



**Pledge submitted by Rwanda to the Human Rights 75 Secretariat  
December 2023**

**Original language of submission:** English  
**Type of pledge:** Single (by one state/actor)  
**Pledging entity:** Ministry of Justice

**PLEDGE NUMBER 1:** Rwanda will continue to reform its justice system to emphasize restorative and reformatory justice over retributive justice. This pledge seeks to implement the newly adopted Alternative Disputes Resolution Policy and Criminal Justice Policy. While the former will challenge the persisting culture of overreliance on litigation and emphasize the use of alternative means of disputes resolution, the latter will reform the criminal justice system, which will result in a reduction in criminality, review sentences in current penal laws, reform ex-convicts, and ultimately reduce recidivism and the number of people in detention facilities. It will be implemented through 2029.

**Expected deadline within which pledge will be realised:** Dec 31, 2029

**PLEDGE NUMBER 2:** Rwanda will adopt and implement the National Human Rights Action Plan and the Action Plan on Business and Human Rights. The 2nd NHRAP will be adopted and will incorporate aspects of business and human rights. The action plan will consolidate the government programs and policies; strengthen coordination among actors; increase the knowledge and application of human rights based approach; create and maintain framework for monitoring and evaluation; and set out national priorities to fill any existing gaps. The plan will be adopted by 2024 and implemented through 2029.

**Expected deadline within which pledge will be realised:** Dec 31, 2029

**PLEDGE NUMBER 3:** Phase two of the National Strategy for Transformation (NST 2) will be human rights-sensitive. The first National Strategy for Transformation (NST1) is coming to an end in 2024. A second national strategy will be adopted to guide national action. Given the strong linkages between development and human rights, it is crucial to ensure that once this document is adopted, it will have a human rights dimension and a tool to monitor its human rights aspect. The NST2 will be adopted by 2024 and will be implemented through 2029.

**Expected deadline within which pledge will be realised:** Dec 31, 2029

**PLEDGE NUMBER 4:** Contribute to the global efforts to find a solution to the current global migration and asylum system challenges. Global migration and asylum system is faced with many challenges including refugee crisis, provision of humanitarian response, strict and inefficient immigration policies, detention and many other forms of unbearable human rights abuses for asylum seekers. Contributing in this area gives Rwanda the chance to take innovative action to solve one of the world's biggest crises, which resonates in the country's

history. Rwanda will continue to reform its policy, legal and institutional framework to this end. Progressive implementation until 2029.

**Expected deadline within which pledge will be realised:** Dec 31, 2029

**PLEDGE NUMBER 5:** Continue reforming the media sector. In line with this, the government of Rwanda will adopt a media policy, reform relevant laws to align them with the policy, build capacity of medical practitioners while increasing media literacy among Rwandans. This pledged is to be implemented through 2029.

**Expected deadline within which pledge will be realised:** Dec 31, 2029