

REPUBLIC OF RWANDA



MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

PRESS RELEASE

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RWANDA HOSTS THE EAST AFRICAN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FORUM (EALGF) ANNUAL MEETING

This year, Rwanda will host the East African Local Governments Forum Annual Meeting in Kigali Rwanda from 4th to 8th [October 2021](#). The East African Local Governments Association (EALGA) will hold concurrently the Annual General Meeting and EALGF which is a complementary advocacy forum through which the Associations build synergies with the Ministries of Local Governments in the EAC Region.

“COVID-19 pandemic has impacted on every aspect of the human life including the East African Local Government Forum and it has put every development on back track since two years back. This makes imperative for all of us to think of and have recovery mechanisms for not only the Forum to attain its intended objectives but also our people’s restored lives and hope in our EAC region” Said the Minister of Local Government in Rwanda, Hon. Jean Marie Vianney Gatabazi.

The meetings will focus on strategies related to COVID-19 recovery to propel trade and regional development for East Africa, domestication of the Sustainable Development Goals in East Africa, the impact of the decentralisation and devolution system in East Africa as well as strengthening engagement with the East African Community as an economic block.

“We strongly believe that the work of this forum will play a big role in engaging EAC member states and partners to come up with the clear milestones and actions

that will foster local governance and social economic wellbeing of our EAC citizens.” Hon. Gatabazi added.

To achieve this, the meeting will endeavour to position EALGF as a driver of the Local Economic Agenda by addressing the different relationships and capacities of and between Central Government Ministries and the respective Local and County Governments inclusive of the Cities and Urban entities, with a prime focus on improving the effective implementation of Decentralization and Local Economic Development policies so as to achieve regional economic growth, trade and development as well as and meeting the SDGs in the region.

In addition to implementing EALGA and EALGF’s mandates and planned actions, anticipated outcomes of these meetings include Improved mobilization of members and the Institutional co-ordination of EALGA and EALGF resulting in a stronger representative voice for local government in the EAC integration process.

Other objectives of the meeting include the elections of EALGA Executive Committee Office bearers and facilitate the handover by the incumbent, as well as streamlining and resolving the interactions of EALGA at Regional and Global levels.

At the closure of EALGA Forum, Rwanda will hand over to Tanzania as the next chair of the forum.

End.

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