

**REPUBLIC OF RWANDA**



**MINISTRY OF JUSTICE  
P.O.BOX 160 KIGALI**

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE/ATTORNEY GENERAL ON  
THE GRADUATION DAY OF POLICE SENIOR COMMAND AND STAFF COURSE 08  
(12.06.2020)**

- **The Inspector General of Rwanda National Police**
- **UR-Vice Chancellor**
- **Distinguished Guests**
- **All protocols observed**

Good morning.

I am pleased and honoured to be part of this congregation marking the graduation and closing ceremony of the 8<sup>th</sup> intake of the Police Senior Command and Staff Course. Despite the difficult times of COVID-19 pandemic which the entire world is confronted with, this event is an important milestone in your career path. It could not go without being celebrated.

Let me start by hailing the remarkable efforts and positive attitude you demonstrated during this demanding yet rewarding course. I understand the inconvenience of the COVID-19 to the good learning environment but I have a strong belief that our brothers and sisters from Central African Republic, Botswana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Namibia, Somalia, South Soudan and Zimbabwe have enjoyed their stay in this beautiful city of Musanze.

**Distinguished guests,  
Ladies and gentlemen,**

The history of Rwanda and the journey that the people of Rwanda traveled before, during and after the tragic genocide committed against the Tutsi in 1994 taught us more than any other country that peace, security, justice, good governance and development are indissolubly interlinked. This however, remains true for any other country with or without the experience of conflict.

It therefore flows from this undeniable reality that only trained, professional, human rights abiding and disciplined law enforcement agencies, with strategic command dimension, and a full understanding of national, regional and global peace and security dynamic are inevitable to the sustainability of this nexus.

Today, threats come from unexpected sources and directions. Therefore, the effective response to the challenges of the contemporary policing environment associated with globalization, use of sophisticated technology in the commission of crime, transnational organised crime and others; require regional, international and judicial cooperation, experience sharing as well as the harmonization of training and programmes tailored to the identified law enforcement challenges.

Considering the contemporary nature of human interactions that have transcended the limits of individual nation states, I strongly believe, and, I hope, many will agree with me, that cooperation is key in addressing transnational and globalized crimes most of which are technology-based. I am glad that today's graduation reflects this understanding and I look forward to strengthening cooperation in the future.

Based on the components delivered to this course, the caliber of the course participants, diversity of interactions coupled with the profile and experience of the trainers, I have no doubt that the graduates will effectively deliver on their mission.

I am confident that the knowledge and skills imparted to you will be used to make a difference in your respective countries as you respond to security challenges of today and tomorrow. Let the endorsements and symbols for Senior Commanders you have received today not be mere accolades to wear but rather a fresh rejuvenated start to big tasks ahead.

I am sure that this course has been an opportunity for participants from the various nationalities to upgrade their knowledge and skills to the strategic command level but also a precious occasion for sharing experiences and good practices, as well as developing a common understanding on policing dynamics.

I urge you, graduates, to maintain the bond that you have nurtured amongst yourselves since the beginning of the course and always keep in mind that networking is key to success. So do not lose connection.

Permit me to conclude by commending the valuable efforts by the Rwanda National Police in fostering the partnership between National Police College, the UK International College of Policing and the University of Rwanda through its Center for Conflict Management as well as other stakeholders for making this course a success. It is this effort that places the Police ahead of the challenges faced. Government pledges its continued support to your work.

On this note, I officially declare the Police Senior Command and Staff Course Intake 08 officially closed.

I once again congratulate you all!

Thank you.

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