

Rwandans living in Zambia joined diplomats, government officials and international partners in Lusaka to mark this year's Kwibuka 32 commemoration, renewing calls for unity, vigilance and global action to prevent genocide.

Held under the theme *"Remember, Unite, Renew,"* the event honoured more than one million victims of the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi and highlighted Rwanda's journey of resilience and transformation over the past three decades.

Speaking as guest of honour, Zambia's Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Green Economy and Environment, Douty Chibamba, warned against the dangers of hate speech and division, urging institutions and the media to promote tolerance, truth and accountability.

He described the commemoration as both a tribute to victims and a reminder of the need for constant vigilance against the forces that can lead to mass violence.

Chibamba paid tribute to genocide survivors, whose resilience, he said, has been central to Rwanda's recovery, and commended those who risked their lives to save others as enduring symbols of humanity.

Rwanda's Ambassador to Zambia, Emmanuel Bujingo, said the loss of over one million lives in just 100 days remains a stark lesson for the world.

He noted that Kwibuka continues to play a critical role in preserving memory while strengthening national unity, reconciliation and inclusive governance.

"Genocide does not happen overnight. It is a process often fuelled by indifference. We must remain alert and proactive," he said.

United Nations Development Programme Resident Coordinator in Zambia, James Wakiaga, stressed that remembrance must go beyond symbolism and translate into concrete preventive action.

He emphasised education as a key tool in combating denial and ensuring future generations understand the consequences of division.

The commemoration, held at Mulungushi International Conference Centre, brought together the Rwandan community, faith leaders and partners to reflect on the genocide's lessons and reaffirm a shared commitment to lasting peace.