

Rotary boss hails Uganda over polio fight

By Francis Emorut

The Vice-President of Uganda, Edward Ssekandi, has met the visiting Rotary International president-elect, Barry Rassin, who paid him a courtesy call at his office in Kampala.

During the meeting yesterday, Ssekandi hailed the Rotary International chief and his organisation for championing the cause of helping the less privileged in society.

He said the Government recognises humanitarian assistance the agency has given to support numerous communities in Uganda in the areas of water and sanitation, health and education.

"Rotary International is a favoured organisation in Uganda because it is a people's organisation that helps those in need," he said.

Ssekandi also encouraged Rassin to attract more international agencies to visit Uganda, which he said is ranked among the top tourist

BETWEEN THE LINES:

Rassin is in Uganda to also pay tribute to the late Sam Owori who was the Rotary International president by the time of his death.

destinations in East Africa.

"You should invite more international organisations to visit Uganda because it is the Pearl of Africa on top of being a tourist destination," Ssekandi said.

Rassin, accompanied by his wife Esther, commended Uganda for eradicating polio and pledged more support to strengthen rotary clubs in the country.

"My prime focus is to ensure rotary continues to play a critical role in humanitarian assistance," Rassin said.

He informed the vice-president that the purpose of his visit is to pay tribute to the

late Sam Owori, who was the Rotary International president-elect before his death.

He added that Owori was passionate about rotary work and was at the forefront of combating polio in the country and Africa at large.

Rassin, from the Bahamas was elected to the Rotary apex position following the death of Uganda's Awori last year, two weeks to his inauguration as Rotary International president.

Rassin, who will be installed in July, commended the Rotary movement in Uganda for using well the resources, saying the international office was proud of the hard work of Ugandan chapter.

Rassin who was accompanied by several other rotary leaders from Uganda and the African region. He is in Uganda to launch the first East Africa Project Fair aimed at enhancing service delivery among the region's populace. He will also inspect several projects funded by Rotary International.



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