

RWANDA – HER MAJESTY’S HIGH COMMISSIONER – WILL GELLING

- **20 Years of Progress**
 - 1994 left the country completely destroyed
 - Not a single typewriter in Kigali
 - RPF took over. Ended genocide. New vision: transformation to eastward-facing, Anglophone, Common Law, open trading nation.
 - Exceptional development record.
 - Key components: vision and self-discipline.
 - Economy: service-led, MICE, high-value agriculture, manufacturing.

- **Why Look at Rwanda?**
 - Macro-economic stability
 - Inflation below 5%
 - Ave. 8% GDP growth over last 10 years
 - Approaching 1m with income of over \$10,000
 - Excellent infrastructure:
 - 4G and fibre-optic backbone; road network; airline and airport;
 - Governance
 - Pro-business – 3rd in Africa for ease of doing business. Ease of setting up a business.
 - Security, stability, predictability.
 - Transparency, accountability.
 - Low corruption
 - Workforce self-disciplined. Want to get ahead
 - Regional integration
 - Signed up to all EAC integration plans: very open visa policy. Visa-free for Africans.

- **Sectors Currently Being Pursued**
 - Mining
 - Agriculture
 - Energy
 - Aerospace
 - Identity documents
 - Tourism
 - Business services
 - Major projects
 - Trade Missions

- **Issues**
 - Education: English vs French
 - Limited purchasing power
 - Loss of senior professionals still felt

- Political risk with DRC border
- Electricity costs: high but falling
- Transport costs: ditto
- Aid dependency: 46% but falling
- Export requirement
- 2017 Election