



Rwanda Mission in UAE

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The Embassy of Rwanda in Abu Dhabi

The General Consulate of Rwanda in Dubai

Inside this Issue:



1. Rwanda condemns terrorist attacks on civil facilities in UAE



2. RwandAir resumes flight to Dubai



3. World of Coffee Dubai: Rwanda showcases one of the world's best specialty coffee



4. Rwanda Cooperation Initiative, APC-Colombia Sign MoU at Expo 2020 Dubai

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Rwanda condemns terrorist attacks on civil facilities in UAE



On 21st January 2022 H.E President Paul Kagame condemned the attacks by the Houthi terrorist militia on civil sites and facilities in the UAE, as contravening all international laws and norms, decrying them a serious threat to regional peace and security.

This came in a phone call with His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, wherein H.E President Kagame expressed Rwanda's solidarity with the UAE and its support in all the measures the Emirates takes to protect its security, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The President of Rwanda also offered his condolences to His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed over the victims of the attacks, wishing a speedy recovery for the injured.

Sheikh Mohamed thanked President Kagame for his sincere feelings, and for his country's support and solidarity with the UAE, wishing Rwanda and its people continued stability and security.

Read: Rwanda condemns terrorist attacks on civil facilities in UAE | WAM

RwandAir resumes flight to Dubai



The national carrier RwandAir announced the resumption of its route to and from the United Arab Emirates, effective January 20.

The flights to Dubai were suspended last year on December 27 after the UAE banned flights from some African countries over the escalation of a new variant of Covid-19 which were attributed to the outbreak of the Omicron variant.

"Effective 20 Jan 2022, RwandAir will resume Passenger flights to Dubai for passengers originating from Kigali, Entebbe, Douala, Bujumbura, Accra and Lusaka," reads a statement by the national carrier.

Read more: RwandAir resumes flight to Dubai | The News Times

Kigali, Dubai to harmonise Covid-19 testing protocols



On 14th January 2022, Ambassador Emmanuel Hategeka along with Minister Counsellor met with H.E Awadh Seghayer Al Ketbi, Director-General of the Dubai Health Authority.

Discussions focused on collaboration in harmonization of Covid-19 testing protocols for inbound passengers from Rwanda using Dubai International Airport.

RWANDA AT EXPO 2020 DUBAI

World of Coffee Dubai: Rwanda showcases one of the world's best specialty coffee



Coffee consumers and buyers in Dubai sampled freshly brewed Rwandan coffee, one of the best specialty coffee in the world known for both a colorful history and an exciting taste during the World of Coffee exhibition in Dubai. Six Rwanda Coffee growing and exporting companies showcased their specialty coffee at the event officially launched on 12 January and running through 14th January 2022 at the Dubai Exhibition Centre.

It is the first time that the World of Coffee exhibition, the international event for coffee professionals, was hosted in the Middle East. Rwandan coffee, which almost exclusively features Arabica beans of the Bourbon variety with a bright, but deeply complex flavor profiles is one of brands that featured in this exhibition which attracted over 1,000 exhibitors and brands from six continents and over 44 countries.

The event has provided an excellent opportunity to meet and network with different players involved in coffee supply chain.

"Rwanda seized the opportunity to participate in the World of Coffee event at Dubai Expo 2020 to showcase Rwanda's high quality specialty coffee, meet and network with coffee consumers and buyers with the objective to grow the market for coffee exporters and ultimately contribute to the country's economy and improve the incomes of Rwanda's over 400,000 coffee farmers," H.E Emmanuel Hategeka, Ambassador of the Republic of Rwanda to the UAE said during the official opening of World of Coffee in Dubai.

"With such events, we look forward to increasing and expanding Rwandan specialty coffee in the UAE, the whole GCC and beyond," added Ambassador Emmanuel Hategeka.

Read: [Rwanda showcases one of the world's best specialty coffee at World of Coffee Dubai | Rwanda In UAE](#)

Amb. Hategeka meets with key specialty coffee market leaders in GCC



On 12th January 2022 at World of Coffee Dubai, Ambassador Emmanuel Hategeka visited Archers coffee roasters and distributors based in Sharjah. The company was showcasing Rwandan coffee at WOC DUBAI. Archers source high quality specialty coffee beans from Rwanda for their UAE clients.

The following day, Ambassador Hategeka visited Camel Step Co. LTD, one of specialty coffee market leaders in Saudi Arabia. Camel Step currently produces 525kg/hr of roasted coffee! Both sides discussed about sourcing specialty coffee beans from Rwanda.

Equally on 13th January 2022, Ambassador Emmanuel Hategeka visited Caffeine Lab, one of the leading specialty coffee roasters in Saudi Arabia. Caffeine Lab also sources specialty coffee from Rwanda and is interested in expanding coffee imports from Rwanda.

Rwanda is a proof of concept country with enabling environment for tech innovators- Minister Paula



On 25th January, Hon. Paula Ingabire, Minister of ICT and Innovation joined a panel discussion on Big Data, Artificial Intelligence and the implementation of the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development Goals in Dubai.

Hon. Paula used the opportunity to highlight Rwanda as a proof of concept country with enabling environment for tech innovators to test, scale up and scale out their solutions a case in point being Zipline using drones delivering blood and medicines to remote locations first in Rwanda, then Ghana and Nigeria.

She underlined that Rwanda's digital journey for the last two decades is defined by bold and deliberate choices, contextualization of application of technologies and multilateral partnerships key to harmonizing data governance, facilitating knowledge exchange.

Rwanda Cooperative Initiative, APC-Colombia Sign MoU at Expo 2020



During the SSC & TrC Forum at Expo2020Dubai, Amb. Emmanuel Hategeka, on behalf of Rwanda Cooperation Initiative, delivered opening remarks and signed an MoU with APC Colombia

Rwanda Cooperation Initiative and APC-Colombia together with the German Development Institute co-curated a hybrid South-South and Triangular Cooperation Forum from 18th to 19th January 2022 as part of Global Goals Week at Expo 2020 Dubai.

Speaking at the opening of the Forum, H.E Emmanuel Hategeka, Ambassador of Rwanda to the UAE underscored the need for stronger collaboration between the South-South and Triangular Cooperation actors towards the realization of Agenda2030 objectives.

"It's becoming evident that actors from the global South are increasingly becoming a significant component of the international architecture of development cooperation. More Southern countries including Rwanda are increasing their engagement in South-South Cooperation. It is my hope that the various discussions held during this Forum will allow us to strengthen collective resolve to create a more just, peaceful and socio-economically equal world, which fosters innovation and values partnerships," Ambassador Hategeka said.

The first day of the forum was marked by MOU signing between the Rwanda Cooperation Initiative and the Presidential Agency for International Cooperation (APC-Colombia) in order to help boost the two countries' sustainable development initiatives. Ambassadors of the two countries to the UAE signed the agreement.

The MoU demonstrates the commitment of the two organisations in accelerating sustainable growth not only of Colombia and Rwanda but the rest of the world as well.

Commenting on the MOU while closing the SSC & TrC Forum, RCI Ag. Chief Executive Officer Urujeni Rosine said "The Cooperation MoU that we signed with APC-Colombia perfectly represents the spirit of what the Forum sought to accomplish, and we are honored to have been able to sign it at this illustrious gathering."

Under the terms of the partnership, the two sides will exchange knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources to advance the global sustainable development movement. They will also collaborate to encourage and promote effective alliances with public, public-private and civil society entities, taking advantage of their experience and strategies in obtaining resources from partners.

Expo 2020 Dubai: Impressive visits at Rwanda Pavilion and engagement with partners



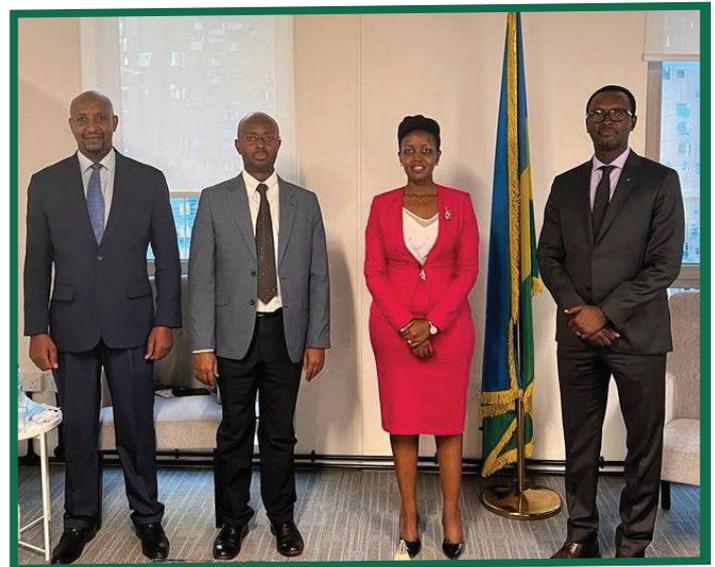
On 9th January 2022 Ambassador Emmanuel Hategeka welcomed Kalisa Alfred, Ambassador of Rwanda to Egypt while in transit through Dubai. He witnessed the impressive Rwanda Pavilion and what it has to offer to visitors from all over the world.



On 11th January 2022, the Rwanda pavilion team welcomed the Estonia Minister of Entrepreneurship and Information Technology, Hon. Andres SUTT for a pavilion tour.



On 25th January 2022, Ambassador Emmanuel Hategeka and the Rwanda pavilion team were honored to welcome Hon. Ingabire Paula, Rwandan Minister of ICT and Innovation along with Yusuf Murangwa, Director General of National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda. The pair was in Dubai to participate in the "Mobilizing big data and data science for the Sustainable Development Goals event at Expo 2020 Dubai.



On 11th January 2022, Kosovo Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Diaspora, Liza GASH visited Rwanda Pavilion.

Liza GASH and her delegation enjoyed Rwanda specialty coffee.



Rwanda set to host CHOGM in June 2022



H.E President Paul Kagame and the Commonwealth Secretary-General, The Rt. Hon. Patricia Scotland, have announced that the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) has been set for the week of 20 June, 2022.

CHOGM was due to have been held in Kigali in June 2020 but has been postponed twice due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Announcing the development in a joint statement published on Monday, January 31, H.E President Kagame said that the last two years have made clear the global connection and need to work together to achieve tangible and sustainable results.

"Rwanda is pleased to welcome all delegates and participants to Kigali for a safe and productive CHOGM Rwanda 2022. The last two years have made it clear to us that we are more connected than ever before and we must work together to achieve the tangible and sustainable results we want," the President is quoted in the statement.

"The long awaited meeting will be an important occasion to come together to address the challenges caused by the Covid-19 pandemic and to build on innovative technological and economic opportunities to solve other key problems facing our citizens," he added.

On her part, The Rt. Hon. Scotland said that the meeting in Rwanda will provide "a real opportunity" to reaffirm the values that bind the Commonwealth together and focus on vital issues, including the recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic, tackling climate change and poverty, boosting trade and promoting sustainable development.

"We have adapted throughout the pandemic, holding ministerial meetings online. It is with great joy and anticipation that I look ahead to a face-to-face Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting.

This will be the first CHOGM to be held in Africa for over a decade and I would like to commend the Government and people of Rwanda for their outstanding commitment and dedication to delivering an exemplary CHOGM in Kigali."

Read more: [Rwanda set to host CHOGM in June 2022 | The Commonwealth](#)

Rwanda ranked safest country in Africa - for solo travelers



Rwanda has been ranked the sixth safest country globally for solo travellers, according to a new survey.

Usebounce.com, a luggage storage app for finding and booking left luggage & lockers, reported that it based the ranking on two criteria: the score of the crime index, and the score of the security index, meaning that one prepares to travel on their own, one of the essential criteria to take into account is the safety of the country in which they are going.

Rwanda is the only African country to make the top 10 list dominated by European countries.

Rwanda has put considerable effort into ensuring the security and safety of the country's territory by building competent and professional security organs. In 2018, the East-African country was ranked the second safest country in Africa by the 2018 Gallup Global Law and Order report, with 83 per cent of residents expressing confidence in the local police force. The previous year, Gallup's Law and Order Index had also ranked Rwanda among the safest countries globally that provide a conducive atmosphere to people who walk alone at night.

Read more: [Rwanda ranked safest country in Africa | Business Insider Africa](#)

Royal Balloon Launches Rwanda's First Hot Air Balloon



The Royal Balloon Rwanda has started its operations in Rwanda by offering a hot air balloon experience in Akagera National Park, the first of its kind in the country.

Royal Balloon Rwanda operates two hot air balloons that can accommodate 4 to 6 guests. The Hot Air Balloon climbs as high as 100m to 1000m above the park's scenic savanna-covered landscapes inhabited by the big 5 – namely, elephants, rhinos, lions, leopards and buffaloes – and other vast varieties of wildlife.

Commenting on the new tourism experience, Clare Akamanzi, CEO of Rwanda Development Board, said:

"We are pleased to partner with Royal Balloon Rwanda to add yet another exciting product to Rwanda's adventure tourism experiences. We are committed to continue forging new partnerships and enable more investments in the tourism sector to exceed travelers' expectations while sustainably contributing to conservation."

Read more: [Royal Balloon Launches Rwanda's First Hot Air Balloon | RDB](#)

JURISDICTION CORNER

Dubai's Museum of the Future will open in February



Dubai's eagerly-awaited Museum of the Future will open to the public on February 22.

The news was announced by Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid, Vice President and Ruler of Dubai.

Sheikh Mohammed hailed the striking structure as the "most beautiful building on earth" when revealing the launch date on Twitter.

He said the grand opening of the Downtown Dubai venue will be part of an "exceptional year" for the Emirates.

The attraction has long been lauded as an architectural marvel and has already won global acclaim.

It was named one of the 14 most beautiful museums on the planet in a list compiled by National Geographic magazine in July.

[Read more on Museum of the Future | The National](#)

Bahrain scraps PCR test requirement to enter kingdom



All passengers coming to Bahrain will no longer need to present a PCR test before boarding, starting from 4 February 2022, the Kingdom's Civil Aviation Affairs (CAA) announced.

Arrivals to the Kingdom, however, are still required to take PCR test upon arrival at the Bahrain International airport. Unvaccinated travellers must have to follow precautionary quarantine.

Passengers must adhere to precautionary measures in force in the Kingdom.

The new COVID-19 travel-related updates are pursuant to directives issued by the Government Executive Committee.

[Read more on Gulf News](#)

Saudi Arabia, UAE to lead GCC's GDP growth in 2022



High oil prices, broad based business recovery, and rising foreign capital inflows are expected to see faster economic recovery in GCC led by the UAE and Saudi Arabia, according to economists.

The Institute of International Finance (IIF) has forecast GCC's aggregate growth to pick up from 2.8 per cent in 2021 to 5.2 per cent in 2022 supported by higher hydrocarbon production and prices leading to combined current account surplus to surge from \$131 billion in 2021 to \$182 billion in 2022.

Economists see Saudi Arabia and the UAE leading GCC's real GDP growth in 2022 given the impressive recovery in non-oil GDP, with a rebound in domestic demand and higher investment levels.

The latest PMI data signals that readings remains robust in both countries, strengthening the view that rising oil prices and low COVID-19 infection rates are set to deliver a cyclical lift for the region.

[Read more on Gulf Business](#)