

THE REPUBLIC OF RWANDA



MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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May 20, 2011

PRESS RELEASE

Today, May 20, 2011, the Ministry of Local Government has organized and hosted a one day meeting that brought together the Minister of Local Government, Governors of Provinces, the Mayor of the City of Kigali, Provincial Executive Secretaries, District Mayors and Executive Secretaries, Sector Executive Secretaries, RDF Division Commanders, Regional Police Commanders and all brigade and District Police Commanders.

The meeting took place at Sports View Hotel, City of Kigali.

In his opening remarks, Minister James MUSONI challenged all leaders present over fighting against injustice, responsiveness and accountability. He reminded them that they should always seek to promote social economic transformation through team work and patriotism.

The Minister requested the local government leaders to always serve the population. He called for openness during the discussions and to derive positive recommendations that will serve for the better future of this nation.

The main objective of the meeting was to discuss on progress of various Government programs implemented at local level and assess the working relationships at decentralized levels. Specifically, the meeting covered three items, namely; (i) evaluation of the progress of thatched houses eradication campaign –Nyakatsi-, (ii) the planning and evaluation of performance contracts –Imihigo- and (iii) enhancing the use of ICT and social media at local level.

Participants held constructive discussions in plenary sessions, which were complemented by break away sessions in group discussions. They highlighted different achievements and challenges that are being experienced in their daily operations.

In a special way, participants thanked Rwandan community and development partners who tirelessly joined their efforts for the better future for all Rwandans to acquire decent homes, and achievements are at 85% of the targets. Participants pledged to deploy more efforts in order to have the thatched houses completely eradicated in Rwanda by June 2011.

Cognizing the principles of good governance that should guide all responsible leaders, participants blamed any leaders who could have mistreated citizens and did not promote their interests and rights in this exercise.

Participants welcomed the recent Cabinet resolution that granted local government with different facilitation packages, especially for Sector Executive Secretaries and Villages leaders in recognition of their voluntary service that is rendered to the nation.

Participants pledged to improve on their communication within and outside their areas of operation. They also committed to the use of ICT and social media for communication purposes. They pledged to promote the people’s interests and rights, and to always seek to improve working relationships for the good of the nation.

The Minister of Local Government who officially closed the meeting thanked all of the participants for their contributions and resolutions they have made. He reiterated the Government’s commitment to national security and stability as well as good governance for socio economic development. He asked all Rwandans to play each and everyone’s role towards those goals.