The Rwanda-DR Congo border post of <u>La Corniche</u>, popularly known as Grande Barrière, on Sunday 1 th December officially started operating as a One Stop Border Post (OSBP).

The facility, whose construction works started in late 2014 at a cost of \$9 million, was inaugurated already on 1th September 2017. The objective of La Corniche OSBP is to enhance trade between Rwanda and its largest trading partner, the Democratic Republic of Congo, by ensuring a more efficient movement of goods and persons by combining the two stops for national border control processing into one, and consolidating border control functions in a shared space for exiting one country and entering another.

The OSBP concept implies that people and goods are cleared only on one side of the border, so reducing transit costs incurred in cross-border movement.

La Corniche OSBP has a fast and reliable broadband internet connectivity with LAN/WAN network with optical fibres linking the main border agencies of the two countries (Customs, Immigration and Police) to their national ICT backbone, and through this, to their headquarters. A VSAT (satellite communications system) is also available for ensuring continuity of operations in case of power and other communication system failure.

(More on OSBPs)