



INAMA
Y'IGIHUGU
Y'UMUSHYIKIRANO

16th National Umushyikirano Council
13-14 December 2018

Concept Note

1. Background

Umushyikirano is a forum for national dialogue provided for by the Constitution where Rwandans gather to assess issues related to the state of the nation, functioning of the decentralized structures, and national unity.

Participants include members of the Cabinet and Parliament, representatives of the Rwandan community abroad, local government, Civil Society Organizations, media and the diplomatic community. This year's Umushyikirano will be guided by an overarching objective that focuses on transformation of citizens' welfare. The following topics will guide discussions.

2. Discussion Topics

Topic 1: Connected Communities: Partnering for Growth

This session will focus on the need for greater community ownership and mindset change, a signature that must define Rwandans. Our population must take full ownership and contribute not only in safeguarding the achievements but also in designing solutions to emerging challenges such as malnutrition, poor hygiene and sanitation, human trafficking, family conflicts, school dropout, teenage pregnancies.

Furthermore, a change in mindset is key to developing and promoting the Rwandan Brand – Made in Rwanda. This will require seizing opportunities and addressing existing challenges, including; lowering the cost of production, improving the quality of locally made products and improving consumer perception about locally made products. Embracing the culture of Buy-Rwanda, Build-Rwanda will require concerted efforts from all stakeholders.



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Expected outcomes in this session include; increased ownership of programs for community development and partnership between government, private sector and citizens to accelerate the implementation of Made in Rwanda strategy.

Panel structure

- » **Hon. Anastase Shyaka, Minister of Local Government:** Discuss responsive and citizen-centered governance. How citizens can proactively contribute to address pressing issues that undermine human security
- » **Mr. Francis Gatare, CEO Rwanda Mining Board:** Discuss strategies for enhancing domestic production, value chains to improve access to inputs, increasing local production of raw materials and shed light on opportunities
- » **Ms. Joselyne Umutohiwase, CEO Rwanda Clothing:** As an entrepreneur she will share a private sector perspective as beneficiary of policies including Made in Rwanda
- » **Moderator:** Ms. Claudette Irere, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of ICT and Innovation

Topic 2: Preserving Memory: Upholding our Values

CNLG will discuss implementation progress of resolutions taken at the last Advisory Council meeting of 2016, highlighting achievements and areas of focus for the next two years.

Panelists will share from personal experiences on how their lives have transformed over the years while discussing solutions to challenges that remain. .

Panel structure

- » **Dr. Jean – Damascene Bizimana, Executive Secretary, CNLG:** Share achievements in the field of advocacy including; improving living conditions of genocide survivors, management of challenges associated with trauma and education programs
- » **Ms. Geraldine Umutesi, Deputy DG Imbuto Foundation:** Share how government programs have impacted genocide survivors' lives in restoring hope and dignity in the journey of healing
- » **Mr. Bamporiki Edouard, Chairperson National Itorerero Commission:** Discuss the importance preserving memory through history and civil education
- » **Moderator:** Ms. Sandra Shenge, Manager of Research, Policy and Higher Education Program at AEGIS Trust

Topic 3: Building a Rwandan Savings Culture

This session will discuss the importance of building a nation of resilient and self-reliant communities through increased savings. Rwanda's national savings as a proportion to GDP is still low at 10.6% (2017), a stance that increased dependency on external borrowing for investment.



Our ability to finance a significant share of development needs should come from domestic sources. Achieving the target of 16% domestic savings to GDP ratio by 2024 will require individual and collective efforts in savings. Government has introduced a number of initiatives, policies and regulations to increase and improve savings including the long-term savings scheme, “Ejo Heza,” a new saving vehicle with incentives to increase savings by households, businesses and government. “Ejo Heza,” will be launched on the second day of Umushyikirano.

3. Format

- » The event will be broadcasted live on radio and TV. The public will participate from the conference hall, and other satellite locations, telephone calls, SMS, emails and social media
- » Panels will be interactive and speakers will each take a few minutes to shed light on a topic, followed by discussions from the audience
- » Citizens will participate from remote sites across the country

