The national men’s football coach, “Amavubi*, “have announced their provisional squad ahead of a crucial double-header in the 2026 FIFA World Cup Qualifiers against Nigeria and Zimbabwe.

The 29-man squad, unveiled by FERWAFA, blends experienced internationals with fresh faces, signaling Coach Torsten Spittler’s intent to sharpen Rwanda’s competitive edge on the road to the World Cup.

Between the posts, Kaizer Chiefs’ shot-stopper Ntwari Fiacre headlines the goalkeeping department alongside Buhake Clement Twizere (Ullensaker/Kisa) and Ishimwe Pierre (APR FC).

Defensive solidity is entrusted to seasoned names such as APR FC duo Omborenga Fitina and Niyomugabo Claude, joined by European-based talents including Nkuliikiyimana Darryl Nganji (Standard de Liège), Manzi Thierry(Al Ahly Tripoli), and Mutsinzi Ange (Zira Futbol Klub).

In midfield, creativity and work rate will come from Bizimana Djihad (Al Ahly Tripoli), Mugisha Bonheur (Al Masry), and Muhire Kevin (Jamus FC). Emerging playmakers like Kayibanda Claude Smith (Bedford Town) and Ngwabije Bryan Clovis (Dieppe FC) have also been given the nod.

Upfront, the Amavubi attack is packed with firepower. APR FC’s prolific Mugisha Gilbert is joined by Kwizera Jojea (Rhode Island), Nshuti Innocent (Esperance Sportif de Zarzis), and Ishimwe Anicet (Olympique de Béja). The forward line is further bolstered by Biramahire Abeddy (ES Setif), Gitego Arthur (FUS Rabat), and Ishimwe Djabilu (Etincelles FC).

With the Super Eagles of Nigeria and the Warriors of Zimbabwe standing in Rwanda’s path, the stakes could not be higher. Nigeria bring global pedigree, while Zimbabwe promise a fierce regional test. For the Amavubi, these clashes will serve as both a measuring stick and a chance to ignite their World Cup dream.

The Amavubi began their 2026 FIFA World Cup qualification campaign with a hard-fought 0–0 draw against Zimbabwe. in November 2023, before pulling off a stunning 2–0 victory over South Africa that raised hopes across the country. However, their momentum was briefly halted with a narrow 1–0 defeat away to Benin, though they quickly bounced back with a crucial 1–0 win over Lesotho to stay competitive in Group C.

The final squad is expected to be trimmed in the coming days, but one thing is clear: Rwanda is gearing up for a battle that could define their qualifying campaign.