

REPUBLIC OF RWANDA



MINISTRY IN CHARGE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

**Global Refugee Forum /16th–18th December 2019/Geneva/Switzerland
Statement by Rwanda delivered by KAYUMBA Olivier; The Permanent
Secretary in The Ministry in of Emergency Management**

Excellencies,

Mr. High Commissioner,

Distinguished Delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

I am very pleased and honoured to be part of the First Ministerial Level Global Refugee Forum where States, together with relevant stakeholders are announcing concrete pledges and contributions towards the objectives of the Global Compact on Refugees, which are to ease pressures on host countries; enhance refugee self-reliance; expand access to third country solutions; and to support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity.

Excellencies, Mr. High Commissioner,

Rwanda hosts nearly 150.000 refugees representing 1% of the entire Rwandan population in a country with a population density of 512/km². Only 9% are self-reliant and live out of camps.

The refugee situation is increasing worldwide and so is the gap between the needs and the humanitarian funding.

Rwanda reiterates its commitment to positively contribute to burden and the responsibility sharing in order to better implement durable solutions for refugees.

The Government of Rwanda has already made good progress in delivering its 4 commitments made as part of the 2016 New York Declaration.

Today, refugee students are integrated in the national education system, urban refugees and students in boarding schools have access to the National community-based health insurance scheme.

In furtherance of our commitment to burden responsibility sharing, in September this year, Rwanda signed an MoU to set up an Emergency Transit Mechanism for evacuating refugees out of Libya. Rwanda is now hosting 306 refugees and asylum seekers evacuated from Libya while long-term solutions are being identified.

Our commitment to the Global Compact on Refugees will focus on pledges in the following areas, education, jobs and livelihoods, youth empowerment, energy, infrastructure and environment, refugee protection and solutions. The full implementation of these commitments, will require significant support, financial and technical, from both traditional and new donors and from other partners and stakeholders.

Let me conclude by thanking UNHCR for organizing this Global Refugee Forum and reiterate my country's commitment to working closely with UNHCR and other stakeholders to find lasting solutions for refugees.

I thank you for your kind attention.