

Rwanda is deploying a new contingent of troops to Mozambique's Cabo Delgado Province as part of its ongoing military support to combat terrorism in the region.

The fresh deployment, led by Maj Gen Vincent Gatama, will replace a Rwandan Security Forces (RSF) unit that has served in the conflict-hit province for the past year.

Rwanda first deployed forces to Mozambique in July 2021 following a bilateral agreement, at the request of the Mozambican government. The mission aims to support efforts against ISIS-linked insurgents destabilizing northern Mozambique. Since 2022, the Rwandan contingent has played a critical role in regaining control of key areas, including Mocímboa da Praia, Palma, Awasse, and other towns previously held by militants.

On September 13, top military and police officials, including Rwanda Defence Force (RDF) Army Chief of Staff Maj Gen Vincent Nyakarundi and Deputy Inspector General of Police Vincent Sano, officially briefed the new contingent at the Rwanda Military Academy in Gako.

Nyakarundi conveyed a message from President Paul Kagame, commending the discipline and effectiveness of RSF troops over the past four years. He emphasized the need to sustain high operational standards and continue supporting Mozambique's state authority and security reform efforts.

Commissioner Sano also urged the troops to uphold Rwanda's reputation by maintaining discipline, teamwork, and professionalism during the mission.

The RSF deployment in Mozambique is part of Rwanda's growing role in regional security and peacekeeping operations.