
REMARKS OF HER EXCELLENCY MRS JEANNETTE KAGAME

Solid'Africa 15 Year Anniversary Gala



24 JULY 2026
KIGALI, RWANDA

**Isabelle Kamariza,
CEO of Solid’Africa,
Distinguished Partners,
Friends and Stakeholders,**

- Congratulations on fifteen remarkable years of service.
- My words will be brief, but they carry deep gratitude for Solid’Africa’s work, and for the sincere heart that began it.
- Our shared journey with Imbuto Foundation started in 2014, led by Isabelle’s conviction - a living faith - around the Mike Stenbock Gemura Kitchen. She did not have great means. She had immense love for a country that had lost everything, and a simple truth: no patient should heal on an empty stomach.
- Isabelle, you lit the first spark and invited others to carry it with you. You started with a group of friends, volunteers who chose to believe. Young and not so young, you reminded us that each of us had something to offer. In that spirit, so many actors in our civil society have worked to uplift Rwanda, plate after plate.
- You often speak about how you joined hands with Mama Zouzou in those early days. What began as a gesture to feed patients without means became tailored diets, designed for the needs of each person.

- **Dans ta voix parfois rauque, j'ai vu des larmes briller dans tes yeux, Isa. J'ai entendu ta voix vaciller d'émotions. Dans cette voix rauque, il y avait tout : la compassion, la générosité, la force qui ose — et tout cela couronné d'une vision qui embrase.**
- You also speak of a mother too weak to feed herself, and suddenly the flame became a promise: one meal a day per patient would never be enough. That promise grew. It became a tide of meals, hospital after hospital, and today it reaches into our schools to nourish our children.
- Your voice never weighed the odds. It only asked, “Who will come with me?” And people came.
- What was pure altruism became a thoughtful answer to a quiet need. Solid’Africa turned an act of kindness into a service that restores dignity along with health. That commitment is one of many for which we are grateful within Rwanda’s civil society.
- Isabelle,

- I have witnessed your devotion. You never sought praise. You held to this certainty: to heal is to honour the whole person. And you lived it. That conviction brought us to this day.
- Medicine alone is not always enough. You and Mama Zouzou reminded us that lasting well-being comes through a nourished body and a respected human being. Thank you for that tender, deeply human gaze.
- As we celebrate fifteen years, keep the courage that served the first meal. Every new chapter is a chance to serve with fresh creativity, and the same love that began it all.
- Imbuto Foundation remains by your side. As long as there are patients and children to feed, you will always find in us a partner, and friends in this mission.
- May Solid’Africa keep growing with the same energy, the same faith, and the same tenderness that carried you here. We are grateful for your contribution to Rwanda’s story, and we believe the best is yet to come.
- I wish you all a wonderful evening.