



Republic of Rwanda

Embassy of Rwanda in Ethiopia & Djibouti
Permanent Mission to AU & UNECA

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NEWSLETTER

Highlights **January to April 2025**



January 2025

January 8 | Rwanda-Djibouti Mid-Term Review

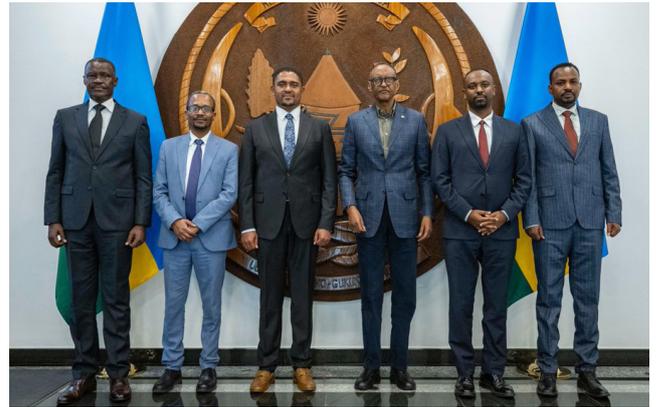
A Rwandan delegation led by Mrs. Teta Gisa, Director General for Africa at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, conducted a two-day Mid-Term Review meeting in Djibouti. The purpose of the meeting was to evaluate the implementation progress of the 1st Joint Ministerial Commission (JMC) between Rwanda and Djibouti, which was held in May 2023, in Kigali. Discussions focused on evaluating ongoing bilateral cooperation and exploring new areas for collaboration.



January 11 – 12 | Ethiopian delegation visited Rwanda

Meeting with H.E the President of Rwanda

H.E. President Paul Kagame received Mr. Shimelis Abdisa, President of Ethiopia's Oromia Region, for discussions on bilateral relations.



The two leaders emphasized the importance of inter-regional collaboration to accelerate development and promote stability, particularly in rural communities across East Africa.

Meeting with the CEO of Rwanda Development Board

Mr. Jean-Guy K. Afrika, CEO of Rwanda Development Board, welcomed a delegation from Ethiopia, led by Oromia Region President Mr. Shimelis Abdisa. Discussions centered on Rwanda's business-friendly environment, access to finance, and sustainable development.



Youth Leadership & Entrepreneurship Dialogue

A panel discussion on youth empowerment through entrepreneurship was held the same day, bringing together leaders, policymakers, and young changemakers. The session was moderated by Dr. Kesetebirhan Admasu, CEO of Big Win Philanthropy, and featured active participation from Rwandan Ministers.

The panel explored strategies for enhancing youth-led innovation, increasing access to financing, and

building supportive ecosystems that enable young entrepreneurs to thrive across Africa. The dialogue underscored the role of youth leadership as a cornerstone of sustainable development.



Kigali Golf Resort visit

An Ethiopian delegation toured the Kigali Golf Resort and Villas in Nyarutarama. Spanning 65 hectares, this landmark project includes an 18-hole championship course, a world-class tennis court, health club, pro shop, boarding facilities, and an exclusive golf club.



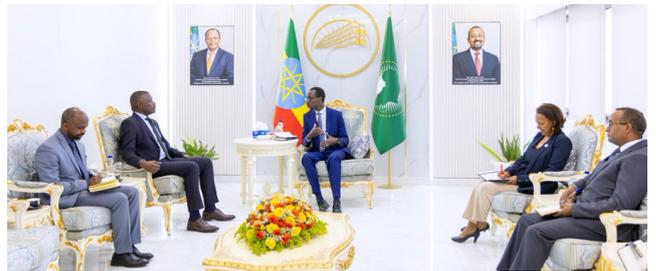
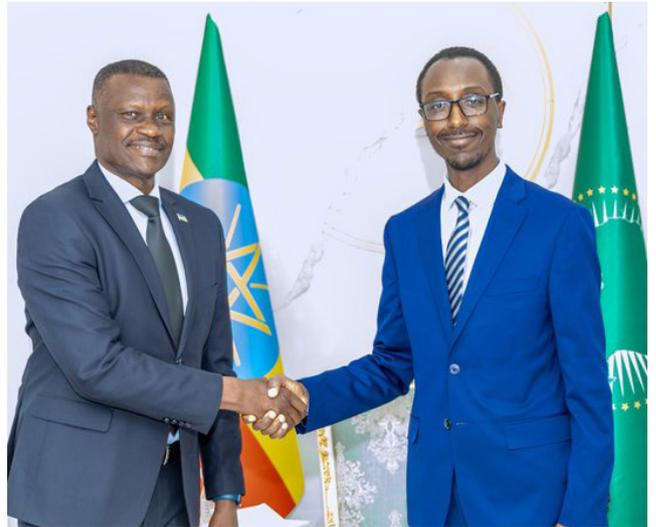
January 17 | AU C5 Ministerial meeting in South Sudan

Minister Nduhungerehe met with South Sudan's First Vice President Dr. Riek Machar as part of the African Union (AU) C5 initiative to support peace efforts. He also held talks with key officials, including the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Cabinet Affairs, and Energy & Dams, emphasizing energy cooperation and the Tumaini Initiative.



January 20 | Diplomatic engagement with Ethiopia

Ambassador Maj. Gen. (Rtd) Charles Karamba met with Ethiopia's Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Dr. Gedion Timotheos, to discuss ways to deepen bilateral cooperation between Rwanda and Ethiopia.



January 22 | Institutional Dialogue in Ethiopia

Ambassador Maj. Gen. (Rtd) Charles Karamba held discussions with Mr. Adem Farah, Deputy Prime Minister and Head of the Democracy System Building Coordination Center, on enhancing institutional partnerships between Rwanda and Ethiopia.



January 29 | UK-Africa engagements

Ambassador Maj. Gen. (Rtd) Charles Karamba met with Amb. Omar Daair Africa Director at Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office to strengthen Rwanda-UK cooperation. He later joined a roundtable on UK-Africa partnerships.



January 30 | Rwanda-Djibouti police cooperation

Inspector General of Police (IGP) Felix Namuhoranye of the Rwanda National Police and Director General of the Djibouti National Police, Colonel Abdourahman Kahin signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at enhancing cooperation in the areas of policing, capacity building, and regional security.

The signing ceremony took place at the Rwanda National Police Headquarters in Kacyiru, Kigali. This agreement marks a significant step forward in reinforcing the collaboration between the two nations' law enforcement institutions.

The MoU focused on the exchange of best practices in crime prevention, joint training programs, and information sharing to address cross-border crimes and emerging security threats in the Horn of Africa and Great Lakes regions.



February 2025

February 12-14 | African Union Summit and Executive Council

Minister Nduhungerehe participated in the 46th AU Executive Council session in Addis Ababa, ahead of the 38th AU Summit under the theme: "Justice for Africans and People of African Descent Through Reparations."



On the sidelines, he held bilateral meetings with:

- Hon. Samuel Okudzeto Ablakwa, Ghana's Minister of Foreign Affairs
- Dr. Badr Abdelatty, Egypt's Minister of Foreign Affairs
- H.E. Sharren Haskel, Israel's Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs
- Amb. Ramtane Lamamra, UN Secretary General's Personal Envoy for Sudan

38th Assembly of the African Union



H.E Paul Kagame, participated in the AU Summit. On the sidelines he held bilateral meetings with:

- UN Secretary-General António Guterres
- PM Dr. Abiy Ahmed (Ethiopia)
- PM Mia Amor Mottley (Barbados)
- President Daniel Chapo (Mozambique)



H.E President Kagame also participated in the AU Peace and Security Council meeting for Heads of State and Government, which discussed on the situation in the Eastern DRC.



“If the blame game, nice speeches, lies, being shameless, were the solution to this problem, it would have ended long ago. We wouldn’t have this problem. We have people who tell lies without any reason. How can FDLR not exist in the minds of some people? Or why is it something that is supposed to be trivialized? When you trivialize that; you trivialize my history and I am not going to accept it. It doesn’t matter who you are. I am not seeking any favor from anybody in this room to be given permission for me to live or for my people to live? Absolutely not. I will live by the fact that it is my right. Just that. So, when I am listening to some people saying these things; when does Congo take responsibility for its own mess? How does Congo think all their problems come from outside, and therefore they outsource solutions for their problems? Rwanda has nothing to do with Congo’s problems. We have our own problems to deal with. Congo is too big for Rwanda to carry on its back. As I told you, we are a small country, we are a poor country, but when it comes to the right to live, don’t you be mistaken. I am not begging, I will not beg anyone.”

H.E. President Kagame

High-Level Meeting on Domestic Health Financing

As AU Champion for Domestic Health Financing, H.E President Kagame chaired a high-level session on Domestic Health Financing, in collaboration with AU Commission, Africa CDC, and AUDA-NEPAD, urging African ownership and resource mobilization in health sectors.



February 14 | Nile Basin Initiative cooperation

Ambassador Maj. Gen. (Rtd) Charles Karamba represented the Minister of Environment at the Extraordinary Nile Council of Ministers’ meeting, aimed at strengthening regional collaboration on Nile water resources.



The high-level session convened ministers responsible for water affairs from Nile Basin countries, along with senior officials and representatives from the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI), to deliberate on pressing issues affecting the shared Nile water resources. The meeting served as a critical platform to advance cooperation among member states, assess progress on strategic initiatives, and reaffirm collective commitment to equitable and sustainable use of the Nile waters.

March 2025

March 8 | Rwandan Community celebrated Family Day & IWD 2025



The Rwandan community in Ethiopia marked Family Day in conjunction with International Women's Day, highlighting the transformative role of Rwandan women.



March 13-14 | Rwanda-Ethiopia defence cooperation

As part of his official visit in Ethiopia, Gen. MK Mubarakh, RDF Chief of Defence Staff, co-signed an MoU on defence cooperation with Field Marshal Birhanu Jula, Chief of Ethiopia National Defence Force, in Addis Ababa. He later visited the Ethiopian Air Force base in Bishoftu with senior MoD officials, reinforcing military ties between Rwanda and Ethiopia.



March 17 | AU Commission Introductory Meeting

Ambassador Maj. Gen. (Rtd) Charles Karamba joined other diplomats in welcoming H.E. Mahmoud Ali Youssouf, new Chairperson of the AU Commission. Discussions focused on AU Reforms and Member State Collaboration.



March 19 | Peacekeeping Architecture Review

Ambassador Maj. Gen. (Rtd) Charles Karamba participated in a strategic dialogue hosted by Amani Africa on the future of peacekeeping in Africa. He shared Rwanda's experience in promoting peace and preventing genocide.



Welcoming Rwandan Health Professionals under the 4x4 Reform Initiative

Ambassador Maj. Gen. (Rtd) Charles Karamba officially welcomed the second cohort of 47 Rwandan health professionals who arrived in Ethiopia under the 4x4 Reform Initiative, a flagship health sector reform in partnership with the Ethiopian Government, to strengthen Rwanda national health system.





March 20 | 2nd East African Arts and Culture Festival in Addis Ababa

Ambassador Maj. Gen. (Rtd) Charles Karamba, along with the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Youth, Mr. Ngabo Brave Olivier together with the members of Rwanda National Ballet attended the the 2nd East African Arts & Culture Festival under the theme "Promoting Collaboration through Art & Culture."



March 22 | Rwanda Diplomatic Cultural Evening

Ambassador Maj. Gen. (Rtd) Charles Karamba hosted a Diplomatic Culture event that gathered Members of diplomatic corps in Addis Ababa, Senior Leaders of the African Union Commission as well as Rwandan community living in Ethiopia.

The event was graced by colorful performances of Rwanda National Ballet-Urukerereza. It was also an opportunity to bid farewell to H.E. Dr. Monique Nsanzabaganwa, former Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission.



April 2025

April 2 | AU-PSC meeting on Hate Crimes and Fighting Genocidal Ideology in Africa

In his statement, Ambassador Maj. Gen. (Rtd) Charles KARAMBA thanked the AU and PSC for convening the annual statutory session and for their unwavering efforts in preserving the Memory of the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda and fighting against denial.



He reminded the meeting that the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi did not happen in a vacuum. It was a premeditated and carefully executed crime, and behind the killings lay an ideology deeply rooted in our colonial past. He further called on the AU and International Community to condemn in the strongest terms genocide ideology and hate speech that remain rampant in the EDRC and region in general.



April 4 | Meeting with AU Commission Chairperson

H.E Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda received H.E. Mahmoud Ali Youssouf, Chairperson of the African Union Commission, in Kigali. The Chairperson was in Rwanda to attend the Global AI Summit on Africa (#GAISAfrica2025). Discussions focused on continental digital transformation and Rwanda-AU cooperation.



April 7 | 31st Commemoration of the 1994 Genocide Against the Tutsi in Rwanda| African Union Headquarters

The 31st Commemoration of the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda was held at the African Union Headquarters in Addis Ababa. High-ranking officials from the Ethiopian Government, diplomatic corps, international organizations, civil society, and the Rwandan community gathered to honor the victims, stand in solidarity with survivors, and reaffirm the global commitment to prevent genocide. Rwanda's story was shared as one of resilience, unity, and transformation.



In his address, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, H.E. Mahmoud Ali Youssouf, highlighted the importance of preventive action in safeguarding peace and human dignity across the continent.

He expressed admiration for the country's continued strides in development and innovation, noting that Rwanda stands as a beacon of transformation and forward-thinking on the African continent.



The Guest of Honor, H.E. Birtukan Ayano, Minister of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, paid tribute to the victims and commended the remarkable resilience of the Rwandan people.



"In remembering the victims, we also recognize the resilience and strength of the Rwandan people," she stated. "Over the past three decades, Rwanda has made tremendous progress in building a stronger and more united society. The nation has risen with a spirit of reconciliation and nation-building, offering an inspiring example to humanity of the power of forgiveness, unity, and the capacity to rebuild a once-shattered society."



Later that evening, the Rwandan Community in Ethiopia convened at the Embassy for a candlelight vigil, lighting the Flame of Remembrance in a solemn moment of reflection, unity, and renewed commitment to say: Never Again.



April 14 | Bilateral Cooperation in the field of Defence

In Rwanda, the Chief of the General Staff of the Ethiopian National Defence Force (ENDF), Field Marshal Birhanu Jula, was received by General MK Mubarakh, RDF Chief of Defence Staff, at RDF Headquarters in Kimihurura as part of a working visit from April 13–16.



In Kigali, H.E President Paul Kagame received Field Marshal Birhanu Jula and his delegation, continuing discussions to strengthen Rwanda-Ethiopia military cooperation.



In Addis Ababa, Minister Olivier Nduhungirehe visited the Embassy of Rwanda. He interacted with staff members, reinforcing the #TeamRwanda spirit.



April 15 | 24th Extraordinary Executive Council of the African Union and High-Level Meetings

Minister Nduhungirehe attended the 24th Extraordinary Session of the AU Executive Council in Addis Ababa, which focused on the election and appointment of new members to key AU bodies: the Peace and Security Council (PSC), the African Union Commission on International Law (AUCIL), and the African Space Council (AfSC).



April 16 | Strengthening ties with Djibouti

In Djibouti, Ambassador Maj. Gen. (Rtd) Charles Karamba met with Mr. Mohamed Ali Hassan, Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. Their talks centered on deepening bilateral ties and expanding areas of collaboration.



April 17 | Defense cooperation in Djibouti

Ambassador Maj. Gen. (Rtd) Charles Karamba held discussions with General Zakaria Cheikh Ibrahim, Chief of General Staff of the Djibouti Armed Forces, addressing defense cooperation and other mutual interests.



Djibouti, 31st Commemoration of the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda

The 31st Commemoration of the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi was held at the Palais du Peuple in Djibouti.

The event gathered around 300 participants, including government officials, parliamentarians, diplomats, international organizations, and friends of Rwanda.



On behalf of the Djiboutian Government, H.E. Ilyas Moussa Dawaleh paid tribute to the victims and survivors, stating:

"We honor their suffering, their dignity, and their courage. This duty of remembrance is essential. To remember is to reject forgetfulness and the indifference that paves the way for repetition. It is also a commitment to actively build a world where hatred, intolerance, and extremism have no place."



Ambassador Maj. Gen. (Rtd) Charles Karamba emphasized the importance of memory, the fight against genocide denial, and the prosecution of perpetrators. He also shared Rwanda's remarkable transformation journey over the past 31 years while commending the strong bilateral relationship between Rwanda and Djibouti.



April 25 | Signing the Book of Condolence at the Apostolic Nunciature in Addis Ababa

Ambassador Maj. Gen. (Rtd) Charles Karamba visited the Apostolic Nunciature in Addis Ababa to sign the Book of Condolence following the passing of His Holiness Pope Francis.



On behalf of the Government and the people of Rwanda, he expressed sincere condolences to the Holy See, the Catholic Church, and its global faithful. His message was conveyed to H.E. Rev. Msgr. Massimo Cattrin, Chargé d’Affaires of the Apostolic Nunciature in Ethiopia.

April 27 | Opening of the 5th EAPCCO Games

Ambassador Maj. Gen. (Rtd) Charles Karamba attended the official opening ceremony of the 5th Edition of the Eastern Africa Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization (EAPCCO) Games held at Abebe Bikila Stadium in Addis Ababa.

The 5th edition of the games brought together regional police forces to promote cooperation, unity, and professionalism through sport.



Rwanda was proudly represented by teams from the Rwanda National Police competing in Handball, Taekwondo, and Shooting.

April 27 | Meeting with AU Commissioner for Health, Humanitarian Affairs & Social Development

Ambassador Maj. Gen. (Rtd) Charles Karamba welcomed H.E. Ambassador Amma A. Twum-Amoah, Commissioner for Health, Humanitarian Affairs, and Social Development at the African Union Commission.

Their discussion focused on enhancing Rwanda’s collaboration with the AU in key areas such as strengthening healthcare systems, advancing the humanitarian agenda, and accelerating social development, all central pillars of the Agenda 2063 implementation framework.





Kwibuka 31
remember - unite - renew

