep the unbreakable Rwandan spirit alive for generations to come.”

Throughout the country, people gathered together to celebrate the national heroes with discussions that were organized in line with the theme, while others carried out various community activities.

The Ministry of Youth and Culture also charged the youth to hold fast the heroism virtue as a legacy from selfless people who went beyond different struggles and shed blood for the liberation of Rwanda and her development.

BioNTech Vaccine Equity For Africa

President Paul Kagame has hailed the newly launched modular vaccine production container prototype as a major breakthrough that will help developing countries to advance in vaccine manufacturing.

The Head of State made the observation on Wednesday 16 February in Marburg, Germany, at the high-level BioNTech Vaccine Equity for Africa meeting, alongside BioNTech CEO Uğur Şahin, President Macky Sall of Senegal and President Nana Akufo Addo of Ghana.

[Click here](#) to read the President's speech.



Click on the image to start the video of the press conference

6th European Union – African Union Summit: Joint Vision 2030

Initially scheduled for October 2020, the sixth EU-AU summit took place in Brussels on 17 and 18 February 2022. The heads of state or government of the member states of the African Union (AU) and the European Union (EU) met for the sixth European Union - African Union summit in Brussels. The meeting was co-chaired by the President of the European Council, Charles Michel and the President of Senegal and the Chairperson of the AU, Macky Sall.

President Kagame participated in a roundtable discussion on peace, security and governance where leaders discussed the need for a new approach towards addressing security challenges and

achieving sustainable peace. “Good politics and governance are like a healthy human body. Where governance is compromised, it is like having a weak immune system which is vulnerable to all kinds of opportunistic infections or attacks,” he said.



President Paul Kagame also said that there is no way to build sustainable peace and security, both within and between Europe and Africa without putting governance at the centre.

President Kagame Addresses 27th National Prayer Breakfast

President Kagame addressed the 27th National Prayer Breakfast. The breakfast prayer brought together leaders from different institutions of the country.

President Kagame kicked off his address by asking the congregation to take a moment of silence in honour of two close friends of Rwanda, American physician and philanthropist, Dr. Paul Farmer and businessman Joe Ritchie who passed on this week.

“President Kagame: I wanted us to start by taking a minute to remember two Americans who had become Rwandans, our friends Paul Farmer and Joe Ritchie. They worked alongside us for the development of our country,” President Kagame told the gathering.

“You cannot lead unless you lead by example. For leaders, humility is essential for many reasons. We have to be the example that people



can emulate. Leadership is forged in hardships, in addressing challenges that need to be solved,” the President said.

The annual National Prayer Breakfast is organized by Rwanda Leaders Fellowship and brings together government officials, the private sector and members of civil society, to thank God for Rwanda’s achievements over the past year and to launch a new initiative.



Dubai Expo: Ngirente Pitches Rwanda To Global Investors



Prime Minister Edouard Ngirente has called upon potential investors from different corners of the world to consider the Rwandan market and explore the business opportunities present in the country. He made the remarks during Rwanda's National Day that was celebrated on February 1 as part of the ongoing Dubai Expo 2020 in the United Arab Emirates. [Read more.](#)

Rwanda Economic Update: Regional Integration In Post-COVID Era

Rwanda has achieved a strong economic recovery in 2021, according to the 18th edition of the Rwanda Economic Update (REU18) released today. Gross domestic product (GDP) increased by 11.1% in the first nine months of the year, reflecting a broad-based recovery from the 2020 recession. Industrial production expanded by 16.5% and agricultural output rose to 6.8% in the same year, while traditional exports (coffee, tea, cassiterite, wolfram, and coltan) increased by about 35% in the first nine months of 2021.

However, the report observes that the level of unemployment continued to deteriorate despite the recovery, as the growth acceleration partly reflected a shift in employment to higher-productivity activities (manufacturing and construction). While the GDP got close to the pre-pandemic level, the unemployment rate remained more than 13 percentage points above levels at the beginning of 2020, with female employment deteriorating. [Read more.](#)

Minister Vincent Biruta Attends 35th Ordinary Session Of The African Union Assembly Heads Of State And Government



Dr Vincent Biruta, Rwanda's Minister of Foreign Affairs, represented President Paul Kagame at the Summit. Besides the socio-economic impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on African economies, peace and security matters were on agenda as the 35th Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government opened on Saturday, February 5.

After a two year interruption due to Covid-19, Ethiopia has welcomed the resumption of the AU Summit in its capital city Addis Ababa. During this session, Senegal President Macky Sall assumed the Chairmanship of the Union from current Chair President Felix Tshisekedi of DR Congo.

Rwanda Champions International Legally Binding Treaty On Plastic Pollution

Late February, the Fifth Session of the United Nations Environmental Assembly adopted a historic resolution to end plastic pollution. The resolution, which was co-authored by Rwanda and Peru, set in motion the development of an international, legally binding instrument to end plastic pollution.

In the negotiations, the Rwandan delegation - led by Minister of Environment, Dr. Jeanne d’Arc Mujawamariya and supported by Director General of the Rwanda Environment Management Authority, Juliet Kabera - drew upon the country’s experiences of addressing plastic pollution and promoting investment in sustainable alternatives.

“We are delighted that the international community has adopted the Rwanda-Peru resolution to end plastic pollution. This decision is a historic milestone in the global effort to prevent our planet from drowning in plastics. We are proud of the role we have played so far, and we are optimistic about the

once-in-a-lifetime opportunity nations now have to create a legally-binding framework which commits us all to a more sustainable future,” Minister Mujawamariya said.

The passing of the resolution, and eventual creation of a global treaty, will facilitate international cooperation through networks of technology and knowledge sharing, as well as on creating appropriate mechanisms for investment. This collaborative spirit will ensure the world can take full advantage of the economic opportunities created by a viable and vibrant circular economy for plastic.

More Information:

Read Minister Mujawamariya’s remarks at the closing plenary during which the resolution was adopted [here](#).

Learn more about Rwanda’s efforts to beat plastic pollution [here](#).



Ellen DeGeneres' Gorilla Conservation Campus Is Officially Open In Rwanda: 'The Honor Of A Lifetime'

On February 1st, Ellen DeGeneres marked the four-year anniversary of the creation of The Ellen Fund with the official opening of the Ellen DeGeneres Campus of the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund. The campus is located just outside Volcanoes National Park in Rwanda.

When DeGeneres and her wife, Portia de Rossi, announced the creation of The Ellen Fund, a nonprofit that works to protect endangered animals, they also named the first recipient—the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund. Ellen and Portia's lead gift enabled the Fossey Fund to move forward on an ambitious, 20-year dream project to build a permanent home in Rwanda aimed at accelerating their science and conservation work. The Ellen Campus, which is now open to the public, is the vision of the award-winning MASS Design Group and has been named one of Africa's 10 most anticipated architectural projects and featured on 60 Minutes.

“Dian Fossey has always been a hero of mine, and so it's been the honor of a lifetime to support this project,” says Ellen DeGeneres. “To see my name alongside hers on the walls of this beautiful campus, and to know I'm doing my part to protect endangered gorillas and continue Dian's legacy, is simply amazing.” [Read more.](#)



Click on the image to start the video

Eritrean Tesfazion Wins Tour Du Rwanda 2022

Eritrea's Natnael Tesfazion who riders for Italian club Drone Hopper-Androni Giocattoli, won the 14th edition of Tour du Rwanda. The Eritrean cyclist was quiet all day during the eighth stage of the tour, which was flagged off by President Paul Kagame, at Canal Olympia in Rebero, Kicukiro district. But he managed to keep a close eye on his closest rival throughout the race to clinch the spot and keep his coveted Yellow Jersey which he had won Friday.



Going into the final stage on Sunday, Tesfazion was ahead of the Ukrainian Anatolii Budiak (Terengganu) by 26" and the Irishman Jesse Ewart (Bike Aid) by 48". "I had already won in 2020 thanks to a breakaway," said Natnael Tesfazion, "this time I had to calculate more, it was very strategic against very strong riders like Budiak and Ewart. I too felt good all week". Tesfazion's is now Tour du Rwanda Champion for the second time after winning his first title of the UCI 2.1 African tour in 2020.

Rwandan rider Moise Mugisha made history at this year's Tour du Rwanda by winning stage 8, the first time a Rwandan has won a stage since 2018. Tour du Rwanda, which was upgraded to UCI 2.1 Category in 2019, had proved too strong for Rwanda cyclists until Mugisha broke the jinx on Sunday at Canal Olympia in Rebero. Mugisha, 25, who races for South Africa's ProTouch, powered to the finish line after dominating the 75.3km course that went through

parts of Kigali city, clocking 2 hours 8 minutes and 16 seconds.

After the race, Mugisha said he was motivated by the presence of President Kagame, who he said he saw for the first time, and felt the need to salvage some pride for the country. "I will be honest, it was my first time seeing the President," joyful Mugisha told the Press, "When I saw the President, I felt the need to do better and at least make him proud. I thought we needed to prove to him that Rwandan riders can try our best and tap into the encouragement he always gives us. He recently gave us new and better bikes, everyone should look out for us next year."

The 14th Tour du Rwanda attracted UCI World Tour teams, professional continental teams, continental teams as well as national teams. Tour du Rwanda 2022 is believed to have been yet another great opportunity for Rwanda to prepare for the 2025 UCI World Championship.

Rwandan Agri-Export Products To Explore EU Markets Through SIA

For the first time, Rwanda participates in the Paris International Agriculture Show, namely SIA (Salon International de l'Agriculture) to highlight the uniqueness of their agricultural products to more than 700,000 investment-oriented professional visitors alongside with more than other 1000 exhibiting companies from across the globe in a bid to showcase Rwandan quality products to the EU market and France in particular, attract new niche markets and strengthen existing ones.



Salon International de l'Agriculture (SIA) is one of the biggest agricultural platforms in Europe and France's most extensive regional products market since 1964. The annual expo will take place at Paris exhibition Porte de Versailles from the 26th of February to the 6th of March. [Read more.](#)

Rwanda To Host The First Ever Africa Coffee & Tea Expo

Rwanda is hosting the first edition of the Africa Coffee and Tea Expo (ACT) next year on July 12 – 14, 2022 at the Kigali Convention Centre – The Village Exhibition. Africa Coffee and Tea Expo is a must-attend event that will promote business linkages between African coffee and tea producers and international buyers by showcasing Africa's best produce to the global market.

Under the theme “African Coffee and Tea, the value chain for sustainable practices”, the three-day expo will be the leading coffee and tea B2B networking platform focusing on the African continent, mainly providing targeted connections for a sector growth strategic

content to serve the needs of involved partners. The event will be an opportune moment to assess challenges being faced by the African continent in both agri-business sectors and explore available opportunities. In addition to discussing actions that will raise the quality and competitiveness of coffee and tea from Africa, it will help promote, grow existing markets, and secure new ones. [Read more.](#)



July 12 – 14, 2022 at the Kigali Convention Centre.

Students Erasmus University Rotterdam Represent Rwanda At NMUN's New York Conference



Cedo Nulli is the study association of the Faculty of Social and Behavioral Sciences (Psychology, Public Administration, Sociology, Management of International Social Challenges and Pedagogical Sciences) at the Erasmus University Rotterdam.

Each year Cedo Nulli participates on behalf of the Erasmus University Rotterdam (EUR) in the National Model United Nations (NMUN) New York conference.

This year, the highly motivated delegation will represent UN Member State Rwanda during the conference and interact with students from all over the world.

Over the course of seven months, students will hone their skills under the guidance of two experienced former delegates and numerous prestigious guest speakers. Last year this included ambassadors, renowned negotiation

experts and former prime minister of the Netherlands, Jan Peter Balkenende.

On 24 February, the delegation of students visited the Embassy of the Republic of Rwanda in The Hague and they got an extensive briefing by Mr Michel Sebera (Minister Counselor) and Mr Jean-Hugues Mukama (First Secretary).

[Click here](#) for the photo album on Flickr.

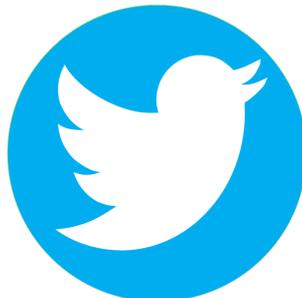


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