Rwanda Defence Force (RDF) officials and Northern Province leaders on Wednesday met with reservists from across the region, praising their role in national security and urging them to take a more active role in community development.

The meeting, held in Musanze District, brought together reservists from all districts of Northern Province. Major General Alex Kagame, RDF Reserve Force Chief of Staff, said the government is working to provide opportunities for reservists while encouraging them to organize into cooperatives and create income-generating activities.

“While projects specifically dedicated to reservists remain limited, available opportunities are being distributed fairly,” Major General Kagame said. “I urge you to take initiative and develop your own programs rather than waiting for government support.”

He also stressed discipline, integrity, and confidentiality, urging reservists to refrain from spreading misinformation on social media and to uphold military standards within their communities. Major General Kagame highlighted that Rwanda remains peaceful and secure and reminded reservists that defending national sovereignty is a shared responsibility of all citizens.

Northern Province Governor Mugabowagahunde Maurice echoed the praise, commending reservists for their contributions to security and local development. He assured them that the government monitors their welfare and is committed to integrating them into programs that support poverty reduction and community well-being.

Governor Mugabowagahunde Maurice

“Provincial leadership will continue working closely with reservists through information sharing, healthcare support, and job creation initiatives,” the Governor said. “We call on you to remain exemplary in maintaining security, preventing illegal mining, promoting hygiene, and upholding Rwandan values.”

The officials highlighted the importance of reservists in complementing active-duty RDF units, supporting security operations, and engaging in development projects. They encouraged reservists to leverage their skills and networks to benefit both themselves and their communities.

The meeting underscored a broader government strategy to strengthen civic engagement among reservists while fostering self-reliance, community leadership, and patriotism.