

Kabale Resident Judge assesses proposed site for Rukiga Magistrate's Court

Kabale High Court Resident Judge, Justice Karoli Ssemogerere, on Tuesday visited Muhanga Town Council in Rukiga District to inspect premises identified as the proposed site for the first Magistrate's Court in the district. He was accompanied by the Kabale Chief Magistrate, HW Derrick Byamugisha.



The delegation was warmly received by the District Chairperson, Mr. Mbabazi Robert Kakwerere, the Assistant RDC, Mr. Fred Karokorora (representing the RDC), His Worship James Twijukye, Mayor of Muhanga Town Council, and Ms. Ednah Mutabazi, the Town Clerk, together with her staff.

During a meeting held in the Council Chambers, Justice

Karoli briefed the attendees, including town council staff, on the benefits of establishing a court in Rukiga. He highlighted the district's challenging geography, which stretches from the border with Rwanda in Kamwezi County to the neighbouring districts of Rukungiri, Ntungamo, and Kabale. He noted that the proposed location in Muhanga Town Council, though distant from the District Prison in Rwamucucu, was ready to host the court with available premises.

The Resident Judge underscored that a court in the area would stimulate economic activity by providing faster dispute resolution, attracting support services, and reducing the burden on litigants who currently travel over 30 to 50 kilometres to access justice in Kabale. He further emphasized that bringing judicial services closer to the people would strengthen access to justice and enhance public trust in the Judiciary.

Chief Magistrate Byamugisha explained that while the Grade I Court's pecuniary jurisdiction is limited; the new court would serve as a focal point for administering justice in the district. He also

revealed that Kabale High Court plans to periodically circuit in all courts under its jurisdiction to handle urgent matters.

The District Chairperson assured the Judiciary that land is available for the construction of permanent court premises in the future. The visit concluded with informal interactions between the Judiciary team and municipal staff before the delegation departed for Kabale.