

PARLIAMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF THE WESTERN CAPE

ANNOUNCEMENTS, TABLING AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

TUESDAY, 3 APRIL 2018

TABLING

The Speaker:

Reports received from municipality and tabled in terms of sections 132(1) and (2) of the Local Government: Municipal Finance Management Act, 2003 (Act 56 of 2003):

City of Cape Town

- (a) Oversight Report in respect of the annual reports for 2016/17 of the City and its municipal entity (CONVENCO).
- (b) Integrated Annual Report for 2016/17.

COMMITTEE REPORT

Report on the Rwanda Study visit.

A Delegation from the Western Cape Provincial Parliament, having undertaken a study visit to Rwanda from 5 to 11 November 2017, reports as follows:

Delegation

The Delegation consisted of the following members:

Maseko, L (DA) (Leader of the Delegation)
Davids, S (ANC)
Makeleni, P (ANC)
Mitchell, D (DA)

The Delegation was accompanied by Ms S Jones, Committee Co-ordinator.

1. Introduction

The Delegation went on a study visit to Rwanda to observe best practices, to build relationships and to share information.

In 1999 South Africa and Rwanda signed a General Agreement on Bilateral Co-operation for the establishment of a Joint Commission of Co-operation (JCC) at Ministerial Level. The JCC provided a platform for progress in areas such as institution and capacity building, health and education. Further areas of cooperation included mining, infrastructure, information technology, training in forestry, water and sanitation.

Bilateral relations between South Africa and Rwanda have been strained since 2010. Both countries have since been mending relations to promote their common interest.

2. Background

Rwanda, also known as the “land of a thousand hills” is a mountainous country located on the far western edge of the Rift Valley, bordering on Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, and Tanzania. Rwanda ranks amongst the nine poorest countries in the world, with more than 60% of the population living below the poverty line.

In 2013, the population consisted of 11,8 million people, which has increased to 12,21 million in 2017. There are very few major towns in Rwanda. Kigali is the largest with a population of a million people. Other larger towns are Gitarama, Butare and Gisenyi, with a population of less than 100 000 people. Approximately 52,3% of the population consist of women and 34% of Rwandan households are headed by woman. The average population density ranges from 400 inhabitants per square kilometre.

2.1 Economic overview

Rwanda’s Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is estimated to be US\$ 7, 521billion. Tea and coffee are the two main exported commodities. In 2000, coffee production stood at 14 578 560 tons and in 2002, tea became the largest exported item at 15,000 tons, with a net value of US\$18 million. Animal hide and tin ore are Rwanda’s other export goods. Most exports go to China (9,1%), Germany (7,3%), the United States (4,5%), Thailand (8,6%) and Belgium (4,1%). The total revenue generated by exports is US\$213 million. Food, machinery, equipment, steel, petroleum products, cement and construction material are imported. The World Bank estimates unemployment rate to be 4,2%.

Rwanda met most of the Millennium Development Goals by the end of 2015. The country’s economic growth was strengthened by population stability, improved policies, access to services and human development indicators. The support provided by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, assisted Rwanda to make important economic and structural reforms that sustained its economic growth rates.

Rwanda’s long term development goals are defined in a strategy entitled Vision 2020. The Strategy seeks to transform the country from a low-income agriculture-based economy to a knowledge-based, service-oriented economy, with a middle income country status by 2020.

To achieve its long term development goals, the Government of Rwanda has formulated a medium term strategy. The second Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (EDPRS 2) outlines an overarching goal of growth acceleration and poverty reduction through four thematic areas: economic transformation, rural development, productivity and youth employment and accountable governance. The EDPRS 2 aims to raise the GDP per capita to US\$1,000, have less than 30% of the population below the poverty line and have less than 9% of the population living in extreme poverty by 2018.

2.2 Development challenges

The private sector is largely informal. Poor infrastructure and a lack of access to electricity are some of the major constraints for private investment. Rwanda relies significantly on foreign investment and foreign aid to sustain its current high investment rate of 25% of the GDP. Foreign aid represents 30% to 40% of the budget. While Rwanda has been effectively using aid for development, the country remains vulnerable to fluctuations in aid provision.

2.3 Investment opportunities

Rwanda offers numerous investment opportunities as the country produces a very limited number of goods and services. Friendly industrial policies have contributed to the general improvement of the economy. The privatisation of public enterprises provide for a more competitive private sector. The Rwandan Development Board was established to streamline the administrative procedures and processes needed to start a business. Good financial and monetary reforms were put in place to further improve the investment climate.

Further investment opportunities are endorsed through manufacturing, tourism, information communications technology, agriculture, energy, mining, financial services, health services, infrastructure, education, real estate and construction.

2.4 Information sharing

In 2010, Transparency International, ranked Rwanda as the eighth cleanest country out of 47 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. In addition hereto, it was ranked the 66th cleanest country out of 178 countries in the world. This is all due to the Umuganda Programme, which compels all Rwandans to meet and undertake community work on every last Saturday of the month.

This trend has also been adopted by the City of Johannesburg's Executive Mayor, Mr Herman Mashaba, who together with community leaders and various stakeholders have launched the #AReSebetseng campaign. It involved a monthly clean-up volunteer initiative that was launched on 14 August 2017, at the Yeoville Recreation Centre, to encourage the reduction of filth and litter within Johannesburg. The #AReSebetseng community clean up takes place on the last Saturday of every month. The objective of the campaign is to encourage residents to work together with government and skilled stakeholders to ensure that the City of Johannesburg becomes clean.

3. Overview and programme in Kigali (5-11 November 2017)

The Delegation, upon arrival in Kigali at 09:20 am on Sunday, 5 November 2017, was met by members of the Rwandan Parliament and Ms Klopper, the South African High Commissioner. Meetings started at 08:30 am each morning and were scheduled until 16:00 pm every day but continued until 18:30 pm for most of the visit. An additional meeting to the Murambi Clinic in

Butare was included on the Programme. The Delegation departed from Kigali at 06:30 am on Saturday, 11 November 2017.

- 3.1 During the visit the Delegation met with representatives from the following institutions:
 - 3.1.1 The Committees on Public Accounts, Social Affairs and Education, Technology, Culture and Youth;
 - 3.1.2 The Speaker's office at the Chamber of Deputies;
 - 3.1.3 Kigali Genocide Memorial and the Genocide Museum;
 - 3.1.4 The Auditor General (AG);
 - 3.1.5 Ministry of Youth;
 - 3.1.6 Rwandan Development Board;
 - 3.1.7 Rwandan Housing Authority;
 - 3.1.8 Ministry of Health;
 - 3.1.9 National Youth Council;
 - 3.1.10 Rwamagana Hospital;
 - 3.1.11 Murambi Garden Clinic; and
 - 3.1.12 Official Dinner with the Speaker.

- 3.2 Discussions ensued on the following key themes:
 - 3.2.1 Portfolio Committees;
 - 3.2.2 Rwandan Genocide History and Reconciliation;
 - 3.2.3 Finance;
 - 3.2.4 Tourism and Economic Growth;
 - 3.2.5 Housing;
 - 3.2.6 Education;
 - 3.2.7 Information Technology;
 - 3.2.8 Youth Development; and
 - 3.2.9 Health.

This Report discusses the findings emanating from the study visit.

4. Portfolio Committees

4.1 Standing Committee on Public Accounts (SCOPA)

The new Constitution of Rwanda came into effect on 4 June 2003. It established three organs of state, namely, the Legislature, the Executive and the Judiciary as separate and independent but complementary institutions of the state. The Constitution established a bi-cameral parliament namely the Chamber of the Deputies and the Senate to carry out the legislative function, oversight function, and representation function.

Under Article 79 of the Constitution, the Chamber of Deputies is accountable for receiving and debating the Annual Finance Bill. The Bill can only be passed into law with the approval of the Senate. The Cabinet, as the Executive, is responsible for the formulation, preparation and submission of the Finance Bill to the Chamber of Deputies. The Executive is also responsible for budget execution once the Bill have become finance law. The Chamber of Deputies is also responsible for approving external loans by the central government as well as setting limits

or ceilings for loans. Loan agreements are contracted by the Minister responsible for state finances on behalf of the government.

The Organic Budget Law, which was adopted by Parliament on 12 September 2006 and the Financial Regulations, which was adopted by Cabinet in the year 2007, details procedures for the control and use of public funds. Strategic planning, budgeting and Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) form an integral part of the public financial management cycle. The cycle identifies the process through which public resources are allocated, disbursed, and accounted for, in order to meet national objectives.

The Public Finance Management (PFM) cycle starts with the planning process. The planning function is co-ordinated by the National Development Planning & Research (NDPR) Unit at the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning. The Department is also responsible for ensuring that the planning function in both Central and Local Government is aligned to National priorities, and that it informs the budgeting process. The Department is also in charge of assessing, monitoring and evaluating the achievement of the Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy Targets (EDPRST).

In 2008, the NDPR developed a comprehensive “National Planning, Budgeting and Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) Guideline” for use by officials in charge of planning and budgeting in various ministries. Their responsibility includes the co-ordination and elaboration of the sector strategic plan, preparation of the MTEF, as well as the organisation of the Sector Review Process.

The fiscal year runs from 1 July of the one year to 30 June the next year. The Auditor General (AG) is required to submit an annual audited financial report to Parliament. The Minister submits the Budget Framework Paper to both Chambers of the Parliament by 30 April of each financial year. The Audit Report indicates the manner in which the budget was utilised, unnecessary expenses which were incurred, or expenses which were contrary to the law and whether there was misappropriation or general misuse of public funds. Parliament reviews, debates and provides an oversight function on the Executive. Parliament submits comments on the Budget Framework Paper to Cabinet by 30 May of the current fiscal year. The Minister submits the Finance Bill to the Parliament by 15 June each year. The AG submits a copy of the report to the President of the Republic, Cabinet, the President of the Supreme Court and the Prosecutor General of the Republic.

SCOPA also involves the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) for any further investigations on questionable financials of institutions. The OAG is also requested to provide input on which institutions to summon to appear before the Committee. The AG and/or representatives from the OAG, Prosecution, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Justice and the Public Procurement Authority are invited to attend SCOPA meetings. The AG is allowed to provide input and ask questions during the meetings. The Judiciary participates in the investigations prior to the finalisation of the Annual Report and also attend SCOPA meetings as observers.

Parliament, after having received the report of the AG, examines the report and takes appropriate decisions within a period of six months. All participants in a project is held accountable and would therefore have to account to the Committee. Should the Committee find the participants’ response inconclusive; the respective Department can be requested to submit a detailed report to the Committee on the matter.

All hearings are recorded and the media is allowed access to the meetings. The meetings are open to members of the public. Members of the public are not allowed to provide comment.

4.1.1 Health

Parliament has a legislative and oversight mandate over the health sector through the Standing Committee on Social Affairs. The Standing Committee on Social Affairs monitors and evaluates the following:

- 4.1.1.1 Bills related to the health sector and oversees the implementation of related laws and policies;
- 4.1.1.2 Service delivery in hospitals, health centres and clinics to ensure service excellence;
- 4.1.1.3 Poverty reduction programmes; and
- 4.1.1.4 Health conditions of vulnerable groups including the disabled, orphans, etc.

The quality of healthcare has historically been poor and there has been limited access to healthcare. In the year 1998, many children passed away before the age of five mostly due to malaria. The Vision 2020 Programme boosted spending on health care to 6,5% of the country's GDP in 2013. Rwanda has decentralised the financing and management of healthcare to local communities, through a system of health insurance providers called "*mutuelles de santé*". The "*mutuelles*" were piloted in the year 1999, and were made available nationwide by the year 2000 with the assistance of international development partners. The rates were established according to a sliding scale, with the poorest paying nothing.

4.1.2 Education

The education system comprises of four main levels namely; pre-primary, primary, secondary and higher education with significant technical, vocational education and training programmes at both secondary and higher education levels. Pre-primary education commences at nursery school level for a period of three years for children between the ages of four and six. Primary education has a six year cycle with the official school going age ranging from seven to 12 years. The schools focus on core literacy and numeracy skills, as well as preparing students for secondary studies. Secondary education also has a six year cycle with the official age category for this level ranging from 13 to 18 years. It is subdivided into lower secondary for the first three years and upper secondary for the last three years. The students are examined on the subjects studied throughout the year. The final mark determines the student's eligibility for higher education.

The Rwandan Parliament passes laws related to education and oversees policy implementation and programmes. This has contributed to the development of the education sector by enhancing education through:

4.1.2.1 Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET)

- 4.1.2.1.1 Infrastructure development and construction of TVET schools in Rwanda; and
- 4.1.2.1.2 Introduction of new programmes that are closely connected to the labour markets.

4.1.2.2 Information and Communications Technology (ICT) in Education

- 4.1.2.2.1 Smart Classrooms;
- 4.1.2.2.2 E-learning;

- 4.1.2.2.3 Digital content development; and
- 4.1.2.2.4 Teachers training in ICT at all levels.

4.1.2.3 Higher Education and Research

- 4.1.2.3.1 Foreign universities are encouraged to open campuses in Rwanda;
- 4.1.2.3.2 Opportunities in constructing and managing student hostels in private and Government universities; and
- 4.1.2.3.3 Supplement Government effort in scholarship provision of student loan schemes.

4.1.3 Information and Communications Technology (ICT)

The National Information Communication Policy embodies Rwanda's ICT strategies towards achieving the Vision 2020, Rwanda's blue print to achieving a knowledge-based economy and to become a middle income country by the year 2020.

The first phase was implemented from the year 2000 to the year 2005. It focused on creating policies favourable to ICT initiatives. The second phase was implemented from the year 2006 to the year 2010. It focused on building the ICT infrastructure to enable service delivery. A

50 000 kilometer fibre-optic broadband cable was laid throughout the country connecting all 30 districts and 9 regional links to neighbouring countries. The third phase was implemented from the year 2011 to the year 2015, to strengthen skills-training centres and to develop an ICT culture in schools as a means of creating a critical mass of IT professionals. The state-run Rwanda Information Technology Authority, announced that it had completed a nationwide 2 300 kilometer fibre-optic cable. The network, connects Rwanda to other countries by means of the Seacom undersea cable along the east coast of Africa. It provides fast Internet access to a wider range of broadband services, replacing expensive and slower satellite connections.

Due to the high demand for faster internet access, a network of telecentres connected to the fibre-optic cable were established in the 30 districts. Access to the internet and other digital technologies were made available at affordable prices. This provided every Rwandan town with high-speed domestic broadband access. It allowed middle-class Rwandans to explore business opportunities, skilled people to find jobs and farmers to find better prices for their crops.

Rwandans are now enjoying the convenience of banking through mobile phones, a feature already available in several other African countries. Early this year MTN teamed up with the Commercial Bank of Rwanda to launch a mobile money service. It allows thousands of subscribers to transfer money between accounts, withdraw cash and pay electricity and pay bills using SMS messages.

Farmers can now receive updates on the market prices for their crops, with an SMS software programme called e-Soko (e-market), eliminating middlemen and allowing them to pocket the extra cash. Applicants for drivers' licenses can access the traffic department's SMS-based application to make appointments or receive results of driving tests. A similar application is linked to the national ID database, making it easier for potential voters to register.

4.1.4 Culture and Youth

The youth forms the majority of the population. They are a major asset of the country and the key drivers for sustainable development. The country has implemented a series of programmes derived from the National Youth Policy since the year 2006. The Policy focuses on socio-economic empowerment of the young with a clear alignment to the country's Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy. The Government aims to promote a generation of youth with the right values of patriotism, self-reliance, dignity that is socio-economically empowered to compete globally.

The Ministry of Youth and ICT's mandate is to develop, coordinate, support, monitor and evaluate the implementation of policies and strategies that promote youth development aimed at economic and social transformation.

4.1.5 Tourism

Tourism is the largest source of foreign exchange earnings. It is projected to grow at a rate of 25% every year. Tourism is the biggest contributor to the national export strategy. The total revenue generated through tourism in the year 2016 amounted to US\$404 million. The tourism sector has also attracted foreign direct investment with major international hotel brands such as the Marriot, Radisson by Park Inn, Golden Tulip, One and Only, Singita and Wilderness Africa Operation Bisate lodge. Rwanda is becoming a regional and international conference hub with its new world class convention centre.

5. Speaker: Chamber of Deputies

The Chamber of Deputies is the lower house of the bicameral national legislature of Rwanda. It was created under the new Constitution and adopted by referendum in the year 2003. Its mission is to legislate and oversee the Executive action for and on behalf of the people of Rwanda.

The Rwandan State Government consists of 26 members, 12 elected by local councils, 8 appointed by the President, and the rest on behalf of political and educational groups. These members all serve eight-year terms in office. The board room of Deputies has 80 seats. A total of 53 of the members are popularly elected on a proportional basis, and the rest are nominated from women, youth, and other groups. Deputies serve five-year terms. Administratively, the country is divided into five provinces.

The Subordinate Chamber consists of 80 Deputies, that each serve a five-year term. A total of 24 seats are taken up by women. They are elected through a joint assembly of local government officials. A total of three seats are reserved for youth and disabled members. The remaining 53 seats are elected by universal votes under a comparative representation system. Rwandan legislation dictates that should the President of the Country and the Speaker be from the same political party, the Speaker must resign from his/ her post. The multi-party politics approach will ensure that a progressive democratic reform is maintained.

5.1 The Chamber of Deputies has eight committees namely:

5.1.1 The Committee in charge of Assessment of the Chamber of Deputies Activities, Deputies' Conduct and Legislative Immunity;

5.1.2 The Committee on Public Accounts;

- 5.1.3 The Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Environment;
- 5.1.4 The Committee on National Budget and Patrimony;
- 5.1.5 The Committee on Unity, Human Rights and Fight against Genocide
- 5.1.6 The Committee on Social Affairs; and
- 5.1.7 The Committee on Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and Security.

The Government of Rwanda appointed woman in leadership positions in the Executive, the Legislative and the Judicial arms of the government. In the last ten years women have stood as exemplary leaders at policy level as well as community level. The Forum of Rwandese Women Leaders' Caucus which also includes men started as a caucus that brings males and females from different backgrounds together. They are able to lobby together and influence the enactment of laws that protect and promote the rights of women. Examples are the laws on inheritance, the rights of children and the rights of women in the work place, amongst others. Women were also mobilised at grassroots level to contribute to the making of the Constitution so that the issues of gender equality takes centre stage. In addition hereto they had to ensure that the budget addresses the needs of women and men.

Rwanda's parliament has the highest percentage of women in a single house/parliament worldwide. The government has reserved 24 out of the 80 seats in the Chamber of Deputies for women. The 24 seats allocated to women are divided between each province and the city of Kigali, where they are elected by an assembly made up of various councils and committee members.

More women were granted seats due to the effects of the Rwandan Genocide on the population. After the Rwandan Genocide the population was made up of more women than men, and this was reflected into the parliament system. Rwanda started to experience many gains as time progressed, including growth in the economy, gender equality, and an increase in trade. The Government of Rwanda promotes gender equality and women's empowerment as a prerequisite for sustainable peace and development.

6. Kigali Genocide Memorial

In 2001, in collaboration with Rwanda's National Commission for the Fight against Genocide (NCLG), the Aegis Trust raised approximately US\$2 million required to build the Kigali Genocide Memorial (the Memorial). The Memorial was officially opened on 7 April 2004 to mark the tenth commemoration of the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda. The Memorial is the final resting place for up to 259,000 victims of the genocide and serves as a place where people can grieve for their lost loved ones. It also serves as a museum where both local and international visitors can learn about the history, implementation and consequences of the genocide.

The Memorial is an important place for Rwandans as it has become a place of remembrance of those who have passed away. It also educates the Rwandans that mass atrocities can be prevented from occurring in communities. A number of educational conflict prevention and peace-building programmes are run by the memorial, both onsite and in communities across Rwanda.

Educational tours provides information about the 1994 genocide and the importance of conflict prevention and peace-building. It conducts a range of one day training programmes to discuss genocide education. Support programmes are hosted to teach about traumatic subjects such as the mass atrocity and genocide.

It supports a range of external education programmes, in Rwanda and internationally. The Rwanda Peace Education Programme, run by Aegis Trust, is the main outreach partner for the Memorial. To date, 21 visits have taken place in communities across Rwanda. At the core of the Programme is a mobile exhibition that uses story-telling to share how the genocide against the Tutsi affected people and how reconciliation is being fostered.

The 1994 genocide claimed more than one million innocent lives, and destroyed the country's socio-economic and political infrastructure. The manner in which the genocide was executed left the country almost entirely destroyed. A large number of people were deceased and unburied, and close to three million people were driven into exile. The economy was in shambles and there were no functioning state institutions. The genocide left hundreds and thousands of orphans and widows, and 150,000 suspects of genocide awaiting trials. The population was highly traumatised and deeply divided.

Besides the loss of one million people in a period of three months, a destroyed economy, millions fleeing into exile with many Rwandans taken as hostages by the ex-FAR (former Rwandan government forces) and the "*Interahamwe*" (militia who participated in the genocide), over 120,000 persons were detained in jails. Abject poverty is still high and it is affecting mainly women from the rural areas. High HIV/Aids rates were as a result of more than 250,000 women who were raped. Approximately 66% of the women who were raped tested positive for HIV/Aids and other infectious diseases. The genocide atrocities impacted on the mental health of women and on their physical well-being. The level of mistrust among the families of those who survived the genocide, and those whose relatives were suspected of having committed genocide is still high and deep rooted.

The Kigali Genocide Memorial includes three permanent exhibitions, the largest of which documents the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi. There is also a children's memorial and an exhibition on the history of genocidal violence around the world. The Education Centre, Gardens, and Genocide Archive of Rwanda form part of a meaningful tribute to those who perished, and provide a powerful educational tool for visitors.

The Kigali Genocide Memorial welcomes visitors seven days a week, however on the last Saturday of every month, the memorial is open from 1:00pm to 5:00pm due to Umuganda, when all Rwandans meet to undertake community work.

7. The Campaign Against Genocide Museum

All museums in Rwanda are open every day from 8:00am to 18:00pm. The Campaign Against Genocide Museum (the Museum) was officially opened on 13 December 2017 by President Kagame. The Museum is situated in the Parliamentary building which was once known as *Conseil National De Development*. The building hosted the Rwandan Patriotic Front politicians and the 600 man protection force from 28 December 1993. The 600 man protection force, was given the order to defend themselves and rescue victims of genocide in their vicinity on 7 April 1994 by the RPA Chairman of High Command Major General Paul Kagame. The Museum depicts in detail how the Campaign Against Genocide Plan was executed by Rwanda Patriotic Front/Army soldiers (RPF/A) following the withdrawal of UN troops leaving the targeted Tutsi under the mercy of the Genocidaires and how the RPF/A forces took the unilateral decision to stop Genocide, Rescue victims of Genocide and defeat the Genocidal forces. The Museum also displays a 12,7mm machine gun that portrays two RPF/A soldiers manning the heavy machine gun, which was used to first contain and then repel attempts by the genocide army of the former regime.

8. Office of the Auditor General

The Office of the Auditor General of Rwanda was established by an Act of Parliament in June 1998. Since the new Constitution was adopted in June 2003, the OAG became the supreme audit institution of Rwanda. The new law determines the powers and function of the institution. The OAG is an independent national institution responsible for the audit of state finances. The Rwandan Constitution stipulates that the AG must submit an Annual Report on the implementation of the State Budget to each Chamber of Parliament.

According to article 183 of the Constitution of the Republic of Rwanda, the responsibilities of the AG includes auditing revenues and expenditure of the state as well as local administrative entities, public enterprises, parastatal organisations and government projects.

No person is permitted to interfere in the functioning of the OAG or to give instructions to its personnel or to cause them to change their methods of work. A copy of the AG's report is submitted to the President, Cabinet, and the President of the Supreme Court and the Prosecutor General of the Republic.

Article 28 of the Rwandan OAG law states that within three months following the closure of the financial year, the AG must submit to the Chamber of Deputies the Annual Financial Report of the office. The AG must provide a complete report on the consolidated state accounts for the previous year which details the manner in which the budget was utilised. The Report must indicate the manner in which the budget was utilised, unnecessary expenses which were incurred or expenses which were contrary to the law and whether there was any misappropriation or general squandering of public funds. Pre-hearing meetings are hosted with the OAG and the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) explains salient issues that come out of the report. The OAG has to make any additional and relevant information that provides additional insight to queries raised in his report available to the PAC.

The Rwandan Parliament may instruct the OAG to carry out a financial audit of any institution of the State or with regards to the use of funds provided by the State. The institutions and public officials to which the Report of the Auditor General is addressed are obliged to implement its recommendations by taking appropriate measures in respect of the irregularities and other shortcomings which were disclosed. Performance audits by the OAG has been useful in influencing policy in sectors such as agriculture, mining and others.

The AG attends public hearings as an expert advisor and participates in international supreme audit institutions meetings where experiences are shared and best practises are exchanged. PAC has regular workshops with the OAG on matters pertaining to the Public Finance Management Macro-economic policy, fiscal policy, budget execution and analysis, financial reporting and auditing.

9. Youth Ministry

The mission of the Ministry of Youth and Information Communication Technology address national priorities for economic growth and poverty reduction. Deliberations at village level on key strategies that will foster self-reliance through social empowerment youth programmes to achieve effective and sustainable social protection for the poor and vulnerable. Programmes were developed according to the current need set of the youth. This was achieved through the development and coordination of national policies and programs related to youth empowerment as well as Information and Communication Technology policies and programs.

Approximately 47% of the national budget is allocated to the Youth Ministry to develop youth programmes. Post genocide interventions had to be conducted to rehabilitate the country. Performance contracts were signed with service providers and their output evaluated on a yearly basis. Districts are incentivised according to the progress made.

The Following strategies were implemented to steer Rwanda towards rehabilitation:

- 9.1 The seven year National Intervention Programme;
- 9.2 The 2020 Vision;
- 9.3 Private sector development;
- 9.4 Youth programmes; and
- 9.5 Youth employment.

10. National Youth Council

The National Youth Council (NYC) is a Government Institution established by the Constitution of the Republic of Rwanda. The National Youth Council's mission is to facilitate and encourage the youth of Rwanda, to participate in the socio-economic development and transformation programmes to develop a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable society.

10.1 The NYC serves as a platform to:

- 10.1.1 Consult on and advocate for policies that are responsive to the problems facing the youth;
- 10.1.2 Implement youth economic empowerment strategies;
- 10.1.3 Boost technical, vocational and technological training and embrace entrepreneurship;
- 10.1.4 Participate in the detection and development of talents amongst the youth;
- 10.1.5 Contribute to inculcating values of the Rwandan culture into the youth;
- 10.1.6 Create awareness against genocide and its ideology, divisionism and any other acts that are likely to destroy the country;
- 10.1.7 Contribute, support and monitor the functioning of youth cooperatives, associations and other youth organisations;
- 10.1.8 Mobilise the youth to finding solutions to their problems, mobilise them to take part in decision-making processes and in their activities and to join decision-making organs, etc.;
- 10.1.9 Establish and monitor programs aimed at sensitizing the youth to avoid the use of narcotics, sexual risk behaviours and any other behaviours detrimental to health; and
- 10.1.10 Promote cooperation and good relationships between the Rwandan youth and the youth from abroad.

10.2 Challenges the Youth Council are dealing with include:

- 10.2.1 Unemployment, limited employment opportunities and poverty;
- 10.2.2 Rehabilitation;
- 10.2.3 Skills development;
- 10.2.4 Consequences of the genocide; and
- 10.2.5 Limited skills and funding for start-ups and SMEs.

10.3 Youth social empowerment programmes

The representation of NYC and the existing youth programmes provides an opportunity for development and a channel for advocacy on youth issues that propose tangible solutions. It also helps to strengthen socio-economic empowerment and national transformation. The social empowerment programmes are as follows:

- 10.3.1 Youth month in May of each year;
- 10.3.2 Youth centres;
- 10.3.3 National Civic Academy (*Iterero*);
- 10.3.4 Volunteerism;
- 10.3.5 National Rehabilitation Centres that deals with psychological rehabilitation, rehabilitation for drug addicts for a period of six months. Parents are consulted prior to admission; and
- 10.3.6 Skills development programmes in carpentry, masonry and clothing. These programmes are designed to be age specific.

Graduates are provided with short courses to develop soft skills to enter the workforce market. Talent detection competitions are hosted to discover youth with specific talents. Winners are mentored by experts in that field to later receive permanent employment.

11. Rwanda Development Board (RDB)

The Rwanda Development Board was established in 2008. The RDB merged eight institutions to fast track economic development and to enable private sector growth through business reforms, one stop centre coordination, synergy and efficiency. The merged institutions include key agencies responsible for business registration, investment promotion, environmental clearances, privatisation and specialist agencies which support the priority sectors of ICT and tourism as well as SMEs and human capacity development in the private sector. The RDB is independent and reports directly to the President.

11.1 Information hub for investors

The Rwandan Government is seeking to establish more than 20 new platforms to strengthen Public-Private Dialogue. The initiative seeks to enhance efficiency and boost competitiveness of small and medium entrepreneurs. The new platforms will be managed under the Rwanda Public Private Dialogue secretariat (RPPD) and will mainly focus on the Small and Medium Entrepreneurs in different sectors. The RPPD is a government initiative established to enhance interaction between government and business communities through their umbrella Private Sector Federation. To enhance this dialogue government has now recommended the formation of more platforms to expand on investment opportunities across a range of high growth areas.

Local manufacturers are seeking joint ventures with their East African Community counterparts as one of the ways to penetrate regional markets. The move could help strengthen the country's manufacturing and exports sectors, thus accelerating economic growth.

Rwanda has implemented reforms across all economic sectors to facilitate business in infrastructure, agriculture, industry and services. The Looking Beyond Doing Business Programme is used to expand and reform business. Business is incentivised with:

11.1.1 Fiscal incentives:

- 11.1.1.1 Zero corporate income tax for companies planning to relocate their headquarters to Rwanda;
- 11.1.1.2 Preferential corporate income tax rate of 15% for investment in priority sectors or exporting at least 50% of the produce in energy, transport, affordable housing, ICT and financial service;
- 11.1.1.3 Accelerated depreciation rate of 50%, for the first year in key priority sectors. E.g. tourism, construction, manufacturing and agro-processing, education, health, telecommunication and transport;
- 11.1.1.4 Exemption of capital gains tax, for any registered investors;
- 11.1.1.5 Seven year corporate income tax holiday, for export investments and projects over US\$ 50 million in energy, tourism, health manufacturing and ICT; and
- 11.1.1.6 Custom tax and duty exemption, for products used in export processing zones.

11.1.2 Non-fiscal incentives:

- 11.1.2.1 Quick business and investment online registration;
- 11.1.2.2 Assistance with tax related services and exemptions;
- 11.1.2.3 Assistance with access to utilities like water and electricity;
- 11.1.2.4 Assistance in obtaining visa and work permits;
- 11.1.2.5 One stop centre that provides notary services; migration, etc.;
- 11.1.2.6 Provision of aftercare services to fast-track project implementation; and
- 11.1.2.7 Regardless of the origin of the investor, all business sectors are open to private investment.

12 Rwanda Housing Authority (RHA)

The real estate sector is a key driver for economic growth. The sector contributes to more than 8% of the national GDP and grew by 6% in the years 2015-2016. This is due to the sustained expansion in private constructions and public works. Investment in real estate and construction grew from US\$100 million to US\$ 596 million in the past 14 years and is driven by population growth, an emerging and growing middle class, increased investment in Rwandan property markets and government investment in infrastructure expansion and modernisation of urban and rural infrastructure.

The Rwandan Housing Authority is a public institution established on 25 October 2010. The Housing Authority is overseen by the Ministry of Infrastructure and was established in a bid to improve the quality of life for Rwandans through:

- Rural and urban settlement;
- Provision of affordable housing;
- Construction and rehabilitation of government buildings; and
- Regulation of the construction industry.

Rwanda has one of the highest population densities in Africa. Approximately 17% of the population lives in urban areas. The Vision 2020 envisages 35% of Rwanda's population living in urban areas. The rural population according to the 2012 census accounts for around 83% of the national population. Approximately 55,8% consists of planned grouped settlements and the remaining 44,2% forms the unplanned, *ad hoc* satellite settlements.

12.1 Rural Settlement

The Housing Authority has commenced with the layout of plans for all rural settlement “*Imidugudu*” sites that are suitable for human settlement. Data collection and processing were done in 12 districts including Karongi, Musanze, Rubavu, Nyagatare, Bugesera, Gisagara, Nyamasheke, Rusizi, Muhanga, Gicumbi, Nyaruguru and Gakenke districts and the validation of the “*Imidugudu*” sites to the local government and local community is in the process of being finalised.

Current trends in urbanisation, rural settlement development and overall housing projects are adhered to. Joint planning, implementation, monitoring and control goes into coordinating and regulating the housing sector. Rwanda relies on continued learning from best practice models to pave the way to sustainable development. As part of this model the following have been implemented:

- The Human Settlement Policy was adopted in 1996, amended in 2004, 2006 and 2009;
- The law Governing Human Habitation in Rwanda was adopted on 21 June 2011;
- The Vision 2020 document envisages that by the year 2020, 70% of the rural population will be living in planned villages “*Imidugudu*”;
- Systematic plans to relocate households from scattered and high risk zones areas on a yearly basis have been implemented;
- As of the year 2008, only 22% of the Rwandan population lived in “*Imidugudu*”;
- The Government established a Rural Settlement Task Force (RSTF) in December 2008 to accelerate planned human settlement in “*Imidugudu*”; and
- In the year 2014 during the restructuring, the RSTF from the Ministry of Local Government joined RHA and started working together as a Rural Settlement Division under the Human Settlement Department.

12.3 Integrated Planned Settlement

Rwanda has developed the 11 Pillars of Integrated Development Plan Intervention Strategy. The aim of the strategy is as follows:

- 12.3.1 Increased agricultural production; including livestock development;
- 12.3.2 Conservation and value addition;
- 12.3.3 Cooperatives development;
- 12.3.4 Promotion of off-farm activities and employment;
- 12.3.5 Develop access to financial services;
- 12.3.6 Accelerate rural settlement reform (development of grouped settlements);
- 12.3.7 Optimal use of land and preservation of environment;
- 12.3.8 ICT development;
- 12.3.9 Energy (including biogas);
- 12.3.10 Social protection; and
- 12.3.11 Mindset change and development of leadership capacities.

According to a 2012 housing market study conducted in the City of Kigali, 340 000 new housing units are needed by 2022. Approximately 86% of the housing units should be affordable housing and mid-range housing, 13% social housing, and less than 1% premium housing. At least 34 000 housing units are required annually to meet this demand.

12.4 Funding opportunities

The Affordable Housing Financing Fund has been implemented to provide cheap and short term loans to the developers and home buyers. Other initiatives under analysis to facilitate funding are as follows:

- 12.4.1 Real Estate Investment Trusts;
- 12.4.2 Building societies;
- 12.4.3 Mortgage refinancing mechanisms;
- 12.4.4 Establishing rental housing scheme (rent and rent to own);
- 12.4.5 Self-funded contractors;
- 12.4.6 Development Finance Institutions;
- 12.4.7 Commercial Banks;
- 12.4.8 Capital market financing; and
- 12.4.9 Project finance.

The Ministry of Local Government is working with various districts in the City of Kigali to help them build capacity and meet requirements of issuing municipal bonds to finance affordable housing projects instead of waiting for public funds.

The Project will target persons who earn a low and medium-income up to US\$1000 per month. A household should not spend more than 30% of its monthly income on housing. This applies to rental units, rent to buy and purchasing. The Rwandan government is negotiating with Moroccan investors to invest US\$68 million for the construction of 5 000 affordable houses by the end of the year 2018.

RHA is building affordable houses that will cost US\$7,200 for a self-contained unit with one bedroom, while units that contain three bedrooms will sell for US\$21,600. Approximately 2,700 housing units are being constructed at Rugarama in Nyamirambo.

13. Rwamagana Hospital

The Rwamagana Provincial Hospital is located in the Eastern Province of Rwanda approximately 60 kilometers from Kigali. It was constructed in the year 1949 as a dispensary for people who worked in mines. The hospital serves a population of 352 721, approximately 14 health centres, eight health posts and one prison dispensary.

The Rwamagana Hospital was upgraded to a Provincial Hospital on 14 May 2014. It serves district administrations and continues to perform supervision and mentorship of health centres. The Hospital employs approximately 226 staff. It has eight specialists, nine general practitioners, 85 midwives, 34 allied health professionals and 73 administrative and support staff.

The Hospital's policies are aligned with national goals and priorities. The health service is decentralised to ensure access and quality. Rwanda has a Community Based Health Insurance as well as Public Servants Private Health insurance. The Community Based Health insurance has an 85% coverage rate. The health care providers at hospitals and health centres' maternity wards are trained on Basic Emergency Obstetric and New born Care (B-EmONC). The low dose, high frequency training approach done by B-EmONC district based trainers/mentors is utilised to train the mentors. Hospital and health centre providers benefit from the mentorship programmes in their districts, as the mentors are trained to detect and treat problematic

pregnancies and to manage pregnancy related complications. The mentors main focus area is on antenatal care but are also skilled in other areas. Rwanda has a 100 day maternity programme to reduce the mortality rate of mother and child.

The Vision 2020, EDPRS I and EDPRS II were put in place to stimulate development in the health sector. This Community Health Workers Programme provide primary assistance at village level. They provide amongst others, treatment of benign malaria, training on family planning, assistance and follow-up visits to pregnant women and children. Awareness programmes are hosted at schools and community level on family planning, HIV and Aids, Infectious diseases and drug abuse. Health workers are able to access the homes of individuals to check on mother and child. The child's weight is monitored to ensure that the child weight and growth is on par with health standards. Patients with infectious diseases are also administered medication in the homes. If no progress is made the patient is sent to hospital for further treatment.

Rwanda is currently distributing free mobile phones to thousands of community health workers throughout the country. The phones are used to keep track of pregnant women, send emergency alerts, call ambulances and provide updates on health issues to local clinics via text messages. TRACNET, an information system run by the Treatment and Research AIDS Centre, collects and manages patient information and the distribution of HIV/AIDS drugs.

Along with Ghana, Kenya and Nigeria, Rwanda recently conducted trials for a new drug monitoring system called mPedigree. This is necessary, since the World Health Organisation warns that counterfeit and substandard medicines pose a global public health problem, especially in Africa where 8–10% of drugs are counterfeits. The mPedigree system allows consumers to send a text code by mobile phone to a central hotline, and then receive an SMS reply, typically within seconds, indicating whether the drug is counterfeit or genuine.

13.1 Research Medical Practice and Electronic Health Records Software (EHRS)

A centralised electronic database is used to capture patient details, register medication and request for medication at all levels. The system is equipped to find products, search by functions such as billing, scheduling, and health record tracking. This enables health practitioners to access current patient details at any point at the click of a button. Complaints are also lodged online or telephonically. The turnaround time for complaints are one month. The hospital indicated that no complaints have been received for the past two months.

14. Murambi Garden Clinic

The Delegation was able to visit the Murambi Garden Clinic in Butare. The clinic employs 20 permanent staff members. Healthcare workers are employed as volunteers. Nurses and community healthcare workers assists patients at the clinic and at their homes. They also administer medication to the patients. The clinic serves as the entry point into the health system prior to being referred to a hospital.

The clinic deals with neonatal, tuberculosis and malaria patients amongst others. More severe illnesses and operations are referred to hospitals. Nurses working at the clinic are trained in general nursing and primary health care. Specific nurses are deployed to administer anti-retroviral medication and insulin for diabetics. Lower ranking nurses aids/assists nurses with their functions.

The Minister of Health has developed a community health care programme to provide food for malnourished children and pregnant woman. Acute malnutrition affect 0.6% of the Rwandan children. Nurses and healthcare workers visit the homes of the patients to record their progress which is later fed into the central health database under the patient's records. Acute cases are closely monitored and referrals are made to ensure the best possible care. All patients are equipped with health insurance. Patients may be sent out of the country to receive the necessary medical treatment that is not provided in Rwanda.

15. Conclusion

Since the 1994 genocide, major strides towards the recovery of the economy have been made. In the last 23 years, Rwanda has redefined itself as the preferred investment and tourism destination in Africa. The country has become a reference point in terms of good governance and political stability. Laws and rules are well observed and institutions function well. Rwanda has a zero corruption policy. The National Anti-corruption Policy represents the country's commitment under the Vision 2020 to achieve good governance through corruption prevention and fighting corruption. It focuses on people, systems and organisations and on building a culture where integrity is valued and corruption rejected. It seeks to support national development that will be able to sustain a better quality of life for the people, a strong competitive economy, effective and efficient public services.

The political structure changed after the 1994 genocide. It functions differently from other countries in that all the registered political parties are brought together to form a Political Parties' Forum (the Forum). Equal representation from various political parties is observed and membership is optional. The Forum joins 10 registered political parties namely the:

- Rwandan Patriotic Front;
- Social Democratic Party;
- Liberal Party;
- Leaders of the Centrist Democratic Party;
- Islamic Democratic Party;
- Rwandese Socialist Labour Party;
- Democratic Union of the Rwandese People;
- Party for Progress and Concord; and
- Prosperity and Solidarity Party and the Social Party.

The Forum which was established in 2003, serves as a platform for exchanging ideas on politics and how the ideas may be beneficial for the governing of the country. Political organisations and members of Parliament exchange ideas which may be effective for the management of state affairs. Political organisations discuss major national issues and present their recommendations to the relevant state institutions. The organisation's vision is to build political organisations' with a policy of unity and reconciliation, which fights discrimination and divisions and that promotes unity. The Forum reinforces the principles of power sharing, and educates politicians and other citizens in the culture of considering an opponent not as an enemy but as one to collaborate with through constructive ideas.

The Vision 2020 Programme, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and other youth development programmes serve as a catalyst to rehabilitate the country's economic growth at a speedy rate as follows:

Home-grown initiatives were implemented to alleviate poverty at a local level through the One Cow per Family Programme. The Programme ensures that families are provided with milk for consumption and milk that can be sold for a profit thereby improving household nutrition and income.

Rwanda's leadership, as part of its vision, cultivated a purpose of unity among government officials and the population at large that puts the nation's development first. This includes working on gender equality, youth development and poverty alleviation. Rwanda's government sectors works together with rural communities, district communities and the youth to make government policy decisions at all levels, to tackle corruption and reduce bureaucracy and to improve foreign investment.

The Rwandan Parliament has provided the Delegation with a thorough insight into the country's long term and short term programmes. Members of the Delegation were able to receive and impart valuable knowledge, ideas and cultivate a lasting network of professional liaisons. After having hosted the Delegation, the Rwandan Parliament similarly expressed an interest to visit the Western Cape, to build stronger ties that would be beneficial to both countries.

16. Recommendations

The Delegation therefore requests that the Speaker extend an invitation to the Rwandan Parliament to visit the WCPP in the interest of building better and stronger relationships.

17. Acknowledgements

The Delegation wishes to express its appreciation to the Provincial Parliament for allowing it to attend the study visit to Rwanda. A similar note of appreciation is extended to the Rwandan Parliament for hosting the Delegation.