“Safer Roads for Sustainable Development of Africa”
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Customer Care is an essential component in daily activities in every institution or department. Be it in education, commerce, security, agriculture, customer care is very important. Rwanda National Police (RNP), like any other institution in Rwanda, has also moved to improve its customer care services.

In so doing, it has established different types of communication in order to achieve its objective, especially in crime prevention and fast service delivery, by engaging the community.

The establishment of hotlines; 3512 for Gender Based Violence (GBV), 110 for maritime, 113 for traffic accident, 3511 for abuse by a police officer and 112 for emergency, is aimed at getting closer to the public and to serve them fast and better.

You can also interact with us on our social network pages – twitter and facebook.

Suggestion boxes were also installed at police stations and other Police places to get your views and requests, all aimed at serving you better and to work together through information sharing to create a crime-free society, and to further facilitate doing business in the country.

There is also a Customer Care officer at every police station in the country.

Principle good customer care service leads to quality policing in such environment and crime prevention in general.

Rwanda National Police is committed to serve you better and calls on the community to use the available communication tools and other means, to share with us your opinions, views to continue the path to create a secure country that favours business growth and development in Rwanda.
Rwanda, on November 18, celebrated ‘Africa’s Road Safety Day,’ a day dedicated to improving road safety and remembrance of road accident victims on the African continent.

The launch of the event celebrated every November 18th was held in Nyabugogo in Nyarugenge District and presided over by Dr. Alexis Nzahabwanimana, the State Minister in charge of Transport in the Ministry of Infrastructure.

The week-long exercise also marked this year’s Rwanda National Police (RNP) Traffic Week also called “Road Safety Week,” which was held in the framework of ‘Africa’s Road Safety Day’ under the theme: “Safer Roads for Sustainable Development of Africa.”

Road Safety Week is an annual event aimed at raising awareness to enforce road security. It is also aimed at advising road users to fine tune their road culture in the interest of their own safety and that of others.

The RNP has for the past years organized this event and it recognizes road safety education as an important tool in ensuring road safety rules and regulations to all road users.

The second Session of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport (CAMT) held in Luanda, Angola in November last year, among others, adopted the African Plan of Action for the year ‘2011-2020 Road Safety Decade’ in accordance with the UN Resolution 64/255, proclaiming the Decade of...
Action Plan for Road Safety as well as the Sunday of November which is the World Day for Remembrance of Road accident Victims, as “Africa’s Road Safety Day.”

It was endorsed in January this year by the 18th African Union Summit held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Dr. Nzahabwanimana said road accidents can be a blow to any country’s development if they are not contained.

“This is the day to look back and see where we have come from in as far as fighting road accidents are concerned. Traffic accidents are among the leading causes of death and it’s high time we rise up together as Rwandans for the common cause...to save lives,” Dr. Nzahabwanimana said.

According to the State Minister, ‘Africa’s Road Safety Day’ and the ‘Road Safety Week’ were held in November because most road accidents are recorded in the final months of the year – October, November and December.

Traffic accidents are third leading causes of death worldwide, behind malaria and HIV/AIDS, with 1.2 million people dying every year.

“Road accidents partly impose economic losses to the economy resulting from lost productivity of those killed or injured, medical treatment and damage to property.”

According to the State Minister, the police’s annual event – Road Safety Week – and other initiatives have had great impact in improving road security, though the number of vehicles in the country increases every year.

He said the government is now shifting to accident prevention by working with concerned institutions and insurance companies.

He noted that the government will continue to facilitate the Motor Vehicle Inspection Centre (MIC) in its activities, capacitate the Traffic Police Unit in its road safety campaigns and erect more signposts on roadways.
Construction of pedestrian pathways on all roads under construction, he said, is among other initiatives in place to prevent traffic accidents.

“Doing all this is one thing and respecting all these traffic regulations is another. There are still some people who violate such regulations, ignore signposts, but we can’t just look at it without taking action,” stated Dr. Nzahabwanimana, calling on road users to respect traffic rules.

He thanked insurance companies, MTN and China Road and Bridge Cooperation, for partnering with the Ministry of Infrastructure and Rwanda National Police (RNP) to make the exercise a success.

The Inspector General of Police, Emmanuel K. Gasana said traffic accidents affect the world and Rwanda in particular and “this requires all Rwandans to stand up to enforce road safety.”

“You can lose your loved one through sickness, but not through something like road accidents that are avoidable,” the IGP stated.

The IGP disclosed that road accidents claim about 380 lives and injures about 2700 others in the country every year. The injuries include those who are left handicapped.

According to Traffic Police Unit statistics, about 1135 people have died in road accidents since 2009 and 6943 others injured in the same period.

Between January and August this year, 1246 traffic accidents were registered in which 257 people died.

Last year, road accidents reduced by about 6.5 percent to 1882 from 2012 recorded in 2010.

Most of the road accidents registered since 2009 involve pedestrians, pickup vehicles, omnibuses and buses and motorcycles, according to the police report.

The IGP said police will continue to sensitize road users, enforce the law, erect signposts and continue to inspect the mechanical status on vehicles.

Prior to the official launch, there was also erecting of signposts and painting Zebra Crossings in Kimihurura in Gasabo District and a Road Safety walk from Muhima to Nyabugogo where hundreds of Rwandans converged and braved the rain.

The event, which also included putting safety stickers on vehicles and motorcycles, was also attended by the Minister of Internal Security, Sheikh Musa Fazil Harelimana.

The same event was held in other provinces where activities to enforce road security was also conducted.

In the Eastern Province, the exercise was held in Nyagatare District, in the Western Province, it was held in Rubavu District for the while in the Southern and Northern provinces the event was held in Huye and Gicumbi districts respectively.

The campaign focused on the importance of seat belts, dangers of over speeding, dangers of driving under influence of alcohol, Signages, zebra crossing, use of helmet, traffic rights and reckless driving among other road disciplines.

There was also rewarding of exemplary drivers and motorcyclists, appointing of road safety ambassadors, road safety quiz, physical sensitization of road users by police officers and engaging the media in the whole process.
The Inspector General of Police, Emmanuel K. Gasana handed over the Eastern Africa Police Chiefs Cooperation Organisation (EAPCCO) chairmanship to his Ugandan counterpart, Lt. Gen Kale Kayihura after successfully completing his one-year term, with a call for member states to invest in IT and scientific led policing and the need for a law enforcement school for Africa to harmonize policing standards.

In a handover ceremony held on October 17th in Kampala, Uganda, during the 14th EAPCCO Council of Police Chiefs meeting, the outgoing chairman described the year under review as “successful” in which all the resolutions adopted in the 13th EAPCCO meeting were implemented “by almost 100 percent” by member countries.

“Confronted with the emerging and modern crimes affecting our policing regime, as a law enforcement community, our strategic focus should consider conducting joint operations and exercise plays, enhance exchange of information and establish law enforcement colleges to provide a harmonized training to EAPCCO police forces,” said IGP Gasana.

“With such regional initiatives, we will be better positioned to prevent and combat such crimes and criminals thus ensuring safety, security and peaceful region to live in,” he added.
Achievements

Gasana took over from Gen. Hashim Osman Ali Hussein of Sudan in an event held in Kigali in September 2011.

During his tenure as the regional police body chair, 13 activities, including one operation, were held by the EAPCCO law enforcers.

Among them is the first ever Police Command Post Exercise (PCPX) held in Rwanda which covered specialized areas of terrorism, human and drug trafficking and Peace Support Operation (PSO). The joint-play benefited 60 police officers from the 12 member states.

The twelve member countries are; Burundi, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda.

The exercise had been agreed in the 12th EAPCCO annual general assembly held in Khartoum – Sudan.

In the spirit of EAPCCO cooperation, Rwanda exclusively conducted the training of a number of officers from EAPCCO post conflict member countries namely; Burundi, South Sudan and Somalia in a variety of courses including Intermediate Command and Staff course and Strategic Command Course.

“This left our forces better, stronger and it improved on our capacity to combat transnational and organized crimes,” the IGP said.

The first phase of “Operation Hope” was also conducted in Burundi, Rwanda Tanzania and Uganda.

The “Operation Hope” in which 80 people were arrested in Rwanda alone, targeted narcotic drugs, human trafficking and wildlife crimes.

It also aimed at bringing together intelligence and information on individuals and groups involved in these crimes, promote capacity building and joint operations as well as combating and wiping out criminal networks within the region.

The second phase of the operation is slated to be conducted in the remaining EAPCCO member countries, explained the outgoing chair.

The outgoing EAPCCO Chairman also visited seven of the twelve member countries and held meetings with Chiefs of Police of those countries.

He noted that emerging crimes and threats are dominated by terrorism, cyber and IT facilitated crimes and human trafficking. Various forms of conflict in the region, he added, provide fertile ground for criminals to conduct their criminal activities.

He thanked the EAPCCO Police Chiefs for their support and thanked the INTERPOL for their expertise and the material support.

Way forward

“Contemporary Policing regime demands innovation and sophistication in enforcing the law. We must always think of new ways of improving our security architecture; our information base must be enriched by the INTERNET and digital sources that are incredibly fertile sources for the Police. Collectively, as the EAPCCO, we can work our way in that direction. No doubt, the INTERPOL 1-24/7 facility is one of the greatest tools in our contemporary policing,” he said.

The new EAPCCO chairman, Lt. Gen Kayihura thanked his predecessor for his commitment and achievements during his term and promised to continue the course against transnational crimes.

He also promised to develop a model which is community-police centred.

“If such or similar policing methods are adopted, I strongly believe it will not only, significantly, reduce crimes in our individual countries, but it will also be an effective blow to transnational crimes as security along our borders will be enhanced,” stated Gen. Kayihura.
Twelve years down the road, Rwanda National Police (RNP) has grown from a small force to one of the professional and credible forces in the region.

The Police Magazine caught up with the Inspector General of Police, Emmanuel K. Gasana, where he talked of the force’s 12-year journey since it was established on June 16, 2000, its achievements, regional cooperation, challenges and the force’s future plans, among others. Below are the excerpts.

Q: The RNP is a young and small force which has been in service for only 12 years. How have you managed to accomplish the mission and vision of the force?

A: It is not how big the force is; it is not the big force that performs well, but rather the quality and capability of the force.

The abilities and capacities have helped Rwanda National Police to be a credible force. A force which is credible is well trained, skilled and able.

So, enhancing the capability with tools and equipment makes the force more competent. Of course, the doctrine – values and leadership traits – of the force is also commendable.

Values like integrity, dignity, duty, honest, patriotism, define what we are doing.

We train values, behaviors, standards, leadership traits, style and approach. It is anchored on the hierarchy of the force’s structure. When you talk about the vision of the force, the government and the institutions, the ideas and physical base of institutions creates a framework of understanding the policing architecture.

In capacity building, training development, Rwanda National Police has gone far in making sure that it has attained a credible police force.

Q: Where do you see the force now?

A: When we see where we have reached, it goes way back to the vision, mission and more so an
enabling environment where the leadership supports Police.

Overtime of course, we realized the need for training...to capacitate the force to be able to execute its roles effectively and to instill discipline in Police. We are trying to use the values in line with the leadership. All these create a behavior or the doctrine. We have been able to train, increase the force but the quality of the force has been a priority for us.

This is where we are seeing the force and consequently what we have done has set a system, created a behavior that has helped Rwanda National Police to move forward.

Apart from that, we realised the need for cooperation and engaging other various institutions, international police institutions, and making sure that we are working well with public, private and non-state actors; we see this catchment known as partnership, critical in the enhancement of policing.

Currently we have signed 34 MoUs (Memorandum of Understanding) with various institutions; some are bilateral while others are multilateral cooperation; so all these have created a good environment for us to move on.

We have also supported human security, and by so doing we are trying to enhance the partnership.

Police has supports government programmes like Gir’Inka initiative where we gave out 500 cows to 500 families, committed over Rwf500 million to Agaciro Development Fund, mutuelle de santé (health insurance) for poor families, formed anti-malaria and anti-AIDS clubs, planted 500 hectares of forest to mention but a few.

Q: Emerging threats have attracted the attention of every force worldwide. How prepared in Rwanda National Police to counter such threats?

A: We have introduced sophistication at Rwanda National Police. We are pursuing electronic policing such that our force can march with new trends of threats.

The emerging threats are bringing into play neutral crimes. Pursuing the e-policing philosophy makes us to be ready to move with the doctrines of the digital crimes. Currently, we have a fully-fledged commission for Information Communication (IT) system.

The components of e-policing or electronic policing are multi-faceted integrated approach where we have the media and communication system. We have a website; we are on twitter, facebook; we have a command commission centre, dispatch centre, call centre, toll-free lines. We are also connected internally through intranet systems within our policing environment and more so we are connected to different government agencies such that if there is any problem, we can be able to determine, prevent, track and share information to make sure that we are enforcing the law or preventing crimes.

It is important for our force to create a kind of environment where we can be able to skillfully identify the current emerging threats of cyber crimes, terrorism and all those that go in hand with the tools of IT.

We currently have a Police academy – National Police Academy (NPA) – that has so many faculties, including Information Security Faculty, which is training our force. We are also looking at cyber security and defense...and we are trying to train the force while looking at the demand, to make sure that we are reinforcing our structures and creating a system of e-policing.

That faculty at National Police Academy is enhancing what we are doing here. Currently we are having sophisticated gadget systems, equipment, capabilities, skilled manpower, mobile connection; and being in this kind of framework helps our force to make sure that we are well connected and ahead of crimes in the digital world.

Actually some crimes are reducing because of e-policing. Some of these crimes include domestic crimes like robbery, but other crimes like money
laundering are coming up because they are facilitated by IT.

Money laundering is coming up, human trafficking has been on board, and some elements of terrorism, although we have ran and ensured that it is controlled.

We have managed domestic crimes through Community Policing. The organized crimes are posing a threat....we are now joining hands with other countries to effectively combat them.

Q: Recently, you handed over the EAPCCO chairmanship after a year in service. What was your greatest achievement?

A: After assuming the Chairmanship of EAPCCO (Eastern Africa Police Chiefs Cooperation Organisation), which I later gave out to Uganda this year (October), I realized that as a region, we had not gone far in effective collaboration, cooperation, and more so, jointness in operations was needed.

During my chairmanship, I introduced, for the first time, the Police Command Post Exercise (PCPX) to test ourselves in terrorism, human trafficking and Peace Support Operations (PSO). So, my understanding was to test ourselves in engaging when there is a problem. By exchanging information, sharingexperience,establishing that communication system itself, was a step forward for our cooperation.

We have been sharing information but once we don’t move together and not test your subordinate and seniors, we may not go far.

The outcome of the ten-day joint-play (PCPX) was good and consequently that experience in Rwanda, was captured in the resolution of Interpol General Assembly. We had a resolution saying that Interpol should support regional police organizations to conduct joint exercises and develop a standard common operating procedure to enhance policing.

Well, I have been invited to the Southern Africa Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation Organisation (SARPCCO) such that both EAPCCO and SARPCCO have a joint training.

In July next year, we shall have African joint forces training in Kigali and am still struggling for that interest to come into play. Although I am not still the chairman of EAPCCO, but being a delegate for Africa in Interpol, I will make sure that all Africans come here for a joint exercise play.

Looking way back, I celebrate with the force that this year, Rwanda and Rwanda National Police in particular, conducted the first ever Senior Police Command Course where 12 countries are participating.

So, a country that has just come out of the Genocide, we have established a Police academy that has three faculties - Professional Police Studies, Enforcement and Information Security - thus having a senior command police course, to be hosted by NPA, as an achievement.

Q: What are some of the challenges you face as the force?

A: The challenge of course, I should say is that there is still need for more manpower, well educated and equipment in various capacities, to make sure that we move within the vision to accomplish the police mandate.

I also need to increase the modern equipment that are required for policing. When I talk about digital equipment, for instance CCTV to cover countrywide is important because it enhances policing for the cooperation set up.

We also need more skilled and professional manpower. Since we have specialized areas, specialized personnel is needed to make sure that we match with the new trends.

Q: We are heading for the festive season, what’s the message to Rwandans?

A: As we head into the festive season, we are aiming for an incident-free season and Rwanda National Police is reassuring the people that with other security agencies and local government administration, we will make sure that we have a stable situation through the festive season.
The United Nations (UN) applauded Rwanda National Police (RNP) for its continued support to bring peace to other countries and for its outstanding performance while in missions.

Mbaranga Gasarabwe, the UN Assistant Secretary-General in charge of Safety and Security (UNDSS) delivered the congratulatory message on October 15 during her visit to RNP headquarters in Kacyiru where he met with the Inspector General of Police, Emmanuel K. Gasana.

“We are proud for what Rwanda as a country and Rwanda National Police in particular, have done to bring peace in various countries and we thank them (police officers) for the professionalism, discipline and integrity they demonstrate while on missions,” Mbaranga, who delivered a message on behalf of the UN Secretary General, Ban Ki Moon, said.

“We thank Rwanda National Police for the ‘strong training’ and sharing of best practices among African countries. We saw the training centre (Peace Support Training Centre), which is becoming one of the hubs in providing good training to officers including those from others countries and that’s what we expect. We expect action, discipline and people, when you come in the country and its population, feels safe.”

The RNP recently inaugurated the Peace Support Training Centre at Gishali Police Training School (PTS), to facilitate in peacekeeping mission programmes for both Rwanda and regional officers.

She noted that the “most important thing” is for the people to “feel safe” and the “safety and security of the country” in general.

“I have been privileged to see what Rwanda National Police has achieved and the willingness to share best practices with other countries across the globe,” she stated.

The UN Assistant SG said the world should embrace the international community slogan “Never Again” in building security and safety of states.

Mbaranga, who observed that Rwanda is one of the safest countries, said: “There are people, who wake up for the
goodwill, but there are those who wake up to destroy what has been built; but together, we will achieve sustainable development. It is good to be in a country where everyone feels safe.”

The UN Assistant SG also commended Rwanda for lifting herself out of the ashes of the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi, against all odds.

“I am proud to see where this country - Rwanda - is, seeing where it was years ago. I am proud for what you(Rwandans) have achieved; it’s an honour for us, for Africa and the world in general,” she underscored.

The Inspector General of Police, Emmanuel K. Gasana, who thanked the UN Assistant SG for visiting the force, said the force is committed to further ensure that people living in Rwanda and their businesses are secure and reassured, adding that security is a “prerequisite for sustainable development.”

“We are owning the process of national development agenda. Ensuring homeland security is a strategy to ensure that Rwandans are safe and secure and, therefore, any business can take place,” he stated.

He said RNP has gone far, today, representing Africa in the Interpol executive committee, Eastern Africa Coordination Mechanism (EAFCOM) and in seven UN peacekeeping missions.

There are about 500 police peacekeepers in Haiti, South Sudan, Sudan, Liberia, Guinea Bissau, Sierra Leone and Ivory Coast.

He said a contingent of Formed Police Unit (FPU) is being prepared to be deployed in Liberia, with also plans to send an FPU contingent composed of only female police officer in future.

He said the partnership with the public through Community Policing, plays a crucial role in ensuring security.

The force, he noted, is also engaged in welfare schemes, infrastructure, training of officers and human security activities such as support home-grown initiatives such as Agaciro Development Fund (AgDF) where the force contributed over Rwf502 million, planted about 500 hectares of trees and contributed Rwf75 million to Gir’Inka programme.

Recently, Rwanda hosted the first ever Police Command Post Exercise (PCPX) to equip the regional officers with skills in fighting emerging crimes such as terrorism and human trafficking, whose outcome are Rwanda, the IGP said, has been requested to also host the first ever Africa Peace Support exercise which is slated for next year, which, he added, will need support from the UN for the common good.

“We are in training and ensuring gender promotion and mainstreaming and the participation of female police officers in peacekeeping missions,” he said, adding that it is in the framework of the government policy.

Despite Rwanda being in an unstable region, the IGP said, it will never happen again though there are plans by FDLR and other groups to destroy the peace Rwandans enjoy today.

The UN Assistant SG was also accompanied by Lamin Momodou Manneh, the UN Resident Coordinator-Rwanda and Edouard Tossou, the security advisor-UN Rwanda.
As Rwanda National Police (RNP) continues the journal to creating a crime-free country, a total of 2319 people from the Southern Province have been trained in fighting and preventing Gender Based Violence (GBV), as strategy that further capacitates the public through Community Policing, to combat the vice.

The anti-GBV training was organized by RNP and funded by Care International.

The participants are all members of Community Policing Committees (CPCs) and anti-GBV clubs from 77 sectors in the Southern Province.

The training aimed at enhancing anti-GBV awareness by engaging the community through Community Policing.

Among the themes covered are the types of GBV, its causes and consequences, and how to prevent it.

Alphonse Munyentwari, the Governor of Southern Province, while officially opening the training on November 21 in Nyanza District, lauded police for organizing “such important training” and taking the upper hand to fight and prevent crimes.

The Governor also commended the police-public partnership and other institutions to fight and prevent GBV related crimes.

Chief Supt. Elias Mwesigye, the Southern Regional Police Commander (RPC) commended Care International for its financial contribution towards the training.

Supt. Mwesigye called upon the participants to use the acquired skills to identify families with conflicts and consequently share such information with security organs and other concerned authorities “so that GBV related crimes can be prevented before they turn into assault and possibly loss of lives.”

He observed that ignorance is one of the factors that hinder people from coming out to report GBV cases.

“We hope the training will enable participants to realize how dangerous GBV cases are to communities and as a result take the lead in reporting them,” said Mwesigye.

Prudence Ndolimana, an official from Care International said one of their objectives is to empower women “but this objective cannot be attained when cases of GBV still exist.”
Thirty one senior police officers from thirteen African countries are in the country to attend the first ever training dubbed, ‘Senior Command and Staff Course’ due later this year.

The course attracted senior officers from Zambia, Somalia, South Sudan, Kenya, Tanzania, Burundi, Ethiopia, Ghana, Uganda, Djibouti, Seychelles, Sudan and host Rwanda.

The one year course will be officially launched in January next year at National Police Academy (NPA) in Musanze District.

The International Academy Bramshill and the Centre for Conflict Management of the National University of Rwanda is set to provide lecturers for the course.

While briefing course participants on October 22 at the Police General Headquarters in Kacyiru, Deputy Inspector General of Police, Stanley Nsabimana noted that the course is in line with the current Rwanda National Police and Eastern Africa Police Chief Cooperation Organization (EAPCCO) training policies, whose aim is to produce highly qualified officers who are able to face policing challenges and exploit available opportunities in a professional manner.

DIGP Nsabimana added that the course will enrich participants with contemporary policing skills in terms of emerging crimes and strategies of dealing with them.

He said that at the end of the course, participants will have acquired enough skills that will help them to take strategic decisions in challenging situations, and apply leadership and managerial skills to ensure strategic goals are achieved.

Assistant Commissioner of Police, Maulid Mabakila from Tanzania, believes the course will help to find solutions to address some of the security challenges faced by the African continent.

Senior Superintendent Ireen K. Ngwira, from Zambia also noted that the course portrays good cooperation among regional police forces.

“There are a lot of conflicts in the region, and it is important that the region comes up jointly with a concrete strategy to address cross border crimes such as human trafficking and many others,” said Ngwira.
Twenty police officers attached to the Airport Police Unit, on October 15, completed a two-week Basic Aviation Security Course, aimed at improving the Airport security.

The training held at the Rwanda National Police (RNP) General Headquarters in Kacyiru was conducted by RNP in conjunction with Rwanda Civil Aviation Authority (RCAA).

During the fourteen-day training, participants were given lectures and techniques on different lessons such as screening and searching of passengers and their baggage, restricted articles including weapons, explosives as well as incendiary devices.

Presiding over the closing ceremony, Deputy Inspector General of Police, Stanley Nsabimana commended RCAA for the continued cooperation exhibited particularly through capacity building of the Airport Police Unit.

He urged trainees to put into practice the acquired skills and also cooperate with other agencies and organizations to ensure maximum security at the outlet.

Claver Bazatoha, the Director of Flight Safety Services appealed to the officers to use the gained skills to professionally execute their duties.

“Security goes hand in hand with better services. That is the only way we shall be able to portray the country’s good image to our guests,” said Bazatoha.

Assistant Inspector of Police, Richard Tumusime, one of the course participants, noted that the course was very crucial and the skills acquired will be shared with colleagues to effectively maintain security at the airport.

Rwanda and Ethiopia police forces sign cooperation pact

Rwanda and Ethiopia police forces signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which will see the two forces cooperate in various policing areas.

The pact was signed on October 19, between the Inspector General of Police, Emmanuel K. Gasana and his Ethiopian counterpart, Workeney Gabeyehu.

This was at the sideline of the 14th Eastern Africa Police Chiefs Cooperation Organisation (EAPCCO) meeting held in Kampala, Uganda on its fifth day.

According to the pact, the two forces will cooperate mainly in “capacity building of different forms, exchange of Police information and best practices, and close collaboration in other areas that have relevance to security.”

The agreement cements the already existing cooperation between the two forces.

Present at the signing was Rwanda’s Minister of Internal Security, Sheikh Musa Fazil Harelimana and Mulegeta Wuletaw, Ethiopia’s State Minister for Federal Affairs.

Others present during the signing were Rwanda’s High Commissioner to Uganda, Maj Gen. Frank Mugambage, the Ambassador of Ethiopia to Uganda – Buia Degfie – the deputy Secretary General of the East African Community (EAC) and senior police officers from the two countries.
The media fraternity in the country has joined the Rwanda National Police (RNP) in the drive to prevent crimes.

This comes at the time when police is engaging all institutions, partners and the public in crime prevention drive, especially through Community Policing, a proactive problem solving that increases effectiveness at resolving community-wide problems.

During the Rwanda National Police-Media one-day interactive session, held at the police General Headquarters in Kacyiru on November 13, the Inspector General of Police, Emmanuel K. Gasana described the partnership as “an important tool in crime prevention” and a “win-win situation.”

“Police-Media campaign strategy is a great tool in crime prevention,” he observed.

“The partnership is needed to reassure the vision, mission, safety of people and their property and make sure that we are together in the journey of community policing and policing regime in broad,” the IGP, who presided over the opening of the session, said.

The IGP called upon journalists to always aim at feeding the public with credible information rather than misinforming them for the sake of generating revenues through selling wrong information.

“Media is a great tool. It can influence events and drive change,” Gasana said, adding that it is to the benefit of the Rwandan people that the two institutions work together.

He appealed to them to write balanced stories and dig deeper when reporting police-related stories, avoid blackmail and be transparent.

Over 80 media practitioners, including owners and heads of media houses, both print and electronic, attended the event.

The conference, which aimed at strengthening relations between police and the media, exhausted two areas; the role of media in community policing; the working relationship between the police and media.

“This partnership is a collective way of addressing security challenges where all actors are involved, to drive the nation towards national development agenda,” he noted.

He explained that both parties need to share timely, valuable and meaningful information which is vital for the community.

“Once you have the capacity to prevent a crime, then you are done because what comes next is law enforcement,” he said.

The force, he said, is also engaged in human security, among other activities, where it has joined hands with the community in activities like tree planting, constructing terraces and other government
poverty reduction initiatives like One-Cow per Household commonly known as Gir’Inka.

The force also contributed Rwf502 million to Agaciro Development Fund (AgDF), constructed houses for the poor families and paid health insurance and mosquito nets for the vulnerable groups.

The IGP also informed the journalists how the force is engaged on seven peacekeeping missions, namely: Liberia, Ivory Coast, Haiti, South Sudan, Darfur, Sierra Leone and Guinea.

Rwanda maintains about 500 police officers in the seven UN missions, about 150 of them female, making Rwanda the country with the highest number of female police peacekeepers worldwide.

Journalists described the meeting as a “landmark to iron-out the existing challenges and which will strengthen cooperation.”

Jean Bosco Rushingabigwi, the President of Press House, an umbrella that brings together owners of media houses in the country, thanked the Police for their commitment in ensuring safety and security in the country.

He requested Police to ensure equal access to information to all media houses and have advertisements shared equally.

Emmanuel Mugisha, the Executive Secretary of Media High Council (MHC), lauded the force for the landmark reached in changing the mindset of journalists.

“We should have a taskforce in place to study how this partnership can be strengthened so as to help the public in ensuring security to the nation,” stated Mugisha, who said that media is “an essential partner in Good Governance and Community Policing.”

Most issues raised by journalists centred on how both the two parties should iron out challenges that exist between police and media.

It was then agreed, unanimously, that the same meeting be held quarterly.

A six-man steering committee composed of three people from Rwanda National Police (RNP), one from the Media High Council (MHC), one from the Rwanda Association of Journalists (ARJ) and one from Press House, was appointed to; design terms of reference of the steering committee; design a programme on when and where the quarterly meeting will be held; create a chat group that brings together RNP and media practitioners to discuss issues related to crime prevention.

It was also agreed that by December 1, 2012, all media practitioners should be having press cards, to avoid any inconvenience in their day-to-day activities that may result due to lack of service cards.

Rwanda National Police announced that plans are underway to introduce the Kinyarwanda website version.

FPN and Imvaho newspapers gave RNP space to further publicize its activities in the campaign against drug abuse.
Police, in any democratic country, is entrusted by the community to protect and serve their fundamental rights to liberty, equality and justice.

To effectively fulfill its duties, Rwanda National Police (RNP) developed a strategy – Community Policing (CP) – to engage the public in fighting and preventing crimes.

This strategy brings the public in solving localized problems or make specific improvements that enhance the overall quality of life in the community.

Community policing increases a sense of responsibility for personal safety and problem solving among citizens and shifts from a predominantly reactive response to service calls, to proactive problem solving and increases effectiveness at resolving community-wide problems.

The Community Policing strategy in Rwanda National Police started 12 years ago following the establishment of the force on June 6, 2000 under the law No. 09/2000, after amalgamating Gendarmerie National which was under the Ministry of Defence, the Communal Police, under the Ministry of Local Government and played the force’s administrative role and Judicial Police which was under the Ministry of Justice.

The RNP was established with

**Modern policing:**

**From reactive to proactive crime preventive mechanism: the Community Policing success story**

*Police officers joining the community to prepare a site to construct a school*
a clear mission to “Make the people living in Rwanda feel safe and reassured.”

The policing structure in previous regimes was based on family ties or other forms of nepotism, resulting in a corrupt and unreliable police service.

It was also based on sectarian tendencies and was a reactionary force; serving the authorities in power. During the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi, the majority of members of the law enforcement agencies (army, Gendarmerie, and militias) played a big role in the mass massacre of the people they were supposed to protect, that saw over one million innocent Rwandans killed brutally.

Upon the establishment of the RNP, the Community Policing Department, now a directorate which falls under the Department of Public Relations and Community Policing (PR&CP), was established with the overall objective to prevent, detect, and reduce crimes.

The RNP, which falls under the Ministry of Internal Security, therefore, chose Community Policing approach (Community Based Policing) whereby local communities are involved in identifying security issues and consequently finding solutions for such issues.

On 18/10/2007, the Ministerial decree No.02/07, in its article 1, established Community Policing Committees (CPCs).

The first elections of eight CPC members at the lowest level of governance – Village (Umudugudu) and Cell (Akagari) – were held in 2008.

“There was need for customer oriented service which requires the partnership with the community. The traditional way of policing wasn’t sustainable. There was need to give authority to the community to feel involved and to have a sense of belonging and responsibility in fighting and preventing crimes. The public used to fear the police or security organs, and in this way, they could hardly provide information on the whereabouts of criminals or who they are,” Supt Alex Vuningoma, the Director of CP, explained.

“Fundamentally, police can’t solve all community problems by themselves. Community
Policing requires the majority of the community to accept personal responsibility for personal safety and solving problems in their neighborhoods with the support of the police and other government agencies,” he added.

**Achievements**

“The spirit of voluntary community service has been established among Rwandans,” stated Supt Vuningoma.

Police also created direct communication hotlines (112, 113, 3511, 3512, 0788311162, 0788311163) to for easy and fast exchange of information with the community.

In 2009, police distributed about 400 mobile phones to CPCs to facilitate their communication process. “We are also going to give out other 500 handsets to the 500 CPC members who completed training at Nkumba recently,” said Supt. Vuningoma.

Out of 74,765 CPCs in the country, police has already trained 41,199, with 19,000 of them being Training of Trainers (TOT).

“We have so far conducted sensitization campaigns in 180 schools (42, 148 students) countrywide and formed 504 anti-crime clubs in schools. 535 police officers have been trained in psycho-socio to support the campaign against Gender Based Violence (GBV), 620 (TOT) other trained on Community Policing concept while 484 others were trained in policing and to follow up the activities of CPCs,” Supt Vuningoma said.

Community Liaison Officers (CLOs) and District Liaison Officers are now stationed at every sector and district respectively to follow up on the activities of CPCs and to advise them.

Other 90 police officers were also trained in fighting corruption related crimes.

Police also trained 1150 opinion leaders, who include administrative and church leaders and owners of bars and hotels, on Community Policing.

“The implementation of more foot patrols in order to improve consultation between the police and the community thereby increasing police visibility and presence like at mini and mobile police stations and check points.”

“Kuba ijisho ry’umuturanya” translated as “Neighborhood Watch” Systems has become a norm among Rwandans where every citizen ensures safety of a neighbor.

“Anti-Crime Clubs have been established, Citizen’s Charter Forum of citizen’s representatives in place and there are crime analysis and generation of community profiles.”

“In these profiles, information regarding the size and density of the population, demographic characteristics of residents, existing community organizations, the availability of resources as well as the political structure, is gathered.”

Supt. Vuningoma also outlined other achievements as crime awareness programmes through the Police Week activities and Traffic Week, tree planting programmes by police, interaction with the community through “Umuganda”, workshops, talk shows and Schools Outreach Programmes.

Police Week, which is normally held in June, is an annual exercise where RNP joins the public in community activities like building houses for the poor, constructing terraces and planting of trees, as part of the celebration to mark its anniversary.

**Challenges**

According to Supt. Vuningoma, lack of transport and communication means amongst DCLO’S and CLO’s on the ground, lack of skilled staff and untrained CPCs are one of the challenges.

“There is also technological advancement in crime omissions such as cyber crimes that cannot easily be policed. Emergency terror activities are also hard to police, which requires sophisticated equipment,” he said.

“But we have signed Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) with different stake holders to reduce the gaps that still exist. Police has also recruited more female officers to handle cases related to GBV, especially sexual cases,” he explained.
A team of six government officials from the Republic of Vietnam, on November 7, visited the Rwanda National Police (RNP) headquarters in Kacyiru to acquire experience in the child protection and anti-Sexual Gender Based Violence (SGBV) campaign.

The group headed by the Vietnam vice Minister of Labour and Social Affairs, Hon. Doan Mau Diep, was received by the Deputy Inspector of Police, Stanley Nsabimana.

The officials were shown a presentation on how Rwanda National Police has managed to deal with issues related to child protection and GBV. Among them are national and RNP policies against GBV, the 2011-2016 strategic plan for the implementation of the national policy against GBV and child abuse and the legal mechanisms which include laws on prevention and punishment.

Others include the establishment of the anti-GBV Desk, which has been decentralised to all police stations in the country, awareness programmes which bring together all institutions and the public, establishment of Isange One-Stop Centre to offer free medical care to GBV victims and the use of Community Policing Committees (CPCs) which provide timely information.

Plans are also underway to upgrade the GBV Desk which was recently up-scaled into a Directorate, to effectively deal with related cases and to also decentralize Isange One-Stop Centre to the district level.

Hon. Diep commended Rwanda and Police in particular, for the initiatives to protect children and woman and girls.

“These are intensive initiatives which will protect children and women and girls, and we hope they will also help us in our (Vietnam) campaign to ensure child protection and in anti-SGBV,” he said.
The Minister of Internal Security, Sheikh Musa Fazil Harelimana said the Government of Rwanda is committed to regional and other groupings that are a springboard to development, especially in human resource, which he said forms the backbone of the country and the regional growth.

“Our country is always welcoming any opportunity for any integration and therefore Eastern Africa Standby Force is one of those groupings we have taken up as Rwanda with the seriousness it deserves,” stated the Minister.

He was speaking at the closing ceremony of the 36th United Nations Police Officers Course (UNPOC), at the Police Training School (PTS) in Gishari in Rwanagana District.

The two-week United Nation/African Union peacekeeping pre-deployment course which was conducted at the Peace Support Centre brought together 60 police officers from 10 Eastern African countries.

Participants are from Burundi, Comoros, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda.

The Minister observed that security challenges like terrorism, human and drug trafficking and cyber crimes escalate into conflicts which destabilises peace.

This, he added, calls for “vigilance and vibrancy” of the police forces in the region to be on alert “and the best way of doing this is by training.”

“This (training) is a welcome move of putting our efforts together as we strive to fight these unwelcome security challenges,” Minister Harelimana said, adding that training peacekeepers is a “key element in any security institutional long term robust planning.”

The course covered the background of the UN and AU, the dynamics of peacekeeping operations, the expected conduct of a UN/AU officer, the expected challenges in missions and techniques of overcoming them, the skills, knowledge and attitude mandatory for any police officer in mission, among others.

The course covered the theory lessons and the Field Training Exercise (FTX).

He urged the participants to execute what they learnt and to pass the message to their fellow officers in their respective countries.

He stated that Rwanda will not “spare any chance that calls for training” and urged states to incorporate it (training) in their respective police forces.

He thanked the Eastern Africa Stand by Force for selecting Rwanda to host the course and express gratitude to the Government of Finland for sponsoring the course.

The School Commandant, ACP Joseph Mugisha said the “these competent police officers have been turned into competent peacekeepers as it was our ultimate objective.”

While officially launching the course on October 29, the Inspector General of Police,
Emmanuel K. Gasana observed that sustainable peace through peacekeeping operations is “now a point of focus and still wanting.”

“Our future effectiveness in this area, no doubt, depends on how we are trained, equipped, and our greater understanding of multinational peacekeeping environment,” the IGP stated.

“Training is the cornerstone to readiness,” he added.

The IGP explained that Rwanda National Police embarked on training as a requirement to address most of the challenges that come with modern day policing.

“We always believe that without effective training of our officers, we can’t achieve our best performance as clearly spelled out in our mission,” he stated.

The course comes at a time when Rwanda and regional states are engaged in various peace support missions around the globe.

Rwanda, which was recently ranked the first country with the highest number of female police officers in UN missions, currently maintains about 500 police officers in seven missions, namely; South Sudan, Haiti, Sierra Leone, Ivory Coast, Darfur, Guinea Bissau and Liberia.

“We must, therefore, acquire more policing skills and capabilities that offer considerable performance and impact for our mission accomplishment,” he said.

IGP Gasana pledged Rwanda’s continued contribution to international peace building.

A force is also currently on standby to go to Liberia early next year and plans are also underway to have the first FPU female contingent sent to Haiti also next year.

IGP Gasana also disclosed that another Peace Support Operation (PSO) exercise-play for African police is scheduled to be conducted next year.

This, he explained, will be done in the frame work of “increasing and strengthening our capabilities to meet the PSO required standards.”

The two-week course will be held at the Peace Support Centre as the ‘Regional Centre of Excellence’ hosts its first peacekeeping pre-deployment course since it was inaugurated in last August.

Mr. Sande Torbjorn, the Senior Police adviser to EASFCOM, commended regional countries for embracing and the UN Security Council 1325/2000 which is aimed at protecting women and girls during and after armed conflicts, and to fully involve females in conflict prevention, management and resolution, peace building and reconciliation.

“UNPOC is a vital part of the education of police officers from this region. By the end of 2015, we are supposed to educate at least 720 police officers, but we have already passed that number. We need to even continue educating more police officers,” stated Mr. Sande.

Mr. Sande revealed that plans are underway to train; at least, conduct six FPU courses by the end of 2015, which he said is one of the basic strategic goals for the next three years.
Combating crimes in the Southern Province

The Southern Province is one of the five regions, including the City of Kigali, in the country. It is composed of eight districts with 101 sectors.

The province borders Burundi in the south and Nyungwe national park in the west.

It is known as the region with the highest number of schools and houses the oldest university in the country – the National University of Rwanda (NUR) – and has the highest population in the country of about 2.6 million.

It is also known to be one of the provinces with most violent crimes cases. The Police Magazine (PMag) caught up with the Southern Regional Police Commander (RPC), Chief Supt. Elias Mwesigye, and below are the excerpts.

PMag: Tell us about the security status in the Southern Region

RPC: The security status in the Southern Province is improving day-by-day. Like in other part of the country, we have tried our best to deal with crimes. We involve the public through Community Policing, as it is now the norm in Rwanda National Police (RNP) in fighting and preventing crimes, and the results are remarkable.

PMag: Most crimes committed in the Province

RPC: Drug abuse top the crime list in the region. Most of the other crimes registered, sometimes which are violent like murder, family or land wrangles, assault, sexual crimes such as defilement and rape… are a result of drug abuse.

Most of the drugs used, especially among the youth, are narcotics which are brought in the region from the neighbouring countries through illegal channels and illicit brew like kanyanga and other locally distilled brew like Nyirantare and Murituri. Sometimes, these drugs (narcotics) are mixed with food or tea.

PMag: Are there strategies to combat these crimes, especially drug abuse?

RPC: Yes. There are a number of strategies in place, not only to fight crimes, but also to prevent them. We conduct sensitization campaigns,
community mobilization and mount operations, identify hotspots to curb down the rate of accidents and light areas that are considered a threat. We have held a number of public education. Recently, we launched an anti-GBV campaign in Nyanza District which brought together about 1000 students from different schools. We also want to establish these clubs in universities.

Through operations, which we conduct jointly with the community, we have been able to apprehend the dealers and consumers and seized drugs, most of which have been destroyed.

Transit centres have also been established in districts, and these have been much helpful in the fighting drugs because they now act as counseling centres. We have a good experience in Huye District where a number of drug dealers and consumers were counseled and they are now organized in an anti-drug club and they are facilitated to move around sensitizing their fellow youth on the dangers of drugs.

Like I said, drug abuse is a booster to most of other crimes committed in the region; and to contain this, we formed anti-drug clubs in secondary schools, especially in secondary schools.

As far as family conflicts are concerned, we identified most affected places (especially in Gisagara and Kamonyi districts). We mapped the affected families, mapped deviant and this has helped in educating or counseling such affected families, thus preventing any crime that would have resulted. It has also helped us in apprehending culprits, where necessary, most of the time before they commit an intended crime.

This strategy mapping has also been used to trace criminals involved in other crimes like drug abuse, and in most cases, they are intercepted before they commit a crime.

PMag: With these strategies in place, do you see the crime rate in the region becoming a downward trend?

RPC: I must say that they are reducing. Like drug abuse, many dealers have been arrested and we have somehow managed to break the supply chain. Family conflicts related crimes have also reduced because of the educational and counseling exercises conducted. Yes, we still have crimes in the region, but compared to before, I must say that we are now moving from fighting crimes to preventing them.

PMag: Any special action for Ruhango, which is among the districts in the country with fatal crimes like murder?

RPC: When you look at this district, it’s strategically positioned… it’s at the centre of the province and borders with Burundi and Lake Kivu, where a person can easily enter the town through the lake without...
being noticed. Criminals, after committing crimes escape either to Burundi or DR Congo through Lake Kivu. But we conduct targeted operations; work with area residents through Community Policing by sharing information. This has facilitated us either to apprehend criminals or intercept them before committing a crime. Most drug related crimes in the region are also registered in this district. So by cutting the supply chain, counseling families and the youth, it has paid off.

Most of the time, these murders are influenced by drugs. We also hold bilateral meetings with our counterparts in the bordering parts of Burundi and we have been able to apprehend and depot criminals hiding in either sides.

PMag: Talking about Burundi, there is an issue of illegal cross-border, especially Burundians who cross to Rwanda in search of casual work. There is also another issue of motorcycle theft where motorcycles are stolen from different parts of the country and taken to Burundi through illegal borders in the bordering districts. How do you deal with it?

RPC: We are aware of all those issues and we address them accordingly. But as you know, our borders are porous thus making it hard to fight such cross-border crimes. But there are those (criminals) who have been arrested in the act and stolen things recovered. But the bilateral relations we have with authorities on the Burundi side also play a great role in the entire process. When we get information that something has been stolen and likely to be in Burundi or a criminal is hiding in Burundi, we notify them. Through this way, we have managed recover some of the stolen motorcycles and arrest culprits.

On the issue of illegal cross-border, we arrest them and hand them over to authorities in Burundi. Recently, we conducted an operation in one sector alone and we arrested 30 Burundians who had crossed to Rwanda illegally. So, this is a matter where we also pay attention. We advise them to pass through legal channels to come to Rwanda, which also helps us in our security related activities and to know who they are and to help them when need arises.

PMag: Future plans, especially in crime prevention?

RPC: We will continue to improve the criminal investigation and prevention mechanisms, community mobilization, sensitization and training and ant-crime campaigns. We will also strengthen the police-community communication system, which will help in information sharing. Currently, we have toll-free lines right from the cell to the district level. All districts also have hotlines.

We have also found out that people consume illicit brew because they have no alternative. These illicit liquors are relatively cheaper compared to other liquors accepted in Rwanda. To address this, we have food scientists...they are trying to learn how to purify these illicit brews so that they meet the required standards.

PMag: How do you work with the community in fighting and preventing crimes?

RPC: In this case, the community through Community Policing is considered as development partners. They are involved in almost all the activities we do to ensure security in the region. They play a great role in providing information and in ensuring their security. In short they play a great in the entire process. When you rule out the community, you can hardly succeed, because they are the people with the information. Rwandans and residents of the Southern Province in particular, now know their responsibility and feel a sense of belonging. The more the society gets organized and involved, the more crimes will reduce.

We also work with local authorities and the communities in the region to build houses for vulnerable groups, protect the environment through planting trees, and construct terraces.
Narrowing the road accidents gap:

Big turn-up at vehicle inspection centre

The number of vehicles inspected at the Remera-based Motor Vehicle Inspection Centre (MIC) has so far increased by 5.26 percent. According to statistics from MIC, 53,275 vehicles were inspected between January and October this year, up from 50,472 inspected in 2011.

The turn-up, which has so far surpassed the one of the whole of 2011, is a clear indication that owners of automobiles now know the importance of the centre, according to Supt. Rafiki Mujiji, the Commanding Officers (CO) of MIC.

The month of October registered a bigger turn-up, where 7,122 were inspected while May recorded the least turn-up – 2,955.

The Motor vehicle Inspection Centre (MIC) was established in 2008 under the Presidential decree No 85/01 of 02/09/2002 regarding roads and usage of public highways, to contribute to the reduction of technical default related traffic accidents.

The MIC came into existence particularly to address mechanical defaults of vehicles as it had then been identified as being one of the major causes of fatal traffic accidents.

Equipped with state-of-the-art equipment, MIC inspects critical areas of motor vehicles which include wheel balance and alignment, suspensions, brakes, axle play, headlights as well as visual inspection that involves observing the housing of the car, side and rear view mirrors.

The Centre started with two test lanes, making customer service difficult especially due to the hordes of vehicles waiting to undergo inspection process, said Supt. Mujiji.

“The staff was equally lacking in terms of capacity and numbers. This in turn affected the efficiency of service delivery as few vehicles would be inspected,” he stated.

In an effort to overcome this challenge, last year, a third test lane was established, which has so far helped the Centre to register maximum customer satisfaction.

The whole inspection process now lasts between 30 and 45 minutes, a significant achievement that has been appreciated by vehicle owners, most of them saying it reduced the time they previously spent at the Centre.

After successful inspection, each vehicle is issued a certificate with a sticker placed on its registration numbers.

Commercial vehicles are subjected to inspection every six months and annual for private cars.

Supt Mujiji said plans are underway to introduce a mobile inspection service, next year, to serve vehicles operating in the countryside, which commute to Kigali for the same services, which is time consuming and costly.

Plans are also underway to decentralise the MIC to all regions.

MIC playing a great role in road safety

He, however, appealed to car owners to maintain the culture of keeping their vehicles in proper mechanical condition, which he said will further contribute to road safety.

He urged them to be vigilant not to fall prey of some people who masquerade as MIC officers just to defraud them of their money by selling them forged certificates and stickers.

The CO also called upon the community to cooperate with security organs through timely information sharing to apprehend people involved in such illegal acts.

Innocent Kambanda, one of the vehicle owners, commended the Centre for its significant improved services. “Every time I come here, I identify there is an improvement in service delivery and I am served in time,” said Kambanda.

Kambanda appreciated the overall hospitality and customer care delivered at the centre from the time of arrival until departure.
Rwanda National Police (RNP), on October 24, took part in the ‘UN-Open Day’ as the international body celebrated its birth following its establishment on October 24, 1945.

The celebrations held at Kigali Institute of Education (KIE) brought together all institutions supported by One-UN-Rwanda, which exhibited their achievements, especially in women empowerment under the theme “Partnership for Peace.”

Lamin Momodou Manhen, the United Nations Resident Coordinator-Rwanda (in blue shirt) visiting the RNP stand during the UN Open Day

Lamin Momodou Manhen, the United Nations Resident Coordinator-Rwanda, lauded the country’s tangible role in contributing to peace building in other countries and implementing the UN Security Council resolution 1325/2000.

The resolution is aimed at protecting women and girls during and after armed conflicts, and to fully involve females in conflict prevention, management and resolution, peace building and reconciliation.

Rwanda adopted the resolution in 2000, six years after the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi and is among the few countries with a steering committee to implement the UN it.

Rwanda currently has the highest number of female police peacekeepers worldwide.

To implement the resolution, Rwanda National Police also established a gender desk, which was decentralized to all police stations countrywide and established Isange One-Stop Centre with support of the UN, which provides free medical services to GBV victims.

The centre located at Kacyiru Police Hospital recently won
the United Nations Public Service Award (UNPSA) 2012 2nd place in the category of “Promoting Gender Responsive Delivery.”

UNPSA is the most prestigious international recognition of excellence in public service.

Lamin commended Rwanda’s enormous role in empowering women in “almost every sector.”

He said the UN shall continue to work closely with the government of Rwanda to bring about peace in the world.

Francesca Tengera, the President of Rwanda National Women Council explained that active engagement of women in the process of peace building and national reconciliation is reflected in the four pillars of the resolution, namely: prevention of GBV, participation and representation, protection of GBV victims and relief and recovery.

“The country established strong policy, legal and institutional mechanisms, to enhance the role of women in peace and security. This has enabled women to actively participate in political decision making and maintaining peace,” Tengera observed.

The one-day event was also attended by the Deputy Inspector General of Police, Stanley Nsabimana and the City of Kigali vice Mayor in charge of Social Affairs, Hope Tumukunde.

Germany medics impressed by Police’s role in fighting GBV

A team of nine Germany specialists in postmortem and DNA tests, on October 24, visited Isange One-Stop Centre where they were impressed by Rwanda National Police’s (RNP) effort in the fight against GBV.

Professor Klows Preschel, who headed the team, said the centre indicates the force’s commitment to uproot GBV in the country and to “grant women their rights.”

“This shows Rwanda National Police’s commitment to tackle issues related to Gender Based Violence. What we have seen here shows a big step made by the Rwandan Police in promoting human rights”, Professor Klows stated.

Isange, which loosely translates as “feel welcome”, situated at Kacyiru Police Hospital, was started by the Rwanda National Police (RNP) in partnership with Imbuto Foundation and the United Nations (UN) to provide medical, legal and psycho-social services such as counselling to victims of Gender Based Violence (GBV).

The centre also has safe rooms where GBV victims receive basic services like feeding, clothing and shelter, all for free. This is aimed at ensuring that victims access medical services and justice in time.

The centre has been greatly supported by One UN Rwanda (UNFPA, UNICEF, and UN Women) as well as stakeholders and partners.

The team had visited the centre to witness the police’s effort in the campaign against GBV in the country, which has registered tremendous success in the past few years.

At the centre, the team toured different departments including the laboratory, counseling room and the patients ward.

They were also explained on the process of receiving patients until they are discharged.

The Germany medics were in the country to give skills to doctors at Kacyiru Police Hospital and the National University of Rwanda (NUR) in DNA and postmortem tests.

Kacyiru Police Hospital was chosen as a study tour following the partnership between Rwanda National Police and NUR and Germany. Most of the DNA tests are carried out in Germany.

Assistant Commissioner of Police, Dr Wilson Rubanzana, Director of Medical Services in Rwanda National Police, explained that strategies were devised to effectively combat GBV including engaging the community to resolve family conflicts.

Most GBV related cases, ACP Rubanzana said, result from family conflicts.
Keeping the country green:

180 Police officers acquire techniques on environmental management

About 180 police officers operating in different parts of the country have been trained on environmental law enforcement and environmental management as measures to conserve the surroundings.

The training workshop of police officers aimed at equipping them with necessary skills which will enable them to efficiently perform their tasks in environmental law enforcement and environmental management.

The officers are from the Criminal Investigation Department (CID), Public Relations and Community Policing (PR&CP) Department and Police Station commanders, intelligence officers and District Community Liaison Officers (DCLO).

The officers covered areas of environment and sustainable development; environment and security; environmental policy and regulations in Rwanda.

Others topics covered are; state of environment and challenges; environmental organic law: principles and responsibilities, prohibitions and penal provisions.

The workshop organized by Rwanda National Police (RNP) and Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA) kicked off on September 26 in Rwamagana District where 67 police officers from Central and Eastern regions converged.

Eng. Collette Ruhamya, the Deputy Director of REMA, who presided over the official launch, said police, as a law enforcement institution, should take the lead to protect the environment, adding that it will foster its mission to ensure the safety of people and their property in the country.

“Protecting the environment is also another way of preventing crimes which result from land wrangles, which are (land) sometimes wetlands,” said Eng. Ruhamya, while calling upon all concerned institutions to join this campaign.

The courses also included protection of wetlands, rivers, lakes and biodiversity; environmental inspection and role of the police in the process; fighting against the use and sell of polythene bags and other prohibited products; Ozone Protection, and Climate Change.

The use and sell of polythene bags is prohibited in Rwanda and punishable under the Rwandan law.

Eng. Ruhamya appealed to police and Community Policing Committees (CPCs) in particular, to work hand-in-hand with REMA to sensitize the community on environmental protection.

She asked the participants to convey the knowledge and experience acquired to the public and fellow officers, which she said will also supplement measures to prevent land disputes.

While presiding over the closure of the workshop in Rubavu District on October 11, where officers from the Western and Northern regions converged and attained the same course, Eng Ruhamya commended the “massive participation” of the trainees and pledged continued partnership between REMA and police.

“We have been impressed by your massive participation which is a sign of your strong commitment. We will keep our existing partnership in educating the community and at the same time enforcing the law to make sure that environmental degradation is prevented. We are more motivated in education and prevention than fining,” she stated.

Supt. Theos Badege, the Acting Commissioner for Public Relations and Community Policing (PR&CP) department thanked REMA for organizing such an important seminar and lauded them for their continued support, particularly in the area of capacity building.

“The training of police officers benefits the entire Rwanda National Police staff as well as the Community Policing Committees (CPCs). Laws and policies are already in place and enforcement is our duty. With the skills obtained from the training as well as our continued commitment and strong partnership with REMA, we will achieve more” stated Supt Badege.
S

ince 2011, the Rwanda National Police (RNP) Traffic Unit has been undergoing a process to modernize its services and to shift to e-registration.

During the first phase, the traffic police unit introduced the online registration which eased the process of applying for a driver’s license.

Those registering to sit for provisional tests can now send an SMS as ‘ID No.-space-District-space-P-space-0’ to 3126. For those registering for the practical tests, they send an SMS as ‘ID No.-space-District-space-Category required-space-Number of previous licence obtained’ to 3126.

Both parties get a feedback message with the Identity number; district where one will sit the tests from and the category and the registration number, as confirmation.

This has facilitated the community seeking driving licences, time friendly and also reduced the number of police officers who used to be deployed in all parts of the country for the registration process as currently only two officers monitor the online registration activity.

This also reduced, drastically, the amount of money that would be used in the previous traditional registration system.

Police statistics indicates that over 2.5 million Rwandans now own driving licences.

Between 2009 and 2011 alone, 146,776 people acquired driving licences, 10 percent female.

In 2011, 62,552 people out of 150,824 who sat for provisional tests, passed.

According to the Chief Supt. Vincent Sano, the Commanding Officer (CO) Traffic Unit, they are in the final phase to fully shift to e-registration system where all services in-line with driving licence, will go online.

“The scheme is in the last phase where provisional driving licence candidates will be sitting for tests online,” said the traffic chief.

This, however, doesn’t mean that people will be commuting to Kigali for the online tests and other services as new centres will also be established in the countryside to ease the whole process, according CSP Sano.

“The e- registration system has reduced the number of police officers who used to register and record people countrywide and has improved the service delivery,” added Sano.

He, however, said internet disconnection is still their major challenge.

He also challenged people who passed tests but have since not collected their licences.

“Some of the licences have been here for over two years now. Most of such people, after such long period, forget the traffic rules like driving skills. We are advancing the idea of withholding these licences where owners might be required to re-sit the tests,” he explained.

Following the introduction of the online registration, driving tests, both theory and practical, are done on the same day contrary to before where each province had its day.

The general driving tests are now conducted every three months while in driving schools, they are conducted monthly.

Currently, there are about 60 driving schools in the country.

Chief Inspector of Police, Alphose Businge, who is in charge of exams and driving permits in the traffic unit, said delays in issuing permits are caused by poor registration, especially National Identity numbers and names where those seeking them give wrong particulars, with 215 people so far in this category.

However, this number also includes those who registered and sat for the tests, but were ineligible (below 18 years) to acquire a driving licence.

Businge also disclosed that the traffic police unit services have been decentralized to the district level where there is now a Police Officer in charge of permits and also follows up driving test related affairs such as permit registration and delivery.

In the City of Kigali, the offices are situated at Amahoro stadium for those in Gasabo District; in Kicukiro, the new office is at Kicukiro police station while in Nyarugenge, those seeking driving licence services can visit Muhima police station.
“Charity Begins at Home.” Give your child firm foundation

The legal definition of “child” generally refers to a minor, otherwise known as a person younger than the age of majority.

Article 217 of the new Rwanda penal code defines a child as “every human being aged under eighteen (18) years unless otherwise provided by other laws.”

This meaning, however, seems to have lost its value, basically due to parents, guardian and elderly in general, who have abandoned their responsibilities.

This has lured children into illegal and criminal acts, which they would have not got involved in if they had a “firm foundation.”

As if that is not enough, some parents have ignored the whole idea of “children” and have lured them into hazardous activities like handling domestic chores such as cooking, fetching water.

Coupled with the modern life and some parents’ negligence, children have involved in criminal acts like drug abuse (consumption and trade of narcotics and illicit liquor).

These psychotropic substances have decoyed them into other criminal acts like theft without forgetting school drop-outs.

In December 2011, the First Lady, Jeanette Kagame, launched the campaign against drug abuse among the youth.

These campaigns have been held in different parts of the country including schools, and have seen more anti-drug abuse clubs established.

Though this phenomenon (drug abuse) is still high among the youth, it is important to note that it is now becoming a downward trend, thanks to Rwanda National Police (RNP), which spearheads such “important campaigns.”

A number of drug dealers and consumers have been arrested and the “fight and prevention” continues to map-out major affected areas and to break the supply chain, which is seen as one of the best ways to effectively combat the scourge in the country.

Last year, 2720 cases of drug abuse were recorded. Between January and October this year, 2277 cases were registered. This increase is partly due to anti-drug abuse measures established that led to several arrests. All this was possible due to the police-public partnership through Community Policing.

Article 594 of the penal code states that “any person, who consumes, injects, inhales, anoints him/herself with or makes any other unlawful use of narcotic drugs, shall be liable to a term of imprisonment of one year to three years and a fine of Rwf50,000 to Rwf500,000.

However, any person who unlawfully makes, transforms, imports, or sells narcotic drugs within the country, shall be liable to a term of imprisonment of three years to five years and a fine of Rwf500,000 to Rwf5 million.

If the acts under the preceding paragraph are committed internationally, the penalties are doubled.

Parents; the clubs, cars, the boats, your assets may be ample, but the best inheritance you can leave your kids with is to be a good example.

Live so that when your children think of fairness and integrity, they think of you.

If you want children to keep their feet on the ground, put some responsibility on their shoulders.

It is not what you do for your children but what you have taught them to do for themselves that will make them successful human beings.

To children, we never know the love of our parents for us till we have become parents.

Like the saying goes; “Charity Begins at Home.”
Crime Scene Respect: Evidence Protection

A ‘Crime Scene’ is a place that is being investigated by the police because a crime has taken place there. It is often the only place that holds the answers to the event that surround the crime committed.

The scene of crime must be searched and every observation must be documented.

A lot of things will happen during a crime scene investigation, but primarily, it is about collecting physical evidences.

The process which involves a number of different searches and collections that helps to solve a crime by investigator and in the whole justice process.

The scene is considered as a store of information and facts to be proved during the legal process. Evidence is among the major factors to which base the prosecution discretion in determining what crimes should be prosecuted.

It helps in identifying victims and suspects, determining the offender, intentions of suspects and other non mentioned information relevant to the investigation; we therefore cannot separate evidence from the scene of crime which should be understood as any physical location in which a crime took place or is suspected of having occurred, that may provide potential evidence to an investigator.

It may include a person’s body, any type of building, vehicles and places in the open air or objects found at those locations.

The respect and protection of scene of crime play an important role in determining the quality of justice.

On the other hand, evidences are fragile and can be destroyed or eliminated at any time. In this perspective, any action pursued by a human being, either by good faith such as assisting the person in danger (Organic Law n° 01/2012/OL of 02/05/2012 on Rwanda penal code, art.216) or bad faith, can interfere with the crime scene and subsequently, destroy the evidences.

It is paramount to avoid any kind of contact with crime scene objects in order to prevent a cross-transfer of evidence.

As Rwanda National Police (RNP) continues to equip the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) with modern technology to collect and provide enough evidence to assist justice, the crime scene must be jealously preserved by every person, given its important role that positively contributes to the achievement of all the objectives of investigation and criminal justice in general.
Football

THREE Police FC players; Fabrice Twagizimana, Imran Nshimiyimana and Jean d’Amour Uwimana are among Coach Milutin Sredojevic Micho’s Amavubi team which is participating in the Cecafa Tusker Challenge Cup tournament being staged in Kampala, Uganda.

Reacting to the Amavubi call, Twagizimana said, “I am happy for the trust given by the head coach to include me in the 20-man team for Cecafa. This shows that hard work gained all the way from our club has helped us to be in the Amavubi team,”

“This is a national team and we are going to work hard as a team to ensure that we win the title in Kampala,” added Twagizimana.

The trio was also in Micho’s squad which played a 2-all draw against Namibia in a Fifa Friendly match played on November 14 at Amahoro stadium.

Rwanda is drawn in Group C alongside Malawi, Zanzibar and Eritrea and open their campaign on November 26 against the Flames followed by clashes with Zanzibar (November 29) and Eritrea (December 1).

Group A pits the defending champions Uganda against Kenya, Ethiopia and South Sudan while Group B has 2007 champions Sudan, Tanzania, Somalia and Burundi.

The top two teams from each group together with the best two third placed teams will qualify for the quarter-finals slated for December 3 - 4.

This will be followed by the semi-finals on December 6 and the final two days later. The two-week long tournament will be live on SuperSport TV at Namboole and Nakivubo stadia.

Last year, Amavubi romped to the final only to lose to the Uganda Cranes in penalty shoot-outs. It was the fifth time Rwanda had lost in the final.

Police trio named in Cecafa Challenge Cup squad

Police handball club ended the season on a high note by winning Coupe de Rwanda tournament over the weekend in Kigali.

Police beat rivals APR 23-22 in the final to win the tournament after coming unbeaten in the group stage matches.

Prior to the final, Police snatched a 29-9 victory over SFB and a 22-19 win over Kigoma in Group A to set up a clash against APR who had also topped Group B.

This was the fifth time that Police had dispatched APR in the finals this year.

The Coupe du Rwanda trophy is the fifth championship title the Cops team has lifted this year. Police handball club lifted the Heroes Cup in February, Liberation Cup in July, National league in August and Carres d’As title in September.

They only faltered when they represented Rwanda for the first time in the 34th Africa Handball Club Championship where they finished 15th out of 16 countries which took part.

Despite the poor show, the club will have a chance to improve on their performances when they compete in the Africa handball competition Cup which will be held in Tunisia next year in April.

Supt. Gerard Ntare, the Director of Sports in Rwanda National Police lauded the team’s achievements for keeping the image of the force high.

“This was a good year for Police handball club which exhibited good discipline, determination and winning mentality to win all the silversware staked. This shows the growth of the club and we hope to start from where we have stopped when we start quest for another season next year,”

“We want to improve all aspects technically such as the quality of players and coaching staff. With the leadership of Rwanda National Police, stakeholders, federation and the community, we want to extend the sport deep in the grassroots level so as to improve the game in the country,” added Supt. Ntare.

Attacking Midfielder Imran Nshimiyimana

Police wins Coupe du Rwanda
AFTER guiding Police to third position of the 2012/13 Primus National Football League with eight matches played, Serbian born coach Goran Kopunovic has branded himself ‘Special One’.

Goran also labeled Police FC a ‘special team’ after launching a good return to winning ways following a deprived start to the new league.

Police have collected 15 points, three behind SC Kiyovu and two adrift of second-placed AS Kigali and Goran has given thumbs-up to his boys for the good progress they have exhibited within the first quarter of the league.

“What proves that Police is a Special team which is managed by a Special coach is the improvement the team undergoes. We didn’t start better but we are playing better than we started,”

“Being a new team, my players are committed and ready to go by my command. We can win the league title if we continue making improvements as we get to play many more league matches,”

“The determination from players as well as the technical team leaves us with a confident mind that Police FC will be a solid team to dominate Rwandan football in a few years to come,” added the Serbian who guided Police to second place behind APR in both the league and Peace Cup last season.

Police who are also preparing for next year’s Orange Confederation Cup is now training and resting its players such that they can be in good shape when the league returns on December 15.

The league was called off in early November to allow Amavubi team prepare and take part in the Cecafa Senior Challenge Cup, which kicked off on November 24 in the Ugandan capital, Kampala.
Uwacu targets Confederations Cup glory with Police

POLICE skipper Jean Bosco Uwacu says his team is ready to display a great performance when the Cops launch their maiden debut in the CAF Confederations Cup which kicks off next year.

Police finished off second in the Primus National Football League last season earning a spot to represent Rwanda in the continental show piece.

The full back and a former APR and SC Kiyovu player says his team will help Police lift the Primus National Football League title for the first time and do well in next year’s Confederations Cup.

“We want to better our performance from last season and the only way to do that is to win the league. We finished second and I believe we have the capability to win it this season considering we are currently third and improving match after match

“Next year, we are playing continental soccer for the first time in the history of this team. Our target is at least to go past the first round then proceed as far as we can from there. That is the main reason we are training hard such that we can get used especially after we lost quality players prior to the start of this season,” added Uwacu.

Police who finished second last season will represent the country in Africa Confederation Cup while champions APR will battle in the Champions league respectively.

Police wins Carré d’As Handball tourney

POLICE Handball Club won this year’s Carré d’As tournament after beating APR Handball Club 38-24 in the final match played on October 7.

The annual competition brought together the top four teams in national Handball league. This event had Police, National University of Rwanda (NUR), Kigali Institute of Education (KIE) and APR.

In the semi-finals APR thrashed Kigali Institute of Education 31-15, while Police beat National University of Rwanda 24-15.

This is the second title Police handball team has won this year. Mid this year, Police handball team also won the national league title after collecting maximum 42 points from 14 matches and APR finished second with 36 points.

The league comprised eight teams including; Police, National University of Rwanda, Kigali Institute of Education (KIE), APR, Ecole Secondaire de Kigoma (ESKI), Groupe Scolaire de Rambura, Groupe de la Sale, Groupe St Joseph de Nyamasheke.
First Leg Matches that have been played

**Match Day One, 22.09.2012**
APR 2-1 Marines [Regional]
Police 0-0 La Jeunesse [Kicukiro]
Etincelles 0-0 Muhanga [Umuganda]
Rayon Sports 1-2 Amagaju [Nyanza]

**Match Day Two, 25.09.2012**
Muhanga 0-2 APR [Regional]

23.09.2012
Kiyovu 1-0 Espoir [Mumena]
Isonga 1-1 Musanze [Kicukiro]
Mukura 1-2 AS Kigali [Kamena]

**Match Day Three, 29.09.2012**
APR 1-1 Police [Amahoro]
Kiyovu 1-0 AS Kigali [Mumena]

30.09.2012
Mukura 1-0 Marines [Kamena]
Rayon Sports 0-1 La Jeunesse [Nyanza]
Isonga 3-1 Amagaju [Mumena]
Etincelles 1-2 Espoir [Umuganda]
Muhanga 0-2 Musanze [Kicukiro]

**Match Day Four, 06.10.2012**
Police 0-0 Mukura [Regional]
Espoir 0-1 Muhanga [Rusizi]
Amagaju 2-0 Etincelles [Nyanza]

06.10.2012
AS Kigali 2-1 Isonga [Regional]
La Jeunesse 1-2 Kiyovu [Mumena]
Marines 0-1 Rayon Sports [Umuganda]
Musanze 0-0 APR [Musanze]

**Match Day Five, 21.10.2012**
Rayon Sports 2-0 Police [Amahoro]

21.10.2012
Kiyovu 1-0 Marine [Mumena]
APR 3-1 Mukura [Regional]
Etincelles 0-1 AS Kigali [Umuganda]
Muhanga 1-0 Amagaju [Kicukiro]
Musanze 2-1 Espoir [Musanze]

**Match Day Six, 24.10.2012**
Police 2-0 Kiyovu [Amahoro]
Espoir 1-1 APR [Rusizi]
Amagaju 1-0 Musanze [Nyamagabe]
AS Kigali 2-0 Muhanga [Regional]
La Jeunesse 2-0 Etincelles [Mumena]
Marines 1-0 Isonga [Umuganda]
Mukura 2-1 Rayon Sports [Kamena]

**Match Day Seven, 27.10.2012**
Rayon Sports vs. APR [Amahoro]-Postponed
Muhanga 1-0 La Jeunesse [Regional]

28.10.2012
Espoir 1-0 Amagaju [Rusizi]
Kiyovu 1-0 Mukura [Regional]
Isonga 1-1 Police [Amahoro]
Musanze 0-0 AS Kigali [Musanze]
Etincelles 0-0 Marines [Umuganda]

**Match Day Eight, 03.11.2012**
Rayon Sports 3-1 Kiyovu [Amahoro]
APR 1-1 Amagaju [Mumena]
AS Kigali 2-0 Espoir [Regional]

04.11.2012
Marines 0-0 Muhanga [Umuganda]
Police 3-2 Etincelles [Kicukiro]
La Jeunesse 2-2 Musanze [Mumena]
Mukura 1-1 Isonga [Kamena]

**Match Day Nine, 09.11.2012**
Muhanga 0-2 Police

2012/13 Primus National Football League Fixtures

Police to build strong Handball team for Africa

Following their debut in the 34th Africa Handball Club Championship, the Rwanda National Police has embarked on thinking global to build a Handball team that will compete favourably on the international scene.

Supt. Gerard Ntare, the Director of Sports in Rwanda National Police, said, in an interview, that they are now going to “think global and act locally, in preparing themselves to participate in major events, both local and at the international level.”

“We are going to prepare financially, technically and administratively, in order to move forward in the coming competitions” he added.

For its first participation in the continental club championship, which ended on November 14 in Tangier, Morocco, the team, though they won no game, received the President’s encouragement Trophy of CAHB.

The President of the African Handball Confederation (CAHB) Mr. Mansourou Aremou thanked the Rwandan team for the discipline and courage.

“It is a great pleasure and honour to encourage a friend, a brother country, Rwanda. Your character, full of desire, is the image of your brave people and Africa is proud,” Mr. Aremou’s message in the team’s book, partly reads.

“We are willing to work with you to the growth and development of your team, and we wholeheartedly, support your efforts that tend to give the Rwandan youth an inescapable place on stage in Africa and globally,” the message further reads.

The men’s singles final, was won by Egypt’s Al Ahly at the expense of their fellow Zamalek (21-17).
League Table

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Top Scorers

- Jimmy Mbaraga (AS Kigali) - 7
- Peter Kagabo (Police) - 4
- Adolphe Hakundukize (Amagaju) - 3
- Barnabe Mubumbyi (APR) - 3
- Jean Claude Iranzi (APR) - 3
- Bertrand Youssa (Mukura) - 3
- Justin Mico (Isonga) - 3