Beat: News

FRENCH RUGBY FEDERATION PRES. WELCOMES RUGBY AFRICA PRES.TO PARIS FOR DISCUSSION

ON A NEW ERA OF PARTNERSHIP

Paris, Washington DC, Zanzibar, 21.08.2023, 22:51 Time

USPA NEWS - On 21st August, during his official visit to France, Herbert Mensah, the new President of Rugby Africa (www.RugbyAfrique.com), the continental governing body for rugby in Africa, held a meeting with Florian Grill, the recently elected President of the French Rugby Federation (FFR). The meeting represents a significant stride in fortifying the bond between the two organizations, both of which have elected new Presidents just a few months ago. President Grill welcomed President Mensah to the FFR Headquarters at the France National Rugby Center Bernard Lapasset in Marcoussis, located near Paris. Copyright-free video B-roll, video and audio interviews in English and French, images, and audio files are available for the media to download and can be freely used without requiring authorization: https://apo-opa.info/3OEXM7H

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The two new Presidents emphasized the need for the establishment of a new foundation for the relations between their two respective organizations and expressed a desire for a stronger partnership that will mutually benefit both parties. As the recently elected President of Rugby Africa, Herbert Mensah is confident that Rugby Africa and the French Rugby Federation can build a stronger and unified approach to rugby.

As of 2023, more than 1,200 African nationals were playing rugby in France.

The French Rugby Federation could have a pivotal role in the development of rugby in Africa, and the collaboration between Rugby Africa and the FFR could lead to a collective effort to transform not only the sport itself but also the communities it impacts and the opportunities it creates across the African continent.

With a mission to steer the growth of rugby throughout the continent, President Mensah emphasized the need for development that extends beyond initiatives such as coach training, nutrition plans, and referee development. "We came to see if we could change the dynamic of our own relationship. We looked at ways we could raise money together, change the competition platform, and the pathway into rugby," stated Rugby Africa President Herbert Mensah.

As France gears up for the imminent 2023 Rugby World Cup, President Grill underscored the significance of this meeting. "Being the new President of the French Rugby Federation, elected just two months ago, I was very happy and honored to receive Herbert Mensah, who was elected just two months before me. For us, it is very important that Rugby develops in Africa," said FFR President Florian Grill.

The discussions between the two newly elected Presidents concluded with a sense of optimism and a firm commitment to their partnership. "Speaking with President Grill was such an uplifting moment. It's not often that you meet a President with the same type of

clarity in his vision, not only for his country France but also for Africa at large," added Herbert Mensah.

ABOUT RUGBY AFRICA:
Rugby Africa (www.RugbyAfrique.com) is the governing body of rugby in Africa and one of the regional associations under World Rugby. It unites all African countries that play rugby union, rugby sevens, and women's rugby. Rugby Africa organizes various competitions, including the qualifying tournaments for the Rugby World Cup and the Africa Sevens, a qualifying competition for the Olympic Games. With 39 member unions, Rugby Africa is dedicated to promoting and developing rugby across the continent." Source: ?Rugby Africa

Article online:
https://www.uspa24.com/bericht-23313/french-rugby-federation-pres-welcomes-rugby-africa-presto-paris-for-discussion.html

Editorial office and responsibility:
V.i.S.d.P. & Sect. 6 MDStV (German Interstate Media Services Agreement): Jedi Foster, Rahma Sophia RACHDI

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