

Opinion: Rwanda's Anti-corruption Judiciary Week. A Stabit Advocates Call for Integrity Beyond Campaigns

The launch of Rwanda's **Anti-Corruption Judiciary Week** has once again placed integrity at the center of the nation's justice system. Chief Justice **Domitilla Mukantaganzwa** reminded the public that corruption often arises when service delivery falters, urging citizens to report misconduct under the theme: "*Poor service is a loophole for corruption. Report it and join the fight against it.*"

For lawyers and law firms, this message is both timely and encouraging. Every practitioner knows that justice must remain accessible, transparent, and free from undue influence. The Judiciary's commitment to prioritizing corruption-related cases and strengthening dialogue with court staff reflects a determination to safeguard the rule of law.

The **Rwanda Bar Association**, under President **Moïse Nkundabarashi**, has pledged continued collaboration with the Judiciary to ensure lawyers uphold the highest ethical standards. Inspections and professional oversight are not punitive measures alone — they are safeguards that protect the credibility of the legal profession and reassure citizens that justice in Rwanda is delivered fairly.

This week is more than an annual campaign. It is a reaffirmation of the principle that *justice has no price*. For Stabit Advocates Rwanda, it is a reminder of our oath: to serve clients with integrity, to protect rights without compromise, and to ensure that the courts remain a place where truth, not money, determines outcomes.

Rwanda's Anti-Corruption Judiciary Week demonstrates that the fight against corruption is not only institutional but also professional. Lawyers, judges, and citizens alike share in the responsibility of ensuring that justice shines as a beacon of trust and fairness.

Why Lawyers Must Lead by Example

For practitioners, corruption is not just an ethical lapse — it is a betrayal of the oath to uphold justice. Every bribe paid distorts the legal process, weakens client confidence, and erodes the credibility of the courts. Lawyers must resist shortcuts and insist on transparent procedures, even when clients demand "results at any cost."

Beyond Judiciary Week

The Judiciary's declaration that "*justice has no price*" must be more than rhetoric. For lawyers, it is a reminder that our profession is built on trust. If citizens believe justice can be bought, then the rule of law itself is compromised. Rwanda's Anti-Corruption Judiciary Week is a step forward.

But the real test lies in whether lawyers and judges alike can transform this campaign into lasting institutional integrity.

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