

REPUBLIC OF RWANDA



OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

Remarks by the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister

Dr. Edouard Ngirente

Official Launch of the World Bank Report:

Rwanda: Future Drivers of Growth.

Kigali, Marriot Hotel, November 10, 2018

- **Honourable Ministers,**
- **Chief Executive Officer of the World Bank,**
- **Vice-President for Human Development at the World Bank Group,**
- **Distinguished Guests,**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Good morning!

- 1.** I wish to start by thanking Mrs. Kristalina Georgieva, the Chief Executive Officer of the World Bank for attending personally this important event that marks the official launch of the report on Future Drivers of Growth in Rwanda.
- 2.** The study that led to this report would not have happened without the visionary leadership of His Excellency Paul Kagame, the President of the Republic of Rwanda. I would like to thank Dr. Jim Kim, the President of World Bank Group for his leadership in this whole process.
- 3.** The Government of Rwanda wishes also to thank experts both from the World Bank Group and those from Rwanda for their joint efforts in carrying out this important study.
- 4.** The Government and people of Rwanda are equally happy to note that Rwanda is the third country across the globe after China and Vietnam to have conducted a similar study.
- 5.** This study comes at the right time when the Government of Rwanda has embarked on key priorities as reflected in the National Strategy for Transformation which was announced last year in 2017.

6. The results of this study will therefore be an inspiration for improving reforms that are necessary to inform the better future planning of resources geared towards the national transformational agenda.

7. I must reiterate that the results of this study complement strategies that the government of Rwanda has already begun to implement in order to deal with some of the challenges like those related to human capital that were raised in this study. Rwanda strongly values human capital as an important driver of high-income growth, and a foundation for sustainable prosperity.

8. Some of strategies to improve our Human Capital Index include:

- The establishment of the National Early Childhood Development Program (NECDP) that coordinates all strategies and initiatives that seek to address issues of stunting, malnutrition, early childhood education, and sanitation. Activities of this program are now found in all Districts of Rwanda upward the country.
- The new competency-based curriculum, teacher training, school construction, smart classrooms all meant to strengthen efforts to improve the quality of education;
- Establishment of Rwanda Polytechnique, an institution designed to sharpen skills through Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) to respond to the skills needs in various sectors of our economy. Our target is to increase the number of students pursuing TVET from 46.4% (2016) to 60% by 2024. This will help us to equip our youth and young people with practical knowledge in different sectors such as Agro-processing, Horticulture, Construction, Manufacturing, Textiles and Transport.

- The Made in Rwanda policy with strategies aimed at increasing quality productivity of our local industries to recapture the domestic market and improve our exports.

9. I have no doubt that the the recommendations from this report will serve as a key reference in the definitions of our future growth targets in key priority areas of the report including:

- a. Human capital development;
- b. Export dynamism and regional integration;
- c. Urbanization;
- d. Competitive domestic enterprises;
- e. Agricultural modernization;
- f. And capable and accountable public institutions.

- **Distinguished Guests,**

10. Successful implementation of these recommendations will require active involvement and joint efforts of various stakeholders, including the private sector, civil society organizations, development partners including World Bank Group.

11. The government of Rwanda is committed to supporting the implementation of the recommendations and welcomes further collaboration with the World Bank Group as our key partner.

12. I would like to conclude by thanking once again the World Bank Group and the whole team of experts who worked on this report for the last 10 months.

13. On that note, I am pleased now to declare the official launch of the **Report on Future Drivers of Growth in Rwanda.**

Thank you.