



# NEWSLETTER

Rwanda High Commission to Tanzania

Issue Number 3 - March 2021

## Rwandans mourn with Tanzanians over the demise of President John Magufuli



### Covid-19 Vaccination rolled out in Rwanda



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## Rwandans mourn with Tanzanians over the demise of the late President John Magufuli

The Government and People of the Republic of Rwanda have been deeply saddened by the untimely demise of Tanzania's 5th President Dr. John Pombe Joseph Magufuli, which occurred on March 17, 2021 as announced on State Television (TBC) by the country's then Vice President, Samia Suluhu Hassan who has since been sworn in as a substantive President of Tanzania for the remaining years of the term for which Magufuli had been elected.

While addressing the Nation, H.E Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda, declared a period of national mourning in honor of the late President John Magufuli during which Rwanda's National Flag and the Flag of the East African Community will fly at half-mast on all Rwandan territory including diplomatic missions abroad.

The period of mourning lasted the day when the late President John Magufuli was buried.

"We are saddened by the loss of my brother and friend, President Magufuli. His contribution to his country and to our region will not be forgotten; my deepest condolences to his family and the people of Tanzania".

The people of Rwanda stand with Tanzania during this difficult time." eulogized President Paul Kagame.

On Monday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2021, Rwanda's Prime Minister, Dr. Édouard Ngirente led a high-level delegation representing President Paul Kagame in the late President Magufuli's State Funeral



***Rwanda's Prime Minister, Dr. Édouard Ngirente paying his last respect to the late President John Magufuli's body.***

which took place in Tanzania's Capital, Dodoma at the Jamhuri Stadium.

The event was presided over by the country's new President, Mrs. Samia Suluhu Hassan and was attended by several other Heads of State and Government from within EAC and SADC regions.

In his condolence message, Dr. Édouard Ngirente said that "On behalf of H.E President Paul Kagame, the President of the Republic of Rwanda and on behalf of People and Government of the Republic of Rwanda, I would like to extend our sincere condolences and deepest sympathy to the

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People and Government of the United Republic of Tanzania for the loss of the patriotic leader, His Excellency Dr. John Pombe Joseph Magufuli".

The Rwandan Premier added that, the Government of Rwanda has had a privilege of working closely with the deceased leader not only as an East African Community integration champion, but also as a great contributor to strengthening the Rwanda-Tanzania bilateral relations; his legacy will always be remembered".

The late President Magufuli will be remembered for the love he had for his country and the good Tanzania-Rwanda bilateral cooperation he helped revamp whereby upon his election for the first term in 2015, the late made his maiden foreign trip to Rwanda just a few days after he was sworn in and since then, a number of bilateral cooperation initiatives have been devised and development of others still underway.

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*His contribution to his country and to our region will not be forgotten; my deepest condolences to his family and the people of Tanzania.*

*The people of Rwanda stand with Tanzania during this difficult time."*

Eulogized the President of Rwanda Paul Kagame.



**On Monday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2021, Rwanda's Prime Minister, Dr. Édouard Ngirente arrived at the Dodoma Airport, leading a high-level delegation representing President Paul Kagame in the late President Magufuli's State Funeral which took place in Tanzania's Capital, Dodoma at the Jamhuri Stadium. He was received by the Minister of Natural Resources and Tourism Damas Ndumbaro.**

## Rwanda High Commissioner signs Condolences book for the demise of President John Magufuli

*Rwanda continues solidarity with Tanzania to mourn the passing on of President John Magufuli. Rwanda High Commissioner Major General Charles Karamba on March 19, 2021 signed the condolences book at the Karimjee Grounds in Dar es Salaam.*



## Photo Gallery: Rwanda's delegates attend the late President John Magufuli's State Funeral in Dodoma



*Rwanda High Commissioner to Tanzania Maj. Gen. Charles Karamba, the Counsellor Eng. John Kizito with Tanzania's Natural Resources and Tourism Minister Damas Ndumbaro, to exchange words during the State Funeral in Dodoma.*



*Rwanda High Commissioner to Tanzania Maj. Gen. Charles Karamba with the former Minister of State in the President's Office Regional Administration and Local Government Selemani Jafo and Natural Resources and Tourism Minister Damas Ndumbaro during the State Funeral in Dodoma.*



*Rwanda High Commissioner Maj. Gen. Charles Karamba exchanging words with the Ambassador of the European Union Delegation to Tanzania and the EAC, Manfredo Fanti and Ambassador of Spain in Rwanda with Residence in Dar es Salaam, Francisca Pedros Carretero during the State Funeral of the late President John Magufuli in Dodoma Tanzania.*

## Photo Gallery: State Funeral of the late President John Magufuli in Dodoma Tanzania



*Rwanda High Commissioner to Tanzania Maj.Gen. Charles Karamba exchanging words with the former Minister of State in the President's Office Regional Administration and Local Government Selemani Jafo.*

*On the Left Side, is the Rwanda's High Commissioner Maj. Gen. Charles Karamba with the Tanzania's Natural Resources and Tourism Minister Damas Ndumbaro as they were waiting for the national leaders at the Dodoma Airport.*



*Rwanda's Prime Minister, Dr. Édouard Ngirente arriving at Dodoma Airport, leading a high-level delegation representing President Paul Kagame in the late President Magufuli's State Funeral on Monday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2021.*

## Photo Gallery: State Funeral of the late President John Magufuli in Dodoma, Tanzania



*Rwanda's Prime Minister, Dr. Édouard Ngirente's arrival in Dodoma where he was received and guided by Minister Damas Ndumbaro.*



*Rwanda's Foreign Affairs Minister of State Prof. Nshuti Manasseh, Rwanda's High Commissioner Maj. Gen. Charles Karamba and Counsellor Eng. John Kizito at the Jamhuri Stadium in Dodoma.*



*Rwanda's Prime Minister, Dr. Édouard Ngirente paying his last respect to the late President John Magufuli's body.*



*Rwanda's Prime Minister, Dr. Édouard Ngirente presenting the Condolences message on behalf of President Paul Kagame to the Tanzanians and all mourners at the Jamhuri Stadium in the country's Capital, Dodoma*

## Rwanda receives first consignment of Covid -19 vaccine

Rwanda has on Wednesday March 3, received its first consignment of COVID-19 vaccines through the COVAX initiative.

The first batch of 240,000 doses of the AstraZeneca-Oxford vaccine arrived at Kigali Airport on Wednesday morning.

The country's Health Minister, Dr Daniel Ngamije said Rwanda rolled out vaccination plan, which saw target risk groups across Rwanda receiving their first of two vaccine doses.

According to the statement, the vaccination exercise was rolled out on Friday, March 5, 2021 with respective recipients of the shots being invited directly to their District Hospitals.

“The target is to vaccinate 30 per cent of the population by the end of 2021, and 60 per cent by the end of 2022,” reads the statement.

The statement further added: With each recipient receiving two doses for full protection, the AstraZeneca-Oxford & Pfizer vaccines will be used to vaccinate a total of 171,480 people identified as priority risk groups, including frontline workers, and those above 65 years old or with underlying health conditions.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has commended Rwanda's efforts saying, “Rwanda has responded to the Covid-19 outbreak with determination to suppress circulation of the virus and save lives.

Dr Kasonde Mwinga, WHO Rwanda Country Representative. further added: These doses of Covid-19 vaccine from the Covax facility represent an unprecedented global effort to have equitable access to Covid-19 vaccines.



***The first batch of 240,000 doses of the AstraZeneca-Oxford vaccine arrived at Kigali Airport on Wednesday morning, March 4, 2021. The target is to vaccinate 30 per cent of the population by the end of 2021, and 60 per cent by the end of 2022,”***

## Rwanda receives 50,000 Covid-19 jabs from India



***The Government of Rwanda is pleased to receive 50,000 doses of Covid-19 vaccines from India, said Foreign Affairs Minister Biruta.***



***Foreign Affairs Minister Vincent Biruta was at Kigali International Airport with Oscar Kerketta, High Commissioner of India to Rwanda to receive a donation of 50,000 doses of Covid-19 vaccine from the Government of India***

Friday, March 5, 2021, The Government of Rwanda received a donation of 50,000 AstraZeneca Covid-19 vaccines from India.

Rwanda's Foreign Affairs Minister Vincent Biruta was at Kigali International Airport with Dr. Oscar Kerketta, High Commissioner of India to Rwanda to receive a donation of 50,000 doses of Covid-19 vaccine from the Government of India.

In his statement, Minister Vincent Biruta said “The Government of Rwanda is pleased to receive 50,000 doses of Covid-19 vaccines from India.”

The minister disclosed this after receiving the consignment of Vaccine from India's High Commissioner in Rwanda, Dr. Oscar Kerketta, at the Kigali International Airport.

Foreign Affairs Minister Biruta noted that the Government of Rwanda is grateful to the government of India and other partner countries for their valuable contribution to the fight against Covid-19.

Meanwhile, on Friday March 5, 2021 Rwanda launched its vaccination program nationwide first priority being to the high-risk group of people.

The vaccines came in two batches: 240,000 AstraZeneca vaccine doses that were delivered in the morning and 102,960 Pfizer vaccine doses which were received late in the day.

The country's target is to vaccinate 30 per cent of the population by the end of 2021, and 60 per cent by the end of 2022.

## Covid-19 Vaccination rolled out in Rwanda

On Monday 8th March 2021, more than 10,000 people got the Covid-19 shot, Priority groups which received vaccination include motorbike and bicycle taxi drivers, prison inmates, community public safety personnel (DASSO) and frontline public service staff.

The country's target is to vaccinate 30 per cent of the population by the end of 2021, and 60 per cent by the end of 2022.



*Frontline workers received the Covid-19 vaccination including more than 5,000 motorbike and bicycle taxi drivers, as well as community public safety personnel (DASSO), who are in regular contact with the public.*



*Among those vaccinated included more than 2,300 inmates of Nyarugenge Prison (nearly 1/4 of the prison population) based on age and underlying health conditions. The exercise will continue in other prisons across the country.*



*1,000 elderly Rwandans aged 65 and above also received their first dose of the Covid-19 vaccination in Kigali.*

## RwandAir is the first African airline to vaccinate all staff against Covid-19



RwandAir is the first African airline to vaccinate all staff against Covid-19, which will position the carrier as one of the safest on the continent.

The airline began its vaccination rollout programme earlier this month targeting all staff and crew who received their first shot.

Non-airline staff at Kigali International Airport, the airline's hub, have been vaccinated as well to ensure a safe and secure environment for all passengers.

The drive comes just after RwandAir announced it will be the first carrier in Africa to start trialing the IATA Travel Pass in April 2021 to enable the safe resumption of international travel.

Yvonne Manzi Makolo, CEO of RwandAir, said: "Rwanda's rapid roll-out of the first

consignment of vaccines to arrive in the country prioritized all frontline workers, including RwandAir's staff and crew.

The vaccination programme has been designed to ensure we provide a safe and secure environment for travelers, both in the air and on the ground."

"We have carefully considered every customer touchpoint at Kigali International Airport and on board our aircraft, as the world resumes traveling in the post-Covid era."

"We look forward to welcoming our customers back to RwandAir. As an airline, the health and safety of our customers and staff is our number one priority and we have been working hard to

restore our customers' confidence to fly."

In addition to RwandAir staff and crew, the staff of other airlines operating at the Kigali International Airport also received their Covid-19 vaccinations at the same time.

