



**RWANDA BAR
ASSOCIATION**

Promoting the Rule of Law

20 YEARS
OF THE BAR ASSOCIATION IN RWANDA

20 ANS
DU BARREAU AU RWANDA

The Inaugural Conference

“The role of an advocate in rendering quality justice;
foundation of social and economic development”

Kigali Convention Center

27th November 2017



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RWANDA BAR
ASSOCIATION

Program / Programme

Time/Heure	Activity/Activité
07h30-08h30	Registration of advocates Inscription des avocats
08h30-08h45	Registration of invited guests Accueil des invités
08h45-08h50	Arrival of the Guest of Honour Arrive de l'invité d'honneur
08h50 – 08h55	Ceremony Introduction by the MC, Mr. Andrews KANANGA Debut des cérémonies par Mr. Andrews KANANGA
08h55-09h00	National Anthem Hymne Nationale
09h00-09h20	Welcome remarks by the President of Rwanda Bar Association, Mr. Julien Gustave KAVARUGANDA Mot de Bienvenue du Bâtonnier de l'Ordre des Avocats du Rwanda, Me Julien Gustave KAVARUGANDA
09h20-09h30	Announcing the Anniversary, by the President of the Rwanda Bar Association, Mr. Julien Gustave KAVARUGANDA Annonce de l'anniversaire du Barreau par Le Bâtonnier de l'Ordre des Avocats du Rwanda, Me Julien Gustave KAVARUGANDA
09h30-10h00	Official Opening by the Guest of Honour Ouverture Officielle par l'invité d'honneur
10h00-10h30	Group photographs Photos de souvenir en groupes
10h30-11h30	Presentation on the Conference Theme " The Role of an Advocate in Rendering quality Justice; Foundation of Social and Economic Development" Local experience, Mr. Julien Gustave KAVARUGANDA (Rwanda) Regional experience, Mr. Francis GIMARA (Uganda) European experience, Mr. Andre DELVAUX (Belgium) Ethical aspect of the Advocate Profession, Mr. Gilles PARUELLE (France) Positioning Rwandan Advocates for the International Arbitration, Dr. Fidèle MASENGO, Secretary General of the Kigali International Arbitration (KIAC) Presentation sur le Theme " Le Role de l'Avocat dans la Justice de qualité comme pilier du Development". Expérience locale, Mr. Julien Gustave KAVARUGANDA (Rwanda) Expérience Regionale, Mr. Francis GIMARA (Uganda) Expérience Européenne, Mr. Andre DELVAUX (Belgium); La Déontologie de l'Avocat dans le Development Professionel, Me Gilles PARUELLE (France); La Place de l'Avocat Rwandais dans l'arbitrage international, Dr. Fidèle MASENGO, Secrétaire Général du Centre International d'Arbitrage de Kigali
11h30-12h15	Questions & Answers Questions & Réponses
12h15-12h30	Recognition of the First intake of the Rwanda Bar Association Advocates Remerciement des premiers avocats du Barreau du Rwanda
12h30-12h45	Recognition of Sponsors Remerciement des Sponsors
12h45-13h00	Closure Clôture
13h00 – 14h00	Lunch Dejeuner

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THE DARK TIMES

During colonial period, the term “Advocate enrolled in the Bar Association” was used in the Decree of 1931 but without specifying how the Bar Association will be regulated.

At the acquisition of independence in 1962 until the 1994, Rwanda did not have a regulated legal profession (Bar Association). However, article 81 of the Act of 15th July 1964 Regulating the Code of Civil and Commercial Procedure mentioned the term “Advocate enrolled in the National Bar association” as the one qualified to represent and assist parties in courts.

In 1984, The government; instead of establishing a Bar Association; sidelined the law and empowered the Minister of Justice via the Law N° 12/1984 of 12 May 1984 regarding the mandate of representation and assistance in courts which gave the Minister discretionary power to deliver cards of Attorney at Law to the applicants requesting to represent and assist people in courts without any pre-established criteria of legal background, thus any literate person was eligible. Consequently, that discretionary power combined with lack of minimum standards and independence led to the interference and pressure from the executive power. In addition, such situation culminated also in the poor quality of the legal services offered to the public.

Since the independence of Rwanda from its colonial power (Belgium) i.e from 1962 up to the 1994, there was absolute lack of political will to institutionalize a professional Bar Association. Lack of will was further explained by structured and organized institutional indifference to denounce human rights violations that characterized the period that led to the genocide against the Tutsi of Rwanda in 1994.

The 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi left high demands on the justice sector thereby calling for enhanced capacities and reforms in order to cope with the post genocide justice emergencies.

The establishment of the Bar Association in Rwanda

After the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda, the Government of the National embarked on a number of reforms including those intended to establish the Rule of law and eradication of the culture of impunity. The 1997 Law regulating the Bar Association (Law N° 03/97) was among the reform initiatives undertaken in that regard.



According to that Law, each court of appeal in Rwanda would have a Bar Association provided that at least 8 advocates were to be organized under that jurisdiction. However, only Kigali Bar Association was able to be established under the Kigali Court of Appeal jurisdiction and it started with only 37 advocates.

In 2002, Rwanda embarked on Judicial Reform process which targeted legal and institutional reforms. In this regard, Judicial institutions were reformed which led to the disappearance of Courts of Appeal. Therefore, Kigali Bar Association continued to operate as a national wide Bar Association until November 4th, 2013, when the Law N°83/2013 of 11/09/2013 Establishing The Bar Association in Rwanda and Determining its Organization and Functioning was published in the Rwanda Official Gazette.



Today, the Rwanda Bar Association comprises a membership of 1200 including 930 men (77.5%) and 270 women (22.5%).

Remarks by The President of the Rwanda Bar Association



Distinguished guests, All protocols observed, It gives me great pleasure to present hearty welcome to you as we celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Rwanda Bar Association.

As most of our invited guests know, the establishment of a Bar Association in Rwanda in 1997 was one of the strategies the Government of Rwanda had identified in response to the justice demands of aftermath of the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi.

The first Bar Association in Rwanda officially started on 30th August 1997 with only 37 members. After 20 years, the Bar Association counts 1200 where male advocates represent 77,5% while female represent 22,5% of the entire membership.

The Rwanda Bar Association has registered a remarkable growth in terms of membership in the recent years and the young generation constitutes almost 68% of the entire membership. The Rwanda Bar Association is mandated to promote and safeguard the Rule of Law in respect of the Constitution of Rwanda and other legal instruments governing the Rwandan Society.

The past 20 years have been a hive of activities with a Bar Association growing from strength to strength and we are most grateful for national, regional and international support to our organization without which we wouldn't have recorded success in 20 years.

In this regard, the Rwanda Bar Association has achieved tremendous development

including :Strengthening Professional Development by introducing compulsory continuing Legal Education programs, strengthening Legal Aid and Pro Bono programs for indigents and vulnerable people, contribution to the National programs on access to Justice and Human rights, legal reforms subscribing its entire membership to health insurance scheme, acquiring its own premisses, as well as the development of Bar strategic five year- strategic plans.

On the regional and international integration agenda, the Rwanda Bar Association has become member of different legal fraternity organizations such as the East Africa Law Society, the Pan African Lawyers' Union, International Bar Association, the International Organization of Bar Associations with Common Legal Tradition (CIB), the Commonwealth Lawyers Association, etc. Different partnership MoU have been concluded between the Rwanda Bar Association and different Bar Associations and Law Societies (Law Society of England and Wales, Barreau du Val-d'Oise (France), Barreau de Liege (Belgium).

Despite this positive trend, the Rwanda Bar Association has been and continue to face challenges that need to be addressed by its members on their own while other need the support of different development partners. Some of the challenges that the Bar is facing include ; gaps in professional skills especially in the specialization areas and cross-border legal practice as a result of regional and international integration, insufficient financial support to legal aid and pro bono programs of the Bar Association, to mention but a few.

Distinguished guests, dear learned colleagues, I would like to conclude by thanking every one who has contributed to the progress made so far by the Bar Association, being individual or institution since 1997 to date. Particularly, a big thank you goes to all the members of the Bar Associations, all past Presidents, past Governing Councils, friends and partners of the Bar Association who have assisted us to stand at the level we are today.

I cannot conclude my remarks without extending my appreciation to different partners who have contributed to make this event a success. We wouldn't seat in this beautiful Convention and enjoy total comfort without their financial support.

Special thanks go to our friends who have travelled miles and miles to join us as we celebrate this 20th anniversary.

Finally, I address my appreciations to different partners of the Justice Sector in Rwanda in general and the Bar Association in particular here present including Government Officials, CSO, Diplomatic missions and International Organizations who have been supportive to the Bar in the past 20 year.

Happy Anniversary to our Bar Association

Julien Gustave KAVARUGANDA

President-Rwanda Bar Association

The Administration of the Rwanda Bar Association 20 years after

I am honoured to pen this message on behalf of the Secretariat as we come to the celebration of 20 years of existence of a Bar Association in Rwanda.

The past 20 years have been of drastic justice reforms growing from national resilience and we are grateful that one of the results was the creation of a Bar Association in 1997.

In 2009, the Governing Council of the then Kigali Bar Association established a permanent Secretariat charged with daily management of the Bar affairs and serves as a bridge between the Bar and the Public as well as other Justice partners.

The Secretariat is led by the Executive Director assisted by technical staff in different key services such as Professional development, Legal Aid, Finance and ICT. The operations of the Bar are internally audited by a permanent internal auditor who reports to the Governing Council.

The Secretariat works closely with the Bar President, the Council Secretary and the Treasurer as to ensure Bar programs are adequately executed within the budget that is annually adopted by the General Assembly and in accordance with the Bar five-year strategic plan and annual action plan.

Through its limited capacity in terms of finance, personnel and logistics, the Secretariat with the Support of the Governing Council has been able to successfully achieve some activities related to the Capacity development for both Bar members and staff, Legal Aid and Pro Bono activities, involvement on regional integration process, etc. During the past 20 years, the Secretariat staff turn over has been almost inexistent due to the staff retention policy that has been set up by the Governing Council.

Today is a day of narrating achievements of the Bar Association in general and its supporting role of the Secretariat in particular. However, this success has not been achieved without challenges that need to be addressed in the present time and in the future.



The major challenges identified so far include the limited financial resources to cover the demand of legal aid, capacity building programs and insufficient staff as compared to the workload.

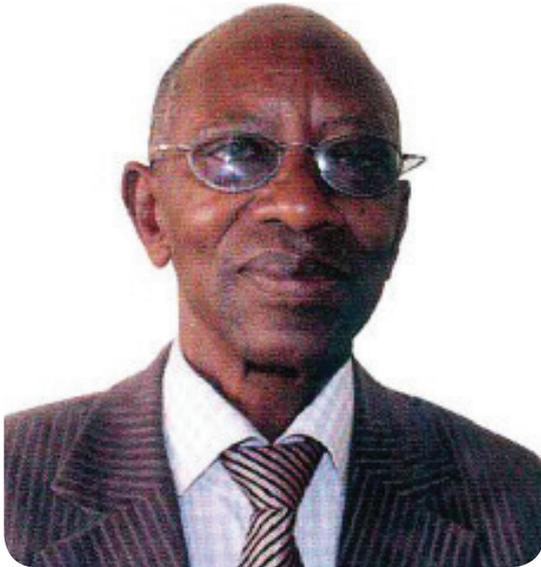
Despite the aforementioned challenges, the Bar Secretariat continues to work tirelessly as to succeed within challenging environment in partnership with local and international partners in the justice sector.

The word of gratitude goes to the Governing Council, the Bar President and the entire Bar membership who made and continue to make all the all the feats possible.

I wish a Happy Anniversary to Rwanda Bar Association

Victor MUGABE
Executive Director

In memoria



A l'occasion du 20ème Anniversaire de la Création du Barreau du Rwanda, le Comité chargé de préparer les manifestations de cette date m'a demandé d'évoquer en quelques lignes, le souvenir que je garde de nos deux Bâtonniers qui nous ont quittés, Maître Frédéric MUTAGWERA et Maître Jean HAGUMA.

Le souvenir que j'ai de Maître Frédéric MUTAGWERA, il fut le premier Bâtonnier du Rwanda depuis l'indépendance de ce pays, car il n'y avait jamais eu de Barreau avant 1997 ! Tout était donc fait..., pour la première fois..., en fait de traditions et de mœurs du Barreau...Monsieur le Bâtonnier MUTAGWERA est en quelque sorte le Bâtonnier « GIHANGA » (c'est-à-dire Fondateur, du nom du tout premier roi mythique du Rwanda)...

A son élection comme Bâtonnier, Maître MUTAGWERA était confronté à de nombreux défis dont celui de l'absence totale de tradition du Barreau au Rwanda. C'est à ce premier défi que « FREDDY », comme l'appelaient ses familiers, a eu la perspicacité de s'attaquer en priorité. Très tôt, il a pris soin d'ouvrir la porte aux confrères des barreaux ayant une longue tradition de l'Ordre des Avocats, afin de nous faire profiter de leur longue expérience. Je pense au Barreau du Val d'Oise en France avec lequel le Bâtonnier Freddy s'est lié d'amitié et dont le bénéfice perdure jusqu'à ce jour.

Toujours perspicace et intrépide, le Bâtonnier Freddy a su placer d'emblée notre jeune Barreau sur la voie du bon service et du dévouement.

Quant à Maître Jean HAGUMA, le troisième Bâtonnier de notre Barreau, le souvenir que tous, je pense, gardons de lui, est celui du Rassembleur « amoureux » du Barreau (UMUHUZA mu Rugaga). Au fil des années, le corps du Barreau prenait de l'importance ; jeunes avocats venus d'horizons divers s'ajoutaient peu à peu à leurs aînés de provenance également diverses... Maintenir dans la cohésion, la confraternité, le respect de soi-même et la déontologie professionnelle n'était pas une mince affaire pour un jeune Barreau composé en grande partie des membres sans longue tradition dans la profession.

Devant cette situation, Maître Jean HAGUMA n'a pas usé de son « bâton » de Bâtonnier pour assurer la bonne direction du Barreau. Ah non ! Toujours avec son éternel sourire engageant, il accueillait chacun par un chaleureux « Bite Confrère » (Comment allez-vous Confrère). Et sans discontinuer, Jean HAGUMA insistait, à temps et à contre temps, sur la confraternité, le respect de soi, la solidarité confraternelle...sans oublier, bien entendu, la bonne habitude initiée par ses prédécesseur de nouer des relations utiles avec d'autres institutions extérieures.

Que dire de ces illustres avocats qui nous ont quittés si tôt !

Bien merci,
Bâtonniers MUTAGWERA,
Bien merci, Jean HAGUMA.
Nous ne vous oublierons pas

Me Protais MUTEEMBE

Le Barreau du Rwanda; De la naissance à la maturité

Avant la création du Barreau au Rwanda par la loi n°3/97 du 19/03/1997, le mandat d'assistance et de représentation en justice était assuré par les mandataires en justice certains juristes d'autres non.

Pourtant, l'article 81 de la loi du 15 juillet 1964 portant code de Procédure Civile et Commerciale disposait que « les Avocats régulièrement inscrits au Barreau national sont seuls qualifiés pour représenter ou assister les parties en justice. » Mais pour des raisons d'opportunité politique, le Pouvoir en place à l'époque n'a jamais institué, le susdit « Barreau National » jusqu'au moment où les nouvelles autorités du pays, après le génocide perpétré contre les Tutsi en 1994, soucieux de bâtir un Etat de droit dans le pays et après plusieurs échanges avec les avocats rwandais venus de l'extérieur et juristes nationaux conviennent de mettre en place un Barreau au Rwanda.

C'est dans ce contexte que le Premier Barreau de Kigali est né couvrant le ressort de la Cour d'Appel de Kigali. Mais avec la réforme de 2004, les Cours d'Appels furent supprimés pour laisser la place à une seule Haute Cour avec quatre chambres détachées. Les Avocats rwandais avec leur petit nombre au départ devaient couvrir tout le ressort national. De 37 avocats en Août 1997, le nombre d'avocats n'a cessé d'augmenter à tel enseigne que le Barreau du Rwanda compte aujourd'hui 1200.

Cette progression exponentielle du nombre d'avocats de notre Barreau constitue un grand défi à relever. En effet, les autorités de l'Ordre sont conscientes de cette situation et ne ménagent aucun effort pour assurer leur encadrement à travers les formations continues.

Aujourd'hui les cabinets d'avocats sont régulièrement sollicités par des clients qui requièrent leur service. Le niveau économique de notre population ne permet pas à la plupart de nos clients de faire face aux frais et honoraires dus à l'avocat le Conseil de l'Ordre assure la désignation des avocats chargés de l'aide légale à travers le service du Barreau charge d'aide légale.



Sur le plan régional et international, notre Barreau est membre des organisations régionales, continentales et internationales d'Avocats, notamment l'East Africa Law Society (EALS), l'Union Panafricaine des Avocats (UPA) et la Conférence Internationale des Barreaux de tradition juridique commune (CIB) et bien d'autres. C'est à ce titre que le Barreau du Rwanda exerce aujourd'hui le mandat de Président au sein de l'EALS.

Enfin pour terminer, je puis rassurer que le 20ème anniversaire est aujourd'hui célébré sous le signe de la maturité acquise grâce au leadership de ses Bâtonniers qui se sont succédé depuis sa création, à la clairvoyance des membres du Conseil de l'Ordre et à la disponibilité de nos Avocats.

A vous tous, Bon Anniversaire

Maître KARANGWA Vincent
Ancien Bâtonnier
Vice-Président de l'Union Panafricaine
des Avocats (UPA) pour l'Afrique Central

Témoignage d'un ami du Barreau



Vingt ans déjà, et j'ai pourtant l'impression que c'est encore hier.

Vingt ans pendant lesquels j'ai eu l'honneur tout d'abord d'accompagner les 37 premiers confrères dans la voie de l'avocature, puis de construire avec eux, au milieu d'eux, ce qui est aujourd'hui ce beau barreau du Rwanda.

De ces 37 pionniers, nous ne sommes plus maintenant qu'une vingtaine à nous remémorer chaque 30 août, l'épopée de la première prestation de serment devant la Cour d'Appel.

Pour autant que mes souvenirs s'estompent, une grande photographie du barreau naissant, prise devant le CND, trône dans l'entrée de mon Cabinet.

Tous les jours je me souviens
Tous les jours je pense à ceux qui ont relevé le défi, en construisant la Défense au Rwanda.

Car l'Avocat, auxiliaire de Justice est la pierre angulaire indispensable du procès équitable.

Il est indispensable, car il respecte une stricte déontologie qui le fait se différencier des autres défenseurs.

Cette déontologie, basée sur les principes fondamentaux que sont l'honneur, la probité, l'indépendance, la conscience, la loyauté, la dignité et l'humanité, se doit d'être observée non seulement dans la vie professionnelle de l'Avocat, mais également dans sa vie privée.

C'est un gage de compétence et de confiance tant pour les justiciables que pour les Magistrats avec lesquels l'Avocat concourt à l'œuvre de Justice.

Les Bâtonniers ont été en charge non seulement de l'accompagnement du développement du Barreau du Rwanda, mais également du respect de la déontologie de leurs confrères. Certains de ces Bâtonniers nous ont quittés prématurément et certains me manquent toujours. Ils ont été l'exemple avant de devenir aujourd'hui le souvenir d'un temps trop souvent oublié. Frédéric MUTAGWERA, Jean HAGUMA, François RWANGAMPUHWE étaient de ceux-là.

Que cette commémoration soit la leur. Sénèque écrivait dans les Fragments : « La mémoire comme les livres qui restent longtemps enfermés dans la poussière, demande à être déroulée de temps en temps. Il faut pour ainsi dire en secouer tous les feuillets afin de les trouver en état au besoin »

Que le grand Barreau du Rwanda réouvre le livre de la mémoire pour ne pas oublier ceux qui l'ont construit.

Maître Gilles PARUELLE

Avocat au Barreau du Val d'Oise

Ancien Bâtonnier de l'Ordre

Avocat au Barreau du Rwanda

Témoignage d'un ami du Barreau



Message au barreau du RWANDA à l'occasion de son 20^e anniversaire - ce 27 novembre 2017

Monsieur le bâtonnier,
Chers confrères,

Le barreau de Liège s'honore d'être invité et de pouvoir célébrer le 20^e anniversaire du barreau du RWANDA. Il n'était pas représenté officiellement il y a 20 ans, mais très rapidement, quelques-uns de ses membres se sont engagés sur le terrain, et l'un de ses membres, Maître KAZUNGU, vous a rejoint et s'est engagé pour la défense des intérêts qui lui ont été confiés et pour son barreau.

La convention de jumelage entre nos barreaux est fondée sur le respect mutuel. Les relations se sont développées : ainsi,

notamment un avocat liégeois a été admis à votre barreau : Me Jean-Pierre JACQUES. Retenu par la préparation du congrès de la CIB en HAÏTI, il ne peut malheureusement être présent. Il vous transmet son salut confraternel. Comme je l'écrivais en 2007, votre barreau et chacun de ses membres relèvent les défis qui sont les siens.

Aucun défi ne paraît trop grand : vous les relever tous : la formation des jeunes avocats, l'accès à la justice, la mise en œuvre des technologies de communication, la définition de pistes pour adapter le barreau au monde d'aujourd'hui. Le barreau de Liège est plein d'initiatives sur tous ces plans, mais le dynamisme de votre barreau ouvert aux innovations fait parfois envie.

Les barreaux européens sont confrontés à l'émergence de l'intelligence artificielle et, en outre pour le barreau belge, à l'augmentation des coûts de l'accès à la justice et à la volonté du ministre de la justice de réduire le délai des procédures en privatisant le règlement des litiges. Le nombre d'actions introduites devant les tribunaux diminue. Ne convient-il pas de résolument s'engager pour une nouvelle « image », un nouveau « rôle » de l'avocat : un conseil, un chercheur de solution et non de la procédure ? L'inquiétude est grande. Les appels des responsables du barreau à affronter ces défis ne sont pas toujours compris. L'exemple du dynamisme d'autres barreaux tel celui du RWANDA est important

Le barreau de Liège forme le vœu que votre barreau poursuive au mieux son développement et que les relations d'estime réciproque se poursuivent et se développent avec les plus jeunes.

Maître André DELVAUX

Ancien Bâtonnier du Barreau de Liège

Femme avocate depuis la création du Barreau au Rwanda



La profession d'avocat est généralement perçue comme étant l'une des professions les plus difficiles. Elle l'est d'autant plus pour les femmes car celles-ci sont plus exposées aux contraintes liées aux lourdes charges professionnelles, surtout lorsqu'elles doivent les concilier avec leurs responsabilités sociales et familiales.

Lors de la prestation de serment du premier Barreau au Rwanda en 1997, seules sept femmes ont acquis le titre d'avocat, sur un total de trente-sept avocats. Il va sans dire qu'à cette époque, la profession présentait peu d'attrait pour les femmes juristes, lesquelles n'osaient pas se lancer dans le secteur libéral avec tout ce que cela représentait en termes de risques. A cette époque, nombre de femmes étaient

davantage motivées par la sécurité salariale et ainsi se dirigeaient vers les emplois du secteur privé et vers les ONG où les tâches du quotidien présentaient beaucoup plus de facilités professionnelles ainsi qu'une garantie de promotion.

Au Barreau du Rwanda, Il importe de souligner que malgré leur nombre avoisinant les 22%, les femmes avocates se sont résolument engagées à l'instar de leurs confrères, dans toutes les activités de l'Ordre en se faisant élire dans les différents organes de l'Ordre.

En dehors du Barreau, elles ont porté haut les couleurs de notre Corps, tant et si bien que celui-ci est devenu comme pépinière du Leadership féminin dans les différentes Institutions étatiques et organisations de la société civile du pays. A ce titre, quelques nominations et/ou élections de nos anciennes consœurs dans les instances de prise de décision ont pu faire honneur à notre profession : au Gouvernement, au Sénat, à la Chambre des Députés et à la Cour Suprême, pour n'en citer que celles-là. Ceci constitue incontestablement une fierté pour notre

Barreau en général et la pour la femme avocate en particulier.

Si la femme rwandaise est consciente du rôle qui est le sien dans la croissance extraordinaire de notre pays, la femme avocate devrait l'être encore plus du fait de son érudition. Ainsi, l'un de ses atouts est celui de savoir tirer profit de cette reconnaissance.

Vingt ans après, même si la dynamique et l'énergie qui de dégagent de ce chemin vers le développement se ressentent au sein de notre Barreau, quelques défis majeurs demeurent : la rétention des femmes avocates au sein de la profession ainsi que leur positionnement dans le Leadership des Cabinets et des organes du Barreau. C'est cette lourde tâche qui nous interpelle! Que vive le Barreau du Rwanda!

Maître GASARABWE Claudine

*Ancienne Membre du Conseil de l'Ordre du Barreau du Rwanda
Membre de la Commission Permanente de Discipline
Vice-Présidente de la Commission Formation & Accès
à la Profession*

Professional Development Chapter

The Professional Development, is one of the key pillars of the Rwanda Bar Association. This is due to the fact that skills development needs keep changing overtime.

Before the enactment of the Law No 83/2013 of 11/09/2013 establishing the bar Association in Rwanda and determining its organization and functioning, professional trainings were organized and conducted on ad hoc basis.

Since January 2015, the Continuing Professional Training program for all practicing advocates became mandatory in response to the new law governing the Bar Association as well its implementing internal rules and regulations of september 2014. Since the past three years, every member of the Bar Association has to do 30 hours of continuing legal education in order to renew his/her annual practicing licence.

In order to promote the legal practice, Continuing Legal Education Program has been given a wide range of activity that a considered as CLE activities such as legal research,



attendance to conference related to legal field, face to face learning, contributing to the Bar Pro Bono Program, Lecturing at law school, etc...

The past years since the introduction of the mandatory CLE Program, has shown that more than 94% of the membership comply to the CLE requirements.

Augustin RWABIGWI

President,
Admission and Training Committee

Legal Aid Chapter



Legal Aid is one of the Key pillars of the Rwanda Bar Association and marked the Bar Operations since 1997 to date.

Legal aid provided by the Bar Association used to be executed in form of Legal assistance and Legal representation in courts for indigents and other vulnerable people since the demand for legal aid was much higher than the bar human resources to respond to each demand. However, with the increase in number of advocates the Bar Association extended legal aid services to legal advice, assistance, representation, education, and mechanisms for alternative dispute resolution in response to 2004 Lilongwe Declaration on Accessing Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems in Africa. Today legal aid is provided in all forms as above mentioned and while legal assistance or representation has been equally extended from criminal to civil, administrative and commercial matters.

In order to considerably contribute to access to quality justice in Rwanda, the Rwanda Bar Association has elaborated detailed legal aid rules in 2014 as to address challenges that have been surrounding the legal aid and pro bono programs of the Bar Association. Those rules don't solve the financial problem, but they encourage members of the Bar Association to assist indigents who can't afford advocates fees and in response the Bar Association awards the CLE hours to its members who have assisted in that regard.

So far the Bar Association has four specific categories of indigents and vulnerable persons who are assisted through Bar Pro Bono Program or general Legal Aid Services. Those categories are: Minors in conflict with criminal law who are provided with legal counsels from the arrest to the court hearing and judgement, indigents who have litigation cases in the Supreme court, Genocide cases that are transferred to Rwanda from foreign or international jurisdictions and general Pro Bono program whereby the Bar Legal Aid Department provides legal advices, mediation, education, orientation, ADR as well as legal assistance or representation when necessary to the needy.

The Bar Association has been receiving modest financial support with regard to the first three categories of legal aid needy but the fourth one which is not financially subsidized and this lack of financial support constitutes a challenge to the Bar Association as far as timely and quality services in legal aid are concerned.

The Bar Association is committed to engage different development partners as to address the existing challenges that affect its legal aid and Pro Bono programs.

Johnson KABERA
President
Legal Aid Committee

Déontologie de l'Avocat Rwandais



La déontologie est une théorie non seulement des droits, mais aussi des devoirs et en particulier ceux inhérents à l'exercice d'une profession libérale. S'agissant de l'Avocat au Rwanda les règles déontologiques sont résumées dans l'Article 27 de la loi no 82/2013 du 11 Septembre 2013 portant création de l'Ordre des Avocats au Rwanda et déterminant son Organisation et son Fonctionnement ainsi que les Articles 129 à 167 du Règlement d'Ordre Interieur des Avocats du Rwanda. Il ressort de ces dispositions légales et réglementaires, que le Conseil de l'Ordre se doit de maintenir les principes de dignité, de probité et de délicatesse lesquelles constituent la base et le fondement même de la profession.

L'Avocat est astreint aux devoirs de Défense, de Diligence, de Loyauté, de Delicatesse, de Probité, de Dignité, de Reserves, de formation continue, d'indépendance, de confraternité et de confidentialité.

Aux termes de l'article 51 de la loi no 82/2013 portant création de l'Ordre des Avocats au Rwanda et déterminant son Organisation et son Fonctionnement, il est interdit à l'Avocat de: Donner et recevoir des pots de vin; Refuser ou négliger la défense de prevenu et l'assistance aux parties dans le cas où ils sont désignés; Accepter de defendre des parties opposes dans une même cause; Faire état à l'audience des pièces, conclusions, mémoires, actes de défense non préalablement communiqués à la partie

adverse; S'arroger un droit à la succession ou aux dommages et intérêts arrêtés par le jugement; Faire avec les parties, en vue d'une retribution, des conventions aléatoires, subordonnées à l'issue du procès; Avancer un fait grave contre l'honneur et la réputation des parties à moins que la nature de la cause l'exige; Obtenir la clientèle d'une manière frauduleuse ou louer les services de quelqu'un dans ce but; User de tous les moyens publicitaires, sauf ce qui est strictement nécessaire pour l'information du public et qui sont prévus par le règlement d'ordre intérieur de l'Ordre des Avocats.

De même, la loi a prescrit des devoirs spéciaux aux Avocats, Vis à vis de ses clients A l'égard de ses confrères Vis à vis des magistrats et les autorités judiciaires, Vis à vis des tiers à savoir que l'Avocat ne peut recevoir la partie adverse sans son Avocat.

Enfin, l'Article 72 de la loi portant création de l'Ordre des Avocats au Rwanda et déterminant son Organisation et son Fonctionnement prévoit que toutes contravention aux lois et règlements, aux règles professionnels, tout manquement à la probité à l'honneur et à la délicatesse, même se rapportant à des faits extra professionnels expose l'Avocat qui en est l'auteur à des sanctions. C'est

à cet effet qu'aux termes de la même loi il a été créé une commission permanente chargée de la discipline des Avocats dont les attributions sont déterminées à l'article 30 à savoir s'assurer du respect des lois et règlement régissant la profession d'Avocat et faire le suivi du comportement et de la pratique professionnelle des Avocats. A l'occasion du vingtième Anniversaire du Barreau, il est impérieux de rappeler ces normes professionnelles qui constituent l'ossature et le fondement de base de notre profession.

Depuis l'entrée en vigueur, de la loi no 83/2013 du 11/9/2013 portant création du Barreau au Rwanda, son rôle s'est accru. Il s'est retrouvé indépendant pour régler l'exercice de la profession, indépendant pour déterminer les infractions disciplinaires et décider de la peine adéquate y appliquer. Le bilan après trois ans d'exercice est plus que positif. Il nous revient de le sauvegarder voir même le renforcer.

BON ANNIVERSAIRE

Maître GATERA Gashabana

Ancien Batonnier

Président de la Commission de Discipline

Young Lawyers Chapter



Every journey has a starting point, every profession has young members and senior members and any senior has been once a junior. Since its establishment, the Rwanda Bar Association experiences and recognizes the

presence of young lawyers and always strives towards their development through continuing pieces of trainings, conferences and mentoring sessions. The dynamic presence of young lawyers results in a body of multi-aged members which diversity impacts the building of the Bar Association. Today, under the consistent support of Rwanda Bar Association, young lawyers are organized under an umbrella of Young Lawyers Committee which extends its activities and programs to the level of East Africa Law Society as part of the regional integration. During the past two years,

young lawyers from Rwanda attended and actively participated in the organization of East Africa Young Lawyers Conferences.

Today, Rwanda Bar Association, as a continuing institution, counts on a pool of passionate young lawyers committed and dedicated to further legal profession in Rwanda, which promises a better Rwanda Bar Association in the near future. The achievements of Rwanda Bar Association at its 20th Anniversary awakes the resilient lion in the hearts of young lawyers and this 20th anniversary constitutes a momentum for young lawyers to promise the Rwandan community their readiness to engage in building a rule of law in Rwanda and further take an active role in Rwanda's development and economic growth.

Happy Birthday Rwanda Bar Association

Pie HABIMANA

Young Lawyer

Rwanda Bar Association



COMPANY NAME / ADDRESS

Bank of Kigali Street Address: KN4 Ave No12 Plot No 790, | P O Box 175, Kigali, Rwanda.
Call Centre: +250-788-143000 | bk@bk.rw
Swift Code: BKIGRWRW

Contact Person: Vincent Gatete
Chief Commercial Officer
Telephone: +250-788-300188
Email: vgatete@bk.rw

NATURE OF BUSINESS

Bank of Kigali is a publically listed financial institution licensed and regulated by National Bank of Rwanda to offer banking services in Rwanda.

MAJOR PRODUCTS/ SERVICES OFFERED

• Personal consumer banking products including loans, customer deposit custody, electronic banking services and money transfer services.

- SME & Corporate banking services such as Asset Financing, Trade Financing, Short and long-term Financing
- Private personalised banking services through BK Premier
- Credit and Debit card issuing including Visa and MasterCard
- Investment Administration Services
- Home Loans (Mortgage)
- General Insurance services through BK General Insurance LTD
- Brokerage services through BK Securities
- Financial technology consultancy through BK Techouse

CURRENT EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT

Chief Executive Officer:
DR. DIANE KARUSISI

Chief Commercial Officer:
VINCENT GATETE

Chief Operations Officer:
DESIRE RUMANYIKA

Chief Finance Officer :
NATHALIE MPAKA

Chief Administration Officer:
FLORA NSINGA

Chief IT Officer:
EDDY KAYIHURA

BK COMPANY PROFILE

Type of Business: Banking & Financial Services

Total Assets, 1H/2017

US\$ 858.7million

Shareholders' Equity 1H/2017:

US\$ 137.8 million

Number of Employees:

Over 1300

Type of ownership: Public Listed Company on Rwanda Stock Exchange market as BoK

Retail business portfolio: 20%

Corporate business portfolio: 80 %

Market-share by Total Assets: 34 %, June30, 2017.



PROFILE

K-Solutions & Partners (KS&P) law Firm, was established in 2007 and currently has a vast number of both domestic and international clients. The Firm employs 15 permanent staff including 9 Advocates as well as external Legal Consultants. It has won numerous awards for its excellence in the provision of services such as Chambers and Partners who rank KSP among the Best law firm in general business law in Rwanda (Band 1) for the last 7 years (<https://www.chambersandpartners.com/Global/firm/151837/k-solutions-partners>).

Our law firm's mission and objective is to offer to the clients the resources and the expertise of an International law firm whose culture ensures the delivery of a seamless service across local teams and offices. Our commitment will be to improve constantly our service to the clients.

K-Solutions & Partners is a prominent law firm in Rwanda, exceptionally well positioned to offer clients practical insights on the legal issues arising in Rwanda's dynamic economic environment. The firm has a reputation for delivering in-depth knowledge of both local and international business practice.

K-Solutions & Partners are a team of women and men working in harmony and using the law and our creativity as tools to help our clients attain their objectives. The capacity to listen, rigor, reactivity, conviviality, perseverance, ethics, respect and pleasure are the values that we feel strongly for and that are, as lawyers, at the heart of our commitment to our clients.

The firm is a member of ALN (Africa Legal Network):

- ALN is an independent alliance of leading law firms in Africa. It is the largest and only grouping of its kind in Africa, with close working relationships across its member and an established network of Best Friends across the continent. ALN's firms are all committed to working together to provide extensive coverage and on-the-ground experience.
- ALN assists member firms by developing common knowledge sharing platforms and enhancing their capacity and capability to service a growing volume of high value domestic and international corporate and commercial advisory work across Africa. ALN also coordinates cross-border groups focused around industry sectors including Agriculture, Commercial Property & Leisure, Energy, Financial Services, Infrastructure & Telecoms, Mining & Minerals, and Oil & Gas.
- ALN's member firms share common values and are located in 5 major regional economic groupings – EAC, SADC, COMESA, ECOWAS and UMA – with a combined population of 527 million people.
- ALN firms are on the ground in Algeria, Botswana, Ethiopia, Guinea, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.
- All of ALN's firms are ranked as premier law firms in their jurisdictions and many have advised on ground breaking, first-of-a-kind deals in their markets.
- ALN's continued success in advising on cross-border matters comes from its "one firm" approach of collaborating in virtual teams across multiple offices. ALN firms are exceptionally well positioned to provide comprehensive legal advice to clients doing business in Africa.
- We believe that ALN has a unique mix of skills to advise the Client in relation to any Business Transaction.
- Most of the lawyers at the Firm are admitted to the Rwanda Bar Association (www.rwandabar.org.rw) and the East African Law Society. As such, our lawyers are subject to the provisions of the Law n° 83/2013 of 11/09/2013 establishing the Bar Association in Rwanda and determining its organization and functioning and to the Internal Regulation of the Rwanda Bar Association.

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Bat. Julien KAVARUGANDA (Senior Partner)
President of the Rwanda Bar Association



Adv. CYAGA N. Eric
Managing Partner



Adv. MURAGIJIMANA Emmanuel
SENIOR ASSOCIATE



Adv. SANGANO Yves
SENIOR ASSOCIATE



Adv. NIZEYIMANA Boniface
SENIOR ASSOCIATE



Adv. NGRINSHUTI David
ASSOCIATE



Adv. MUSHIMIRE Amanda
ASSOCIATE



Mr. KALLAGI Arnold
TRAINEE LAWYER



Miss KABERUKA Marie-Carrine
TRAINEE LAWYER



RUKANGIRA LAW CHAMBERS

Law Firm for all your advocacy services.



RUKANGIRA Emmanuel

A Commitment to Excellence.

A Passion for Justice.

The Rukangira Law Chambers is changing the approach to client care. Founded in 1995 by Rukangira Emmanuel, The Rukangira Law Chambers is committed to addressing client concerns with effective and often untraditional solutions. Now with more than 6 attorneys, our firm represents a broad array of clients from our office in Kigali.

The diverse clients represented by The Rukangira Law Chambers share one common trait: The need for serious and reliable legal representation; that's what we refer to as Legal Care. Firm attorneys provide individual attention to clients with complex legal grievances and other concerns. In addition, we are regularly called on as a "go to" resource for corporations when unique legal situations need immediate resolution.

Solutions to legal problems cover the entire case, not just courtroom trials. Our stellar track record enables many clients to resolve their legal matters out of court. The firm's appellate team stays one step ahead, preparing clients' cases for appeal even before an appeal is filed.

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MRB ATTORNEYS is one of the reputable law firms in Rwanda and the Partners have long experience in legal practice and legal academia spanning several years. They have worked as advocates, State Attorneys, consultants and advisors for government, intergovernmental agencies, international organizations, companies, banks and other corporate clientele in and outside Rwanda.

In addition, most of them possess advanced degrees in law (LL.M) and tailored trainings in Arbitration, mediation legal and legislative drafting and Insolvency. We always strive to meet the expectations of our clients, which include corporates from all the commercial and industrial sectors, trade bodies and NGOs. We provide them with the highest-quality advice and legal insight, with in-depth local expertise.

MRB is part of an expanding network throughout Africa. Through this network, the firm has formed a number of alliances with other law firms' practicing in Africa and other jurisdictions with a subsequent view of establishing a single African Law firm with global links all over the world. Our firm is multilingual where most of our staff is fluent in English, French, Swahili... allowing our clients to always benefit from our services where these official languages of Rwanda and East Africa are used.

Key areas of Practice:

- Corporate and Commercial
- Consultancies and Business Development
- Litigation and Arbitration
- Infrastructure Energy and Mining
- Litigation and arbitration
- Insolvency

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www.mrbattorneys.rw



TRUST LAW CHAMBERS

Advocates

INTRODUCTION

Trust Law Chambers is a Rwandan full service law firm that has been providing legal advice to a wide range of international and local clients since 2004. It has 4 partners, 6 associates and 4 support staff with qualifications and work experience drawn from both the public and private sectors.

Trust Law Chambers is ranked in the international legal directories such as chambers Global (Tier 1), Legal 500 (Tier 1) and IFLR1000. It has also earned several accolades and various members of the firm have been recognized individually in Band 1 of international legal directories.

Practice areas

The main areas of practice include: corporate and commercial law, capital markets, energy, infrastructure & projects, Intellectual property and dispute resolution.

Our Clients

We advise clients from various industries and sectors. These include financial services institutions, technology and communications companies, energy and resource companies, infrastructure & construction companies, hospitality industry as well as government and non-governmental organizations. It also works with many international law firms and other consultants.

EXTRACT FROM CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS:

This top-notch team is local counsel of choice for various international firms. It is widely respected for its dedication and depth of knowledge, especially in the banking and finance sector, and has recently acted as local counsel assisting with syndicated lending facilities and advising senior lenders on aggregate loans.

The firm's other areas of expertise include corporate, dispute resolutions, employment and intellectual property law.

Rankings Chambers & Partners Tier 1

Extract from IFR1000:

The firm enjoys a general reputation as the single leading firm in the market for work in general corporate commercial deals and in the energy and infrastructure sectors.

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Website: http://www.rrlaw.rw

Our law firm is a limited liability Company established in 2009, RR Associates & Co Advocates provides affordable legal service to a cross section of medium and corporate clientele. We provide rapid response to client queries and inquiries. By providing the finest legal personnel to those clients to address their individual legal concerns, we establish custom contact and relationship with them. This underlines our core values of professionalism and integrity.

Our main areas of legal practice include: Capital markets and Financial services, Intellectual Property, Insurance and banking law, Environmental law, Public Policy and regulatory affairs, Tax, Real Estate and Conveyancing, arbitration and Commercial litigation.

Our portfolio covers Rwanda, Uganda and Kenya. Forecast decision making processes help us to evaluate future potential legal problems and litigation. In doing so necessary precautions provide a safe legal protection mechanism for our clients

The firm has strategic partnerships with selected law firms.



FOUNTAIN ADVOCATES is a Rwandan Law firm Law Firm made up of Professional Partnership founded by **John Bosco BUGINGO** and **Dr. Didas Muganga KAYIHURA**. Having established ourselves as one of the most respected law firms in Rwanda, we embarked on a strategic focus in our offerings specializing in Corporate Advisory services, Strategic Business Advice and Structuring as well as Litigation & Dispute Resolution .As a firm constitutes of more than ten Associates, Consultant and Research Assistants, we confidently rely on experienced attorneys with vast experience as practitioners for the past decade making it one of the leading Law Firms in Rwanda. The firm boasts of reliable team of business advisors and litigants. It brings together practitioners of law, law Lecturers, researchers, trainers and academicians capable of making a change in clients' business by meeting their daily expectations.

The Firm ensures first class and high quality technical and managerial consulting services, world class arbitration, mediation, negotiation, litigation and advisory services to corporate entities, Government agencies, non-governmental organizations, private sector organizations as well as individuals in a wide range of disciplines. Fountain Advocates provides unique expertise in the legal consultancy industry, throughout the region as well as first-hand knowledge of local and international legal instruments. Our team boasts of exceptional and in depth knowledge of Rwandan and Burundian legal systems by virtue of professional competence, familiarity and native lawyers with impressive legal credentials and experience in Corporate Finance and capital markets, Business Law, Energy law, telecommunications, infrastructure, Financial Legal advisory services, labor & Employment, and Business Law. We take charge of our client's disputes in litigation, Dispute resolution through ADR. Our Mission is to ensure a clients success.



John Bosco BUGINGO



Dr. Didas M. KAYIHURA

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Based in Kigali, M. ABAYO LAW FIRM is a recommended Law Firm with a long and successful track record of offering high quality legal services to a wide range of clients including individuals with an overwhelming focus to business entities. The strategic and easily accessible location of the Law Firm enables its clients to easily access other legal services providing institutions including but not limited to the Registrar General's office for companies and intellectual property registration, the Supreme Court of Rwanda, the National Public Prosecution Authority, the Ministry of Justice, the Parliament, the National Land Center and Notary Offices.

Services of M. ABAYO LAW FIRM are not only recognized in Rwanda but also regionally as the firm has collaboration with other famous and leading Law Firms in the East African Region which enables the firm to offer a variety of legal services in the region. The Law Firm discharges its responsibilities with the intervention of experienced advocates based in the firm both enrolled with Rwanda Bar Association and the East African Law Society (EALS) with the ability to work in either of the Official Languages (English, French and Kinyarwanda) depending on the client's choice.

M. ABAYO LAW FIRM serves national, regional and international clients and complies with regulations of the Rwanda Bar Association and East African Law Society. We have won many complex and desperate cases in the Supreme Court and other courts.

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Zenith Law Firm
Wind of Law



Isaïe MHAYIMANA (Adv.)

Zenith Law Firm has extensive experience, qualified and experienced staff required to meet expectations of its clients. It was established in March 1981 on the initiative of Isaïe MHAYIMANA following voluntary termination of his duties as a member of Prosecution Organ. It is therefore the first established law firm still in existence in Rwanda since 1981. Till end of October 2014, the Law Firm was known under the name of "Cabinet MHAYIMANA Isaïe".

Zenith Law Firm has developed business relationships with several companies and commercial enterprises, and various national and international independent organizations to which it provides legal assistance. From time to time, the firm works in three official languages in Rwanda (Kinyarwanda, French and English). Today, the Law Firm comprises of six (6) Advocates and six (6) support staff in addition to the collaboration with other advocates and consultants in accordance with the business requirements.

The core business of the Law Firm includes legal consultancies, litigation and ADR in all legal matters with specific focus on banking & finance, commerce, construction and real estate, corporate & Investments, labour, criminal matters, insurance, information and communication technology and management, intellectual property, professional liability, social and tax.

Since its establishment it has achieved a strong expertise for over 36 years in handling legal issues in Rwanda and abroad. Since 2014, it has embarked on a project aiming at compiling and consolidating all the laws in use in Rwanda today with legal commentaries where necessary known as "Codes and Laws of Rwanda."



Dr. Evode KAYITANA



Albert BASOMINGERA (Adv.)



Emmanuel ABIJURU (Adv.)



Lex Chambers is one of the Rwanda's leading Law firms based in the country's capital city of Kigali. It serves its clients with unrivaled legal services in transaction, corporate and

litigation. At Lex Chambers, we work closely with our clients to provide the best practical solutions that deliver client's desired outcome possible.

We are a full service Law Firm with expertise in commercial, transactions, and commercial & employment litigations. Transactions include Floatation and acquisition of companies, mergers and de-mergers, Liquidation and insolvency, Licensing, Local and international trade transactions, Procurement of goods and services, Civil matters such as litigation, corporate restructuring claims, professional negligence, property conveyance, unfair competition, construction, financial fraud, expropriation, taxation, employment. We also handle Criminal cases for our corporate clients.

Being in a services industry, we work with each client throughout the engagement to ensure that our staffing, strategy, and procedures are designed to yield the satisfying results of our clients. We negotiate and facilitate transactions for our clients, merging and acquisitions

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Web: www.lexchambers.attorney



B&A Advocates is a leading Civil and commercial law practice delivering the highest level of legal services to a diverse range of public and private sector clients.



We offer business law service to some of financial institutions mainly from Eastern Africa Community and the rest of World. We maintain focus on efficiency.

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ENSafrica is Africa's largest law firm, with over 600 practitioners, and more than 200 years of experience in high-level, complex commercial work. The firm's focus is on "what's best for the client" and striving for excellence, in both offering and service. ENSafrica is committed to providing clients with cost-effective outcomes by ensuring work is done at the right level, and in the manner that best suits clients' preferences and pricing structures.

strategic partner

While many recognise the unique opportunities for trade, investment and growth that Africa represents, predicting in-country and across region risks is not easy, particularly given the rate of exponential change impacting multiple indicators, whether economic, political, technological or social. ENSafrica is an

independent law firm with fully integrated offices across Southern, West and East Africa and Mauritius. The firm offers clients many years' accumulated know-how and solid experience, whether doing business in-country or cross-continent, helping to minimise risk and leverage business opportunities across Africa.

ENSafrica has lawyers qualified to practise English, French and OHADA law, as well as practitioners who are fluent in African and international languages, including Mandarin, Cantonese, French, Portuguese and Swahili. The firm also has a dedicated Asia practice group.

Through the financial services centre of Mauritius, ENSafrica also offers a unique possibility to integrate all aspects of structuring clients' investments in relation to all commercial areas of law, tax, IP and fiduciary.

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WORKING TOGETHER FOR EQUITABLE ACCESS TO JUSTICE

The Legal Aid Forum (LAF) is a network non-governmental organization established in 2006 with the Mission "To promote and support the provision of accessible and quality legal aid services" and the Vision "A Rwanda where the indigent and vulnerable groups have equitable access to justice." The network is composed of 35 organizations including Rwanda Bar Association.

What We Do

• Research and Advocacy

Many of our research and advocacy projects are funded by specific project funding to produce a specific piece of research. Some of the studies include: Rwanda's Expropriation and its outcomes on the population, Pre-trial justice in Rwanda, etc

• Capacity Building

LAF conducts its training of paralegals, member organisations and other justice sector institutions around the Country. We also fund internships and study tours to other countries.

• Legal Aid Services

LAF has a legal aid department, among other departments, that provides legal assistance/representation to indigents and vulnerable groups. Most of the cases assisted in this department are referred by members, local authorities, MAJ and Courts.

• Human Rights Education & Awareness

During the legal and human rights education and awareness sessions in communities, People are educated on key laws such as the law on enforcement of court judgments, the law on GBV, the land laws, succession law, law on expropriation, criminal procedure (rights & procedure), law on child rights, etc.

@LegalAid_Rwanda

The-Legal-Aid-Forum-Rwanda

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available from 8 am to 6 pm
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Who we are

R & Partners Law Firm is a full service reputable law firm in Rwanda founded by Richard Rwihandagaza, who is practicing law as an Advocate since 2001. The Firm has four partners with proven experience in legal practice, supported by well trained advocates and distinguished legal consultants. Most of our team is fluent in English, French and Swahili in addition to some regional local languages.

R & Partners Law Firm enjoys a reputation of adding value to transactions by advising on the structure, merits and strategy of such transactions and using its network of local and international contacts to identify opportunities to its clients.

We know that changing environment require adaptation of skills and the introduction of new services and inventive solutions, therefore our firm is constantly restructuring and repositioning its abilities and resources to ensure that it is able to furnish clients with the widest range of quality skills and services.

What we do

- Corporate and Commercial Law
- Banking, Finance and Insurance
- Mining, Energy and Infrastructure
- Labour and Immigration
- Revenue and Tax advisory
- Intellectual Property
- Property Law
- Arbitration and Litigation

Our Clients

We provide legal services to a wide range of international and local clientele from various sectors. This includes banks and financial institutions, manufactures and mining companies, Embassies, INGO's, real estate developers as well as individuals.

Our offices are located at 22, KG 2 Avenue, Kimihurura.
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jordankamili@gmail.com

OUR VALUES

- Integrity
- Honesty
- Professionalism
- Excellenc
- Humility

PRACTICE AREAS

GAHONGERWA & Company Advocates, is a top-tier, full service Rwandan law firm. The firm's area of practice include Corporate and Commercial, Disputes resolution, intellectual property and estate, insurance, criminal, civil, family, labour, land, insolvency, tax and investment. The firm also has Islamic finance capabilities and have advised Islamic finance clients on a variety of matters, including Shari'ah compliance.

PARTNERS

Our law firm partnership includes some of Rwandan best legal minds and its lawyers are recognized by international legal institutions such as CIArb, KIAC and EALS. The firm is well recognized for its contribution to Rwandan jurisprudence (through its formidable dispute resolution team), work on some of Rwanda's largest deals and its significant contributions to Rwanda's legal profession. Established 12 years ago, by GAHONGERWA K. Goretti (one of Rwanda's top litigators), the firm offer clients on-the-ground insights and a door to the strong business connections it has built locally, regionally and globally.



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