

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
ON MUTUAL COOPERATION**

**BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF RWANDA**

**AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF JERSEY**

12 MAY 2016

INTRODUCTION

The Government of Rwanda “GoR” and the Government of Jersey “GoJ” (hereinafter collectively referred to as “the Participants”):

DESIRING to cooperate in a variety of initiatives in accordance with the partnership principles and common approach set out in this Memorandum of Understanding on mutual cooperation;

APPRECIATING the strength of the existing relationship, and of the potential to work together more closely for the benefit of both jurisdictions;

ACKNOWLEDGING the GoR’s Vision 2020 and aim to transform the country into a knowledge-based middle-income country, thereby reducing poverty;

DESIRING to raise living standards, promote economic growth and stability, create new employment opportunities and improve the general welfare by liberalising and expanding mutual trade and investment;

RECOGNISING the GoJ’s desire, in line with paragraph 2, xii, of the Council of Ministers Common Policy for External Relations, to share its expertise and experience with partner countries in Africa to help further their economic development objectives and ensure alignment with international standards;

RECOGNISING the opportunities for closer cooperation and collaboration for the benefit of the people of both jurisdictions, especially in relation to agriculture, financial services, tourism, conservation, culture, education, and ICT;

RECOGNISING the importance of continued dialogue to refine opportunities available to both Participants;

THEREFORE have reached the following understandings.

PARAGRAPH 1: OBJECTIVES OF THE COOPERATION AGREEMENT

- 1.1 The objective of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to upgrade and enhance the bilateral relationship between the Participants by identifying and progressing opportunities for mutual cooperation and benefit across a broad range of priority areas;
- 1.2 Using this MOU as the foundation, the Participants intend to share knowledge and best practice to support the achievement of development targets and foster working relations between the governments and peoples of both jurisdictions through a long-standing and beneficial partnership;
- 1.3 The Participants will initiate a consultative process concluding in the delivery of a range of projects that are approved by both jurisdictions. Further cooperation outside of the areas referenced in this MOU may be explored, subject to acceptance by both Participants.

PARAGRAPH 2: GOVERNMENT OF JERSEY

For the GoJ:

- 2.1 The Ministry of External Relations will coordinate with other key Ministries and associated agencies in Jersey to progress approved projects;
- 2.2 A senior GoJ civil servant will be appointed to act as the main focal point to liaise with GoR;
- 2.3 All relevant GoJ departments and agencies will be provided with access to legislation, guidelines or other relevant documents necessary for the implementation of any aspect of collaborative working;
- 2.4 Reasonable information requirements for regular monitoring and evaluation of any established projects will be provided and, where necessary, assistance given;
- 2.5 Subject to GoJ prior approval, the need for and availability of in-kind or direct financial support will be assessed with the aim of supporting approved projects.

PARAGRAPH 3: GOVERNMENT OF RWANDA

For the GoR:

- 3.1 The Rwandan Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation (MINAFFET) will coordinate with other key Ministries within GoR as necessary to progress approved cooperative projects;
- 3.2 A senior civil servant from MINAFFET will be appointed as the main focal point to liaise with GoJ;
- 3.3 All relevant GoR departments and agencies will be provided with copies of legislation, guidelines or other relevant documents necessary for the implementation of any aspect of collaborative working;
- 3.4 Reasonable information requirements for regular monitoring and evaluation of any established projects will be provided and, where necessary, assistance given;
- 3.5 Subject to GoR prior approval, the need for and availability of in-kind or direct financial support will be assessed with the aim of supporting approved projects. This MOU is intended to comply fully with the provisions of the GoR Aid Policy.

PARAGRAPH 4: AREAS OF COOPERATION

- 4.1 This MOU is intentionally wide-ranging, reflecting the depth and breadth of shared interests between Rwanda and Jersey. Priority areas of mutual cooperation include, but are not limited to, those mentioned hereafter.

Financial Services

- 4.2 GoJ is proud of Jersey's reputation as a world-class business and professional services centre that is innovative, well-regulated and internationally co-operative. GoJ believes that firm commitment to high standards of regulation and transparency are critical to the successful development of any international finance centre, and will be essential to achieving GoR's ambition to develop into a regional financial services and business support hub. Accordingly, the Participants resolve to cooperate on knowledge transfer, skills and policy development

across three main themes:

4.3 Strengthening government capacity

- 4.3.1 The Participants will seek to establish a programme of staff secondments between financial sector regulators (Jersey Financial Services Commission (JFSC) for Jersey and National Bank of Rwanda (NBR) and Capital Markets Authority (CMA) for Rwanda) to build institutional capacity and share knowledge and expertise with the first secondment ideally beginning in 2016;
- 4.3.2 JFSC will share experience of International Organisation of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) membership with the CMA and explore the potential for the signing of a separate MOU between the two bodies;
- 4.3.3 GoJ Treasury Department, the Rwanda Social Security Board (RSSB) and the Rwanda National Investment Trust (RNIT) will discuss their respective fund investment policies to identify best practice and areas where continued dialogue may assist investment policy development;
- 4.3.4 The Participants will initiate a regular, high-level policy exchange between representatives of Ministries and agencies responsible for finance industry development in both jurisdictions, beginning with an inward visit by a Rwandan delegation in 2016.

4.4 Expanding private sector networks

- 4.4.1 Jersey Finance Ltd (Jersey's financial services industry promotional body) will explore opportunities for Jersey companies to participate in the first-ever business delegation by Jersey to Rwanda;
- 4.4.2 The Rwandan Development Board (RDB) will explore opportunities to facilitate attendance of Jersey companies and Jersey Finance Ltd in financial services focused events in Kigali, including The Global Africa Investment Summit (TGAIS) in September 2016;
- 4.4.3 GoR will secure speedy ratification and entry into force of the Rwanda-Jersey Double Taxation Agreement that was signed on 26 June 2015 between the two governments.

4.5 Enhancing regional and international recognition

- 4.5.1 GoJ will facilitate RDB's introduction to Jersey Finance Ltd with a view to their establishing dialogue to share expertise on trade promotion and business development for international financial services centres;
- 4.5.2 The Participants will explore the potential, and identify appropriate partners, for convening regional workshops comparing standards and models in Jersey and East Africa on e.g. comparative regulation regimes, AML process and training, Trust & Foundation Law etc;

4.5.3 GoJ will endeavour to advise on practical steps where GoR seek membership of appropriate international bodies that assess international standards, including the OECD's Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes.

Investor immigration policy development

4.6 Locate Jersey, a GoJ department, attracts new businesses and High Net Worth Individuals to relocate to the Island. Noting Rwanda's interest in developing its own investor immigration initiative, Locate Jersey will explore opportunities for knowledge transfer and information exchange with RDB on developing strategies to attract High Net Worth investors.

Digital

4.7 ICT is central to Rwanda's transition to a knowledge-based economy, and is also an important element of Jersey's efforts to diversify its economy. Rwanda and Jersey stand to benefit by exchanging information on how the ICT sector can best be supported in both countries. Digital Jersey will develop a reciprocal agreement with K-Lab (Rwanda's start-up hub) on hub services. Digital Jersey with K-Lab and the ICT Chamber of Commerce will explore potential collaboration in areas of particular interest to both jurisdictions, including FinTech, MedTech, AgriTech and Digital Literacy.

Agriculture

4.8 Agriculture is economically important to Rwanda and has an important role in the economy of Jersey. It is of central importance culturally and socially to both countries and has been an area of productive cooperation since 2004. In this respect, the GOJ will seek to continue to support Rwanda's genetic improvement project for her dairy herd including provision of Jersey bull semen for the Artificial Insemination programme and the GoJ will facilitate contact with the Royal Jersey Agriculture & Horticulture Society to advance this agenda. Elsewhere, it is understood that the Jersey Overseas Aid Commission (JOAC), a body that is independent of GoJ, will also consider other ways to assist Rwanda including provision of bulls, training of Artificial Insemination technicians as well as farmers, the introduction of a Herd Book and the development of a Rwandan cow breeders' association.

4.9 In support of her efforts to promote food security, Rwanda is currently exploring the potential for developing Irish potatoes to become a priority crop. The Jersey Royal New Potato is a famous Jersey export and the Island's Environment Department will explore opportunities for knowledge transfer and information exchange with GoR's Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources in relation to research into plant health (including blight control). In addition Jersey's Economic Development, Tourism, Sport and Culture Department will assist with advice on the marketing of potatoes.

Tourism and Conservation

4.10 A strategic partnership will be established between RDB and Visit Jersey, recognising Rwanda's thriving tourism industry and the importance of tourism to Jersey's economy. This partnership will allow for sharing of best practice in areas of mutual interest including agritourism, MICE initiatives and destination branding. It is envisioned that a separate MOU will be entered into by both bodies and that an annual meeting will take place, timed to coincide with a multinational travel event where both jurisdictions will be present;

4.11 Over the past decade Rwanda has cemented its place at the forefront of progressive conservation. Jersey is proud to be home to the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust, a world-leader in conservation with significant interest and involvement in efforts to support Rwanda's mountain gorillas. A number of Rwandan representatives have trained with the organisation previously and the GoJ understand that Durrell will invite a Rwandan warden to participate in their flagship programme, the Durrell Endangered Species Management Graduate Certificate, in February-May 2017. Attendance at the 12-week course will be fully funded by Durrell. The GoJ will seek to support these initiatives by continued dialogue with Durrell and Jersey authorities will liaise with RDB on the selection of a delegate to attend the course.

Public sector reform

4.12 As one of its home-grown initiatives, Rwanda implements a Performance Contracts system (Imihigo) to fast-track delivery of plans that have a transformational impact on the life of Rwandans. Jersey would like to explore whether it might benefit from Rwanda's experience of using Imihigo as a tool for strengthening and institutionalising results-based management. A dialogue will be established between GoR and GoJ to discuss applicability to Jersey's civil service. Further, Rwandan delegations visiting the Island will share their experience of Imihigo and discuss its potential application to the GoJ.

Education

4.13 Education is accorded great focus by the governments of both countries and the establishment of educational links will support the deepening of the Rwanda-Jersey bilateral relationship. Until 2017 Jersey funds a Save the Children UK project to improve 24,000 children's access to high-quality, local-language books and materials in Gicumbi district. To continue to deepen educational links, a school partnership will be explored so as to offer students fresh perspectives on life in another country, to develop understanding between young people, and to develop long-lasting relationships between partner schools;

4.14 Additionally, GOJ will explore opportunities for scholarships for an exceptional Rwandan student to study towards a degree in international financial services and law in Jersey.

Culture

4.15 The Participants recognise the importance of developing strong people-to-people links to complement and sustain a long-term, enhanced partnership between both governments. Accordingly the Participants resolve to identify and support opportunities for cultural exchange, including through the arts;

4.16 GoJ will explore the possibility of participation by Rwandan artists in Jersey Arts Trust's programme of activities and exhibitions and in Société Jersiaise's Archisle International Photographer in Residence Project. GoR will explore options for Jersey artists to become the first international participants in Rwanda's annual Creative Arts Festival in 2017.

PARAGRAPH 5: PREVENTION AND SETTLEMENT OF DISAGREEMENTS

5.1 This MOU is not a binding legal agreement and does not create any rights or obligations under international laws or domestic laws in any jurisdiction. In the event of any conflict between the provisions of this MOU and bilateral understandings or arrangements, the conflicting Participants will consult with one another on measures to resolve the problem and possible courses of action;

5.2 The GoR and GoJ will cooperate with the intention of reaching a mutually acceptable resolution to any problem arising out of the interpretation or implementation of this MOU.

PARAGRAPH 6: ADMISSION, WITHDRAWAL AND REVIEW

- 6.1 This MOU will come into effect from the date of signature by the GoR and GoJ.
- 6.2 The working of these arrangements will be reviewed by the Participants annually following the date of coming into force.
- 6.3 Amendments to this statement of commitment may be agreed in writing between by both Participants.
- 6.4 Participants may withdraw from this MOU with three months' prior written notice of such intention to other signatories.
- 6.5 This MOU shall remain valid for a period of five years from date of signature and may be renewed by mutual agreement between the two Participants.

FOR GOVERNMENT OF JERSEY, UK



SENATOR PHILIP OZOUF

TITLE: ASSISTANT CHIEF MINISTER

12-5-2016.

DATE: MAY 12 2016

FOR GOVERNMENT OF RWANDA



AMBASSADOR CLAVER GATETE

**TITLE: MINISTER OF FINANCE &
ECONOMIC PLANNING**

12-05-2016

DATE: MAY 12 2016