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## YouthConnekt: President Kagame challenges youth to pursue development with dignity



President Paul Kagame, on August 23, tasked the youth to purposefully work hard and smart with a mindset of putting the country on a global stage of development, with dignity. He was addressing more than 2,000 youths from different parts of the country at the 10-year anniversary of YouthConnekt at the Intare Conference Arena, Rusororo.

Launched in 2012, YouthConnekt is a platform that links the youth with their leaders, role models, skills and resources to promote employability, access to finance, civic engagement and entrepreneurship opportunities.

Over the past 10 years, more than 36,000 jobs were created as a result of the initiative, while 2,000 youth-led enterprises were empowered and supported with business development skills, seed funding and mentorship services. Over 3000 vulnerable youths were supported including teen mothers and people with disabilities.

In his address, Kagame said that the development journey of the country starts from the youth upwards and from the history going forward, in line with how the people aspires it to be in the future.

With that in mind, he emphasized that the youth should always question themselves what is hindering Rwanda from developing in the wake where other countries on other continents are advanced.

This, he said, seems to give the advanced countries a position to deem it rightful to despise the ways of living for developing countries.

Kagame emphasized that there is a lot that the youth can achieve together which is the total some of what they can achieve as individuals, and for their businesses and innovations to reach many, they should be equipped with a mindset of dignity.

[Read more on The New Times](#)

## President of Rwanda receives Bahraini ambassador's credentials



On 29 August 2023, H.E Paul Kagame, President of Rwanda, received the credentials of Ibrahim Mahmoud Ahmed Abdullah, the Ambassador of Bahrain to Rwanda, residing in Tunis.

The ambassador conveyed greetings and good wishes from His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, to President Kagame, as well as their wishes for continued progress and prosperity to the people of Rwanda.

President Kagame requested the ambassador to convey his greetings and good wishes to HM the King and HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, wishing the envoy every success in carrying out his diplomatic duties

He affirmed the keenness to further develop the ties between the two countries. The Tunisian-Resident Bahraini Ambassador to Rwanda praised the Bahraini-Rwanda ties which are based on cooperation and mutual appreciation. The ambassador stressed the keenness of Bahrain to further develop its ties with all countries.

[Read more on Bahrain News Agency](#)

## Amb. John Mirenge presents credentials to UAE President



Abu Dhabi, 16 August 2023 – Ambassador John Mirenge presented to H.H. Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates, his letters of credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Rwanda to the United Arab Emirates.

The ceremony took place on Wednesday 16 August at Qasr Al Watan Palace in Abu Dhabi.

Following the presentation of credentials, Ambassador Mirenge expressed his gratitude and commitment to boosting bilateral and multilateral collaboration between the two countries.

“It is a great honor to present to H.H. Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates, my credentials as Rwanda’s Ambassador to the UAE. I look forward to working closely with the UAE to take our bilateral relations to greater heights,” Ambassador Mirenge stated.

The Ambassador conveyed to UAE President warm greetings of H.E. President Paul Kagame and his desire to further strengthen bilateral ties between Rwanda and the UAE.

UAE President H.H. Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan welcomed Ambassador John Mirenge and affirmed that UAE is keen to enhance the existing relations and cooperation to the next level.

Rwanda and the United Arab Emirates enjoy good bilateral relations with diplomatic presence in Abu Dhabi and Kigali since 2015 and 2018 respectively.

Cooperation between the two countries exists in the sectors of Trade and Investment, Education, Hospitality, Logistics, and multilateral fora, to name but a few.

## Amb. John Mirenge meets with the DG of African Affairs at UAE MOFA



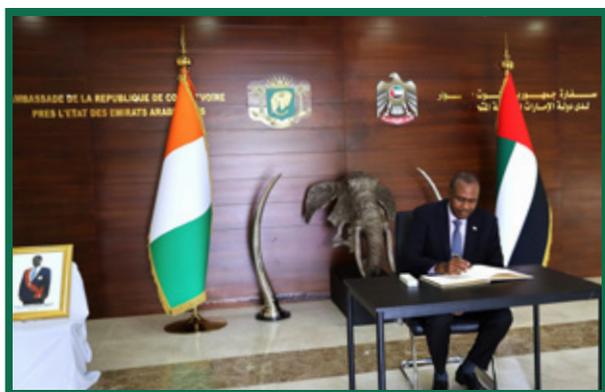
On 17th August, Amb. John Mirenge paid a courtesy call on H.E Dr. Fahad Al Taffaq, Director General of the African Affairs Department at the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Discussions focused on strengthening cooperation in areas of common interest.

## Amb. Mirenge pays a courtesy visit to the Director of the Foreign Nationals Affairs Department at UAE MOFA



On 30 August, Amb. John Mirenge met with Dr. Majed Ali Almansoori, Director of the Foreign Nationals Affairs Department at the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Discussions focused on enhancing collaboration in consular services within the framework of bilateral relations.

## Amb. Mirenge signs the book of condolences in honor of the late Henri Konan Bédié



On 11 August 2023 at the Embassy of Côte d'Ivoire in UAE, Amb. John Mirenge signed the book of condolences in honor of the late Henri Konan Bédié, former President of Côte d'Ivoire. He conveyed heartfelt condolences to the Government, the people of Côte d'Ivoire and the bereaved family.

## Amb. John Mirenge visits counterparts to foster collaboration

Ambassador John Mirenge paid courtesy visits to H.E. Mohammed Dansanta Rimi, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and Dean of African Ambassadors in the UAE, and to H.E. Osama Naffaa, Ambassador of Hungary and Dean of the Diplomatic Corps in UAE, on 24th and 30th August, respectively discussions focused on common goals. Discussions focused on Advancing existing fraternal relations through initiatives and mechanisms that serve bilateral, regional and continental common goals.

Equally throughout the month of August, Amb. John Mirenge paid courtesy visits to the Ambassadors of Kenya, Uganda, South Sudan, Tanzania, Mozambique, Angola, and Singapore. They appreciated the existing relations and reiterated their commitment to strengthen them further.



Meeting with the Dean of African Ambassadors



Meeting with the overall Dean of the Diplomatic Corps in UAE

## Rwanda Celebrates Umuganura



Friday, 4 August 2023 - Rwandans and friends of Rwanda celebrated Umuganura, a cultural festival in which communities come together to share the harvest.

On behalf of President Paul Kagame, Minister of Agriculture and Animal Resources, Dr Ildephonse Musafiri presided over the celebrations that were held in Rutsiro district under the theme "Umuganura, the foundation of unity and resilience".

The celebrations were held across all the villages in the country and in Rwanda's diplomatic missions. During this year's celebrations, citizens affected by the recent floods and landslides were given cows.

## Rwandans, Friends of Rwanda in UAE celebrate Umuganura



Saturday, 02 September 2023 - Diplomats and friends of Rwanda joined the Rwandan community in the United Arab Emirates in the celebration of Umuganura, Rwanda's cultural festival in which communities come together to share the harvest.

Attended by over 200 people on 02 September in Dubai, the event served as an occasion to reflect on the historical importance of Umuganura and its relevance in modern Rwanda.

*"Umuganura is a very important day grounded in Rwanda's history. It embodies values of love, unity, sharing, hard work and resilience. Elders as custodians of our culture must mirror these values and impart them to our youth. This day also reminds us of the need for collaborative work to increase productivity and accelerate Rwanda's development,"* said John Mirenge, Ambassador of Rwanda to the UAE.

These values shall reflect on individual and collective image that will in return promote the good image of Rwanda, the Ambassador observed, adding:

*"Your responsibility to preserve the Rwandan culture is more appealing since living in a foreign country within this globalization era may expose you to some bad behaviors. Value your culture, select the best from what comes your way and ignore what distracts you."*

This year, Umuganura is celebrated under the theme "Umuganura, the foundation of unity and resilience."

Reflecting on the power of resilience, the Ambassador said: "The celebration of Umuganura provides an opportunity to reflect on the importance of solidarity and resilience in moments of adversity like the Covid-19 pandemic and the recent floods that affected some parts of our country. Rwandans, all over and specifically here in the UAE, should not be captive of these challenges. We must prevail, thanks to unity and hard work. No shortcut to success!"

Despite the headwinds from the COVID-19 pandemic, climate-related shocks, and other global challenges, Rwanda's economy grew by 9.2% in the first quarter of 2023, following 8.2% growth in 2022.

To support the country's progress, the community was reminded that living in the UAE, a global business hub gives a collective homework to increase trade and investment flows between the countries.

The community and guests who attended the celebration of Umuganura in the UAE also got an opportunity to taste Rwanda's traditional food and cultural dance.

History shows that Umuganura was celebrated in pre-colonial Rwanda as a means of strengthening the unity and solidarity of all Rwandans. The colonialists abolished it in 1925. It was reinstated by the Government of National Unity in 2011 based on the importance of culture in national unity and development.

## Amb. Mirenge and the Chairman of the Sustainable City discuss business opportunities



On 29th August, Amb. John Mirenge along with Minister Counsellor Edouard Bizumuremyi and Second Counsellor Ines Mutoni visited the Sustainable City in Dubai. They toured the city and met Chairman Faris Saeed who reiterated his interest in investing in a sustainable city and other mixed-use projects in Rwanda.

## Amb. Mirenge visits DMCC to strengthen collaboration



On 29th August, Amb. John Mirenge along with Minister Counsellor Edouard Bizumuremyi and Second Counsellor Ines Mutoni met with Mr. Saeed Al-Suwaidi, Director of Agri Commodities at DMCC (Dubai Multi Commodities Centre). They had a cordial exchange on collaborative efforts to promote Rwandan commodities in UAE especially tea and coffee through DMCC facilities.

## FC Bayern and Visit Rwanda agree partnership until 2028



27 August 2023 —German Football Club, Bayern Munich today announced a five-year football development and tourism promotion partnership with Rwanda.

The partnership, unveiled during FC Bayern's first home game of the season, will see the club work specifically with Rwanda's Ministry of Sports to set up a football academy to strengthen the development of football in the country.

In addition, the club will display Visit Rwanda branding on matchday LED boards at the club's 75,000-seater Allianz Arena and different activities will be organised to promote tourism and investment opportunities in Rwanda.

**Read more on RDB**

# JURISDICTION CORNER

## Mohamed bin Zayed: Under UAE Presidency, COP28 will lead global efforts to protect the planet and safeguard future generations



President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan received at Qasr Al Bahr Majlis the team overseeing the 28th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP28).

During the meeting, His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed affirmed that sustainability remains at the heart of the UAE's support for global climate action. His Highness also emphasized the need to enhance international solidarity and cooperation in pursuit of practical solutions to climate challenges. The meeting was attended by members of the National Higher Committee overseeing preparations to host COP28 UAE. [Read more on Gulf News](#)

## UAE tops GCC as Africa's key FDI provider



The UAE has become Africa's largest provider of foreign direct investment (FDI) among the GCC states, investing \$59.4 billion in the continent's key growth sectors in a decade. The latest report by property consultant firm Knight Frank shows that the UAE remains focused on the continent's high-growth sectors such as infrastructure, energy, transport, logistics, and technology. [Read more on Khaleej Times](#)

## Bahrain among the best countries for expats in 2023

A new survey on living and working abroad done by Internations, the world's largest expat network, has included Bahrain on the list of the best countries for expats to live. The only Middle Eastern country in the top 10, Bahrain ranked ninth and was the most improved country on the list from 2022 to 2023, moving up 19 places. It moved up the most in the Personal Finance index, as nearly half of expats surveyed rated the cost of living more favorably than in 2022, and reported a great satisfaction with their financial situation.

[Read more on BBC](#)



# PICTORIAL- Rwandans, Friends of Rwanda in UAE celebrate Umuganura

