

Government on Monday welcomed the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) for its annual General Assembly, bringing global attention to the country's quality and standards initiatives.

The weeklong meeting, running through October 10 at Kigali Convention Centre, marks only the second time the ISO assembly has been held in Africa, following South Africa in 2019.

Officials say the event provides a platform to showcase Rwanda's "Made in Rwanda" products, innovations, and competitiveness, in line with the country's National Strategy for Transformation Phase II (NST2). The strategy aims to boost exports and strengthen local industries through international quality standards.

Raymond Murenzi, Director General of the Rwanda Standards Board (RSB), said, "We are delighted to host experts and leaders in global standards from around the world. This is a unique opportunity for Rwanda to demonstrate progress in developing quality standards and producing goods that can compete internationally."

The assembly carries the theme "*United for Impact*" and is expected to gather more than 1,000 participants from over 176 countries, including government officials, international organizations, business leaders, standardization authorities, consumer protection agencies, research institutions, and civil society representatives.

As one of the world's most significant forums on international quality standards, the ISO assembly connects decision-makers and stakeholders working to advance trade, innovation, and quality across industries.

Murenzi added that Rwanda looks forward to discussions on sustainable development and inclusive progress. "Sessions will cover topics such as promoting international trade through quality standards, as well as the role of standards in environmental protection, gender equality, energy, and agriculture," he said.