



# NEWSLETTER

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## President Kagame, UAE President discuss acceleration of sustainable development



14 January 2025 - H.E. Paul Kagame, President of Rwanda met with H.H. Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates, at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre.

The two Heads of State discussed their continued commitment to the mutually beneficial cooperation between Rwanda and the UAE and the acceleration of sustainable development.

The President was in the United Arab Emirates to attend the Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week.

## ADSW: H.E President Kagame rallies for sustainability agenda that delivers on promise



At the Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week opening, President Paul Kagame emphasized that the global sustainability agenda must deliver on its promises without compromising Africa's industrialization. He noted that, particularly for Africa, current sustainability commitments lack action, leading to endless debates and finger-pointing. He also highlighted Rwanda's inclusive and collaborative approach to sustainability which focuses on inclusion, resilience, and cooperation.

"Sustainability presents us with a dual challenge: We must fast-track development, while concurrently building a low-carbon economy. To achieve both goals, we have to adopt affordable, scalable, and economically viable technology," President Kagame said.

**[Read his full speech](#)**

## President Kagame receives Shakhboot bin Nahyan to strengthen bilateral ties



31 January 2025 – H.E President Paul Kagame received United Arab Emirates Minister of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sheikh Shakhboot Bin Nahyan Al Nahyan, in the capital, Kigali. During the meeting, both sides discussed ways to enhance bilateral relations between Rwanda and the UAE across various fields of mutual interest.

This visit follows President Kagame's recent visit to the UAE, during which he participated in Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week, reflecting the ongoing efforts to bolster ties between the UAE and Rwanda, and contributing to sustainable development and shared prosperity for both nations.

As part of his visit to Kigali, Sheikh Shakhboot bin Nahyan also met with Olivier Nduhungirehe, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Rwanda, to discuss avenues for enhancing bilateral relations between the two countries.

**Read more on Emirates News Agency**

## Amb. Mirenge receives his Slovenian counterpart to strengthen bilateral relations



On 07 January 2025, Amb. John Mirenge received Natalia Al Mansour, Ambassador of Slovenia to the UAE. The two Ambassadors discussed strengthening bilateral and multilateral collaboration in areas of common interests.

## Rwanda successfully concludes its term as IRENA Assembly President



12 January 2025, Abu Dhabi - Rwanda's Minister of Infrastructure Dr. Jimmy Gasore, outgoing President of IRENA Assembly opened the 15th Assembly of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), convening 1500 participants from 140 members under the theme: Accelerating the Renewable Energy Transition - The Way Forward.

“Leading the IRENA Assembly has been both a privilege and a responsibility for Rwanda, especially as the global energy transition has emerged as a central pillar in our collective efforts to combat climate change. During Rwanda’s presidency of the 14th session, we worked hand in hand with Member States to address the technological, institutional, regulatory, and policy dimensions of the energy transition. Together, we focused on ensuring that its socio-economic benefits are inclusive and far-reaching,” Minister Gasore said.

Reflecting on the deployment of renewable energy in Rwanda, Minister Gasore noted that Rwanda has witnessed the transformative power of renewable energy. Today, 80% of Rwandan population has access to electricity, that is, 57% on-grid and 23% off-grid), with renewables making up 52% of our energy mix. By 2030, Rwanda aims to achieve universal access, with renewables accounting for 60% of the energy generation.

“This progress has significantly contributed to reducing carbon emissions, fostering economic growth, and improving the quality of life for our citizens,” Minister Gasore observed.

Our journey is a testament to what can be achieved with vision, determination, and collaboration. It also reflects our unwavering commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals and the pursuit of a greener, more inclusive future.

Minister Gasore also officially handed over the baton to Slovenia, represented by His Excellency Bojan Kumer, Minister of Environment, Climate, and Energy, as the incoming President of the 15th Assembly session.

### **Minister Dr. Jimmy Gasore joined a Ministerial Roundtable on Accelerating Africa’s Energy Transition**



On 12th January at the IRENA 15th Assembly in Abu Dhabi, Minister Dr. Jimmy Gasore joined a Ministerial Roundtable on Accelerating Africa’s Energy Transition. He highlighted the need to address financing limitations via regional cooperation and innovative financing mechanisms.

## UAE tops destinations for Rwandan exports



The United Arab Emirates (UAE) was by far Rwanda's largest export market during the third quarter of 2024, with total exports to the Gulf state amounting to US\$ 446.51 million, representing a 68.29 percent share of the country's total exports. The New Times understands that some of the main exports to UAE include Gold, Coltan and horticulture products like coffee, tea, edible fruits and vegetables.

**Read more about the Top five destinations for Rwandan exports on The New Times**

## Rwanda Participates in the 10th Sharjah Tour Ahead of Hosting UCI Road World Championships 2025



The participation of Rwanda National Team in the 10th Sharjah International Cycling Tour underscores Rwanda's growing prominence in the global cycling arena and its preparation to host the UCI Road World Championships this September, the Rwanda Cycling Federation (FERWACY) has said.

Organized by the Sharjah Sports Council under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Dr. Sultan bin Muhammad Al Qasimi, UAE Supreme Council Member and Ruler of Sharjah, the Sharjah Tour runs from January 24 -28 January 2025. The event featured five stages across iconic locations in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates.

The Rwandan National Cycling Team secured a top-six finish out of 29 teams from 23 countries that participated in Sharjah Tour 2025, with Mugisha Moise emerging as the tournament's best African performer.

"Our participation in the Sharjah International Cycling Tour is a testament to Rwanda's dedication to elevating cycling on the global stage. This event is an excellent platform for Team Rwanda to showcase their talent and gain valuable experience as we prepare to host the UCI Road World Championships in September 2025. We look forward to welcoming the world to Rwanda later this year for what promises to be a landmark event in African cycling history," said Samson Ndayishimiye, the President of FERWACY.

The Sharjah International Cycling Tour is classified as a UCI 2.2 multi-day road race and will feature teams from approximately 20 to 21 countries, including African representation from Rwanda and Egypt.

With Team Rwanda's participation, the country reinforces its position as a leading advocate for cycling development and sports tourism in Africa. Rwanda looks forward to continuing its legacy of hosting world-class events and supporting the growth of cycling across the continent.

## Amb. Mirenge welcomes the Rwanda National Team competing in the 10th Sharjah Tour



Amb. John Mirenge met the Rwanda National Team competing in the 10th Sharjah International Cycling Tour. He urged them to proudly represent Rwanda and use this race to build momentum for the UCI Road World Championships that will be hosted in Rwanda in September 2025.

## Amb. Mirenge and FERWACY President meet with the Secretary General of Abu Dhabi Sports Council



The President of Rwanda Cycling Federation Samson Ndayishimiye along with Ambassador John Mirenge met with H.E. Arif Hamad Al Awani, Secretary General of Abu Dhabi Sports Council. They agreed to strengthen collaboration ahead of Rwanda hosting the 2025 UCI Road World Championships and Abu Dhabi hosting in 2028.

## Amb. Mirenge hosts Embassy and Consulate team for an annual get-together



On 25 January 2025, Ambassador John Mirenge hosted the Embassy and Consulate team for their annual get-together, a moment to reflect on the achievements of 2024 and gear up for the year ahead. During the gathering, he commended the team for their dedication to strengthening diplomatic ties, advancing economic diplomacy, and supporting the Rwandan community in the UAE. The event served as both a celebration of past accomplishments and a motivation for continued excellence in 2025.

## Rwandan Community in Abu Dhabi discusses strengthening community bonds



On 18 January 2025, the Rwandan Community in Abu Dhabi held a get-together to discuss strengthening community bonds and exploring initiatives aimed at contributing to Rwanda's socio-economic development.