



Moralizing session for native leaders of Bujumbura province



On Monday, September 24, 2024, the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, continued the morale-boosting sessions for the leaders of the 5 new provinces according to the new delimitation. It was the turn of the new province of Bujumbura, which includes Cibitoke, Bubanza, Bujumbura, Bujumbura Mairie and a part of Rumonge.

He asked the natives of the new provinces to prepare accordingly, because after the 2025 elections, the administrative system will change and services will be decentralized, meaning that each province must make its own development plan. He called on the native leaders of the province of Bujumbura to change their behavior in order to adopt an attitude worthy of the artisans of development, with a view to achieving the vision of Burundi as an emerging country by 2040 and a

developed country by 2060.

Speaking about the General Census of Population, Housing, Agriculture and Livestock (RGPHAE), the President of the Republic of Burundi deplored the behavior of some people who had not taken the census, especially in Bujumbura city, while the data collected will be used to produce a biometric identity. The Head of State warned those who will be rejected not to complain.

He called on the administration to make a greater effort to sensitize these recalcitrant people to register in order to fulfill this civic duty, which will enable the planning of development projects and programs.

The President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, made it clear that the key to development lies in human capital, and it is with this in mind that the education system needs to be changed to produce worthy managers and engineers who can contribute to the increase of production.

He urged administrative officials and the urban population to beautify Burundi cities with trees, by creating tourist sites and maintaining those already existing. **(RTNB)**

In this Edition:

page

Moralizing session for native leaders of Bujumbura province

1

The President of the Republic inaugurates a series of infrastructures in Rumonge

2

Several challenges for the Ministry of the Civil Service, Labour and Employment, but hope for solutions

2

Mukike commune administrators thanked for encouraging the population to work in cooperatives

3

The First Vice-President of the Senate takes part in the 11th consultation meeting of the Association of Senates, Shoura and Equivalent Councils of Africa and the Ara World in Malabo

4

Burundi Prime Minister receives Tanzania Ambassador to Burundi in audience

5

Presentation of Credentials to the President of the Republic of Zimbabwe

6

The Minister of National Education and Scientific Research answers senators' questions

6

The President of the Republic inaugurates a series of infrastructures in Rumonge



On Tuesday, September 25, 2024, the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, inaugurated the Rutumo Health Center, built by Savonor company on land granted by the administration, with a view to bringing healthcare closer to the local population. The total cost is estimated at 3.7 billion (building and equipment).

He also inaugurated the Rumonge branch of KCB Bank Burundi. This Kenyan financial institution has been operating in Burundi since 2012.

The President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, also inaugurated the new build-

ing housing the province office of Rumonge called "Tanganyika Lake House", built thanks to the efforts of the population, natives, diaspora and friends of this province, at a cost of over 1.7 billion.

In his speech at the inauguration of Rumonge province office, the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, congratulated the people of Rumonge for having united their efforts to construct this new building. According to him, joining strengths leads to development. He advised them to unite and invest in major projects, particularly in the fishing industry, to increase fish production.

Alongside the inauguration ceremonies, certificates of merit were awarded to the major contributors to the construction of this building, starting with the Head of State, the Minister of Home Affairs, religious denominations, businessmen, the Diaspora and others.

The people of Rumonge also presented the Head of State with two heifers and other gifts. The Head of State promised to liquidate 42 million BIF of the remaining credit on the construction of this building. **(RTNB)**

Several challenges for the Ministry of the Civil Service, Labour and Employment, but hope for solutions



On Monday September 23, 2024, the Plenary Session of the National Assembly, chaired by the Honorable Sabine Ntakarutimana, First Vice-President of this institution, had as its agenda: the presentation of the final audit report on the budget management capacity of the Ministry of Public Service, Labor and Employment for the fiscal years 2020/2021, 2021/2022 and 2022/2023. This report, published by the Court of Auditors on June 4, 2024, revealed numerous shortcomings within this Ministry. The report was first analyzed by the Standing Commit-



tee on Finance, Budget and Economic Planning. Its contents were the subject of oral questions with debate addressed to the Minister of the Civil Service, Labor and Employment, Mr. Venuste Muyabaga.

The report reveals a number of shortcomings, including irregularities in the awarding and management of public



contracts, challenges linked to staffing levels, the non-existence of a manual of administrative, accounting and financial procedures, and the lack of sufficient, qualified staff to carry out an effective internal audit. All these shortcomings affect both the budgetary and accounting management process and the internal control system.

Among the questions put to the Minister for the Civil Service, Labor and Employment, several interventions focused on the shortcomings in the implementation of the salary policy, where civil servants with

university degrees claim to have been short-changed, the ineffective payroll software and its management entrusted to foreign (Tunisian) consultants encroach on national sovereignty, the lack of skills for certain members of the Ministry staff, the non-existence of a manual of administrative, accounting and financial procedures which hampers sound management and good coordination of the Ministry services, the retirement and loans contracted by those sent into retirement when they thought that they will retire at the age of 65, and the status of political representatives on secondment who will not be returning to their original Ministries at the end of their mandates.

In response to questions put to him, the Minister for the Civil Service, Labor and Employment, Mr. Venuste Muyabaga, humbly acknowledged that his Ministry has some shortcomings.

He said that solutions were being found to some of them, and that the “Estates-General of the public administration scheduled for October 2024 are a source of hope. **(National Assembly)**

Mukike commune administrators thanked for encouraging the population to work in cooperatives



On Thursday, September 26, 2024, the President of the Senate, Right Honourable Emmanuel Sinzohagera launched agricultural activities of planting potatoes, in his 4 ha field, located on Ruzibazi hill, Mayuyu zone of Mukike commune.

The Rt. Hon. Emmanuel Sinzohagera indicated that to plant the potatoes in this field, he will use between 6 and 8 tons of tubers, and that he expects a harvest of between 48 and 60 tons of potatoes. He

also pointed out that agriculture is one of our country's most important sectors, and successively thanked the leaders of Mukike commune for having encouraged the population to form a cooperative, all those who had responded to the call of His Excellency the President of the Republic of Burundi to work to increase production, and invited everyone to respond massively to the latter.

“With increased production, investors should follow to set up processing industries”, he stressed.

In conclusion, he expressed his satisfaction with the Government of Burundi work to rehabilitate the road linking RN7 to the commune of Mukike, and appealed to the Minister of Infrastructure, Equipment and Social Housing to continue this work to link the communes of Mukike, Mutambu and Kabezi. **(Senate)**

The First Vice-President of the Senate takes part in the 11th consultation meeting of the Association of Senates, Shoura and Equivalent Councils of Africa and the Arab World in Malabo



The First Vice-President of the Senate takes part in the 11th consultation meeting of the Association of Senates, Shoura and Equivalent Councils of Africa and the Arab World in Malabo.

The First Vice-President of the Senate, Honorable Denise Ndadaye, flew to Malabo in the Republic of Equatorial Guinea in the afternoon of Tuesday September 24, 2024, where she will take part in the 11th consultation meeting of the Association of Senates, Shoura and Equivalent Councils of Africa and the Arab World (ASSECAA), scheduled for September 26 to 27, 2024.

Among the themes to be developed by the participants are: artificial intelligence in the countries of the South; challenges and opportunities as well as the role of women parliamentarians in times of war and conflict .
(Senate)

The First Vice-President of the Senate attends the 11th annual meeting of ASSECAA



On September 26, 2024, the First Vice-President of the Senate of Burundi, Honorable Denise Ndadaye took part in the activities of the 11th annual consultation meeting of the Association of Senates, Shoura and Equivalent Councils of Africa and the Arab World, ASSECAA in acronym, held at the Sipopo International Conference Center in Malabo, Republic of Equatorial Guinea.

The opening ceremonies were led by the President of the House of Councillors of the Kingdom of Morocco and current President of ASSECAA, H.E. Enaam MAYARA.

In this meeting, participants exchanged on various themes starting with the theme entitled "Regional inte-

gration: Strengthening joint parliamentary action by countries of the South to meet the challenges of development and the environment."

The second theme was "Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Southern countries: State of play and Perspectives."

In his speech on the theme of strengthening joint parliamentary action in the countries of the South to achieve regional integration, the First Vice-President of the Senate pointed out that the member parliaments of ASSECAA must accentuate the establishment of a framework for dialogue and exchange of experience, to ensure a better future for the people of Africa and the Arab world.

On the sidelines of this meeting, the First Vice-President of the Senate met with the Honorable Yapi Raymond N'DOHI, Vice-President of the Ivory Coast Senate in charge of sustainable development and regional planning.

Their discussions focused on consolidating relations of friendship and cooperation between the Senates of Burundi and Ivory Coast. **(Senate)**

Burundi Prime Minister receives Tanzania Ambassador to Burundi in audience



The Prime Minister of Burundi, Lieutenant General of Police Gervais Ndirakobuca, received in audience, on Wednesday September 25, 2024 at Ntare Rushatsi palace, Gelasius Gaspar Byakanwa, Ambassador of the United Republic of Tanzania to Burundi.

In an interview granted to the press at the end of this audience, Ambassador Gelasius Gaspard Byakanwa indicated that he had come to introduce

himself to the Prime Minister and exchange views on strengthening the good relations of friendship and co-operation that exist between Burundi and Tanzania.

The two personalities also discussed the question of good neighborliness in the border provinces of the two countries, and were delighted to note that this is a reality, and that the movement of goods and people is also seamless.

Ambassador Gelasius Byakanwa pointed out that games such as football are organized for young people in these provinces, notably Makamba and Kigoma, to further strengthen the good neighborliness that characterizes these two countries.

He also emphasized that there was a desire to organize other sporting disciplines in order to continue consolidating the good relations that characterize these two countries.

The Ambassador of the United Republic of Tanzania took the opportunity to congratulate the Government of Burundi on the measures taken to promote development. **(ABP)**

Obstacles to women's participation in the country socio-political life



On Tuesday, September 24, 2024, Association Tugenderubuntu organized a 2-days workshop in Ngozi to discuss the main obstacles to women's participation in the country socio-political life. The workshop was opened by Burundian Ombudsman Madame Aimée Laurentine

Kanyana. She called on women to stick together, as expressed in the slogan of the Head of State: Twese hamwe birashoboka (Together we can). She pointed out that Burundian government has made great efforts to promote women's rights.

She went on to say that women need to make an assessment of how far they've already come, and lay the foundations for the momentum they still need to build on. Among the obstacles to women's participation in the country socio-political life, Aimée Laurentine Kanyana mentioned the social constructs that relegate women to second place to men. Society inculcates characteristics that devalue women into men and women through edification and socialization," she added. According to her, women also have access to resources, but are limited in their control of those

same resources. This lack of control limits women's participation in the country socio-political and economic life.

The Burundian Ombudsman points out that the lack of control over resources also limits access to practical and strategic needs. Women thus live in a position of power limiting the participation that is a prerequisite for decision-making. Another obstacle is the exclusive and violent masculinity also constructed by society. All these obstacles must be overcome in favor of equal rights for men and women, for equitable and sustainable development.

In a panel discussion organized on the sidelines of the

workshop, the Burundian Ombudsman took the opportunity to appreciate the step taken by the Abakenyezi turumwe cooperative. The cooperative comprises women leaders from 10 political parties: CNDD- FDD, UPRONA, CNL, FRODEBU, CODEBU, RANAC, APDR, CDP, FNL and UPD Zigamibanga. They have received training from Burundi Leadership Training Program (BLTP) in peaceful cohabitation, peaceful conflict resolution and development. Currently, 30 of these women have received funding from BLTP to work together on development projects.

The workshop was attended by women from the BLTP-supported platform, women leaders committed to defending women's interests, and male leaders involved in raising awareness of positive masculinity. **(ABP)**

Presentation of Credentials to the President of the Republic of Zimbabwe



On 26 September 2024, Her Excellency Mrs Evelyne Butoyi, Ambassador of Burundi in Lusaka, presented her credentials to the

President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, His Excellency Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa, accrediting her as Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of the Republic of Burundi to Zimbabwe.

Since the 1990s, Burundi has enjoyed very good political and friendly relations with Zimbabwe. These relations are maintained in high-level political exchanges of visits.

Please note that the two countries also maintain good diplomatic relations, with the establishment agreement at ambassadorial level signed on 05/09/1985. **(MFADC)**

The Minister of National Education and Scientific Research answers senators' questions

On Tuesday, September 24, 2024, the Minister of National Education and Scientific Research, Mr. François Havyarimana, was a guest at the Senate in Gitega, to answer oral questions with debate, on the concerns of senators in relation to the challenges haunting the national education sector.

In response to the senators' concerns, the Minister of National Education and Scientific Research pointed out that the education sector is faced with a shortage of teachers, didactic materials, unqualified teachers, insufficient classrooms and very high number of stu-

dents in classrooms.

With regard to resolving the shortage of teachers, the Minister of National Education and Scientific Research François Havyarimana, pointed out that there was still work to be done, as this school year the State intended to hire 630 new teachers, whereas the Ministry of National Education and Scientific Research needed 1,200 teachers throughout Burundi.

At a time when the level of learning in schools is falling, the Minister of National Education and Scientific Re-



search pointed out that this situation is the result of the wars that Burundi has experienced. Pupils were advancing from one class to the next, even though they hadn't succeeded, added the Minister.

Mr. François Havyarimana explained that these students from the time of the wars in Burundi are teachers today.

The drop in the level of learning is also noticeable in universities. The Minister of National Education

and Scientific Research stressed that this decline is also due to the shortage of teachers, the lack of resources for research and the lack of laboratory equipment.

For the Minister of National Education and Scientific Research, the government is trying to do everything it can, but is limited by financial resources. To solve this problem, the Minister called on businessmen to invest in this field, and build infrastructures to house and feed students.

At the end of the session, Senate President Emmanuel Sinzohagera thanked the Minister for answering the senators' questions and clarifying their concerns about the challenges facing the education sector.

He pointed out that national education plays a key role in the life of the country, and requires a great deal of resources.

He called on everyone to contribute to the smooth running of the education sector in Burundi. **(RTNB)**

Minister of Education and Scientific Research hands over vehicles to three boarding schools



On Wednesday September 25, 2024, François Havyarimana, Minister of National Education and Scientific Research, paid a working visit to the Rusi Polytechnic Training and Professional Retraining Center in Karusi province.

The aim of the visit was to see how academic activities were progressing at the center.

On this occasion, the Minister of National Education and Scientific Research, Mr. François Havyarimana,

noted that the Rusi public Polytechnic Training and Professional Retraining center is already operational, having already welcomed 40 learners in the Construction and Buildings and Cooperative Management fields.

The Minister of National Education and Scientific Research expressed his satisfaction at the fact that these learners come from almost all the provinces, and that the majority have completed most of the sections organized at post-fundamental education level.

After Rusi, the Minister of National Education and Scientific Research successively visited the Lycée Buhiga in the same province, the Lycée Bukirasazi in Gitega province and the Lycée technique de Kayero in Rutana province, where he donated 4 tons of rice and a vehicle to each of these boarding schools to help them work efficiently. **(RTNB)**

Province Governors briefed on new Truth and Reconciliation Commission (CVR) legislation



On Tuesday September 25, 2024, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (CVR) organized a meeting for provincial governors at the provincial capital of Gitega. The aim of this meeting was to discuss the new missions of this commission, in particular the “land and other property” aspect, which has been added to its primary mission: “truth and reconciliation”.

In his presentation, the Chairman of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Mr. Pierre Claver Ndayicariye, explained that the Commission expects the Governors of the provinces to collaborate with it in order to ensure the success of this delicate mission, which is so im-

portant for the future of the country.

He pointed out that the Truth and Reconciliation Commission CVR will draw up an inventory of existing files relating to land and other property, and develop a strategy for managing and communicating disputes concerning land and other property.

He added that the Truth and Reconciliation Commission CVR will set up a provincial representation with a consultative rather than deliberative mission, referring to those who represented the National Commission on Land and Other Assets (CNTB) as delegates. He indicated that the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (CVR) will reconcile the missions assigned to it by the law, notably by connecting the dead/victims to their looted assets, i.e. houses seized and sold, properties looted, bank accounts seized and blocked, vehicles seized and sold.

Pierre Claver Ndayicariye, Chairman of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, called on provincial governors to disseminate the new law governing the CVR. He pointed out that the decisions of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission would not be subject to judicial appeal. (RTNB)

AIDS, a battle neglected in favor of new epidemics



On Wednesday September 25, 2024 The Governor of Bujumbura Province (West of Burundi) Mr. Desire Nsengiyumva declared to the Burundi Press Agency (ABP) that AIDS as a disease exists in his province, especially in the Gatumba zone of Mutimbuzi commune, and pointed out that young people are one of the categories most at risk today.

He pointed out that the Human Immunodeficiency Virus Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) no longer frightens the population, compared with the new, more pandemic and deadly epidemics of coronavirus and monkeypox.

According to this executive, people consider AIDS to be like any other disease, and that one can live with it. He adds that the awareness-raising campaigns carried out in the past to prevent the disease are no longer being carried out, indicating that something needs to be done in this direction. Many efforts are now focused on raising awareness of covid-19 and Mpox, to the detriment of HIV/AIDS.

The Governor of Bujumbura, Mr. Désiré Nsengiyumva, pointed out that the people of Gatumba are a gateway to the epidemic because they live in promiscuity following the displacement caused by recurrent flooding. People of

modest means indulge in sexual vagrancy and prostitution, thus encouraging the spread of AIDS, and young people are not spared, he stressed.

He recommended that health personnel, school officials, administrators and peer educators in the schools act in synergy to curb the spread of HIV/AIDS. **(ABP)**

Burundi Red Cross organizes a workshop on harmonizing the definition of triggers at Lake Tanganyika.



On Wednesday September 2024, the Burundi Red Cross organized a workshop to harmonize the definition of triggers at Lake Tanganyika level, for members of the National Platform for Risk Prevention and Disaster Management under the theme: "Using Triggers for Anticipatory Action".

In his remarks, the Chairman of the National Platform for Risk Prevention and Disaster Management, Mr. Anicet Nibaruta, explained that anticipatory action is the set of measures taken to reduce the humanitarian impacts of a predicted hazard, before it occurs or before it's most acute effects manifest themselves.

The President of the National Platform for Risk Prevention and Disaster Management, Mr. Anicet Nibaruta, indicated that the Government of Burundi had recently approached the World Bank, the European Union and the Office of the Resident Coordinator of the United Nations System, requesting their support in setting up a post-disaster needs assessment, which would enable Burundi to access funding dedicated to human losses.

Mr. Anicet Nibaruta called on humanitarian actors and development partners to provide greater support to Burundi, not only in the permanent resettlement of victims from Gatumba, Nkengabusoro, and

Gitaza in Muhuta commune, but also in implementing anticipatory actions, which are essential for the success of sustainable development efforts for a resilient and emerging Burundi.

The national expert in preparation, anticipation, and disaster response, Mr. Désiré Bundoyi, stated that the Red Cross has taken the lead in the anticipatory action approach, even though anticipatory actions require a prerequisite known as a trigger, which consists of several elements, including forecasts, monitoring, and alert systems.

Concerned with saving lives, livelihoods, and reducing losses and suffering in emergency situations, the Government of Burundi has committed to implementing forecast-based financing since 2019, in collaboration with the Burundi Geographic Institute (*IGEBU*), the Burundi Red Cross, and the World Food Programme (WFP), under the coordination of the national risk prevention and management platform, as stated by Mr. Anicet Nibaruta.

This time, the activation threshold for anticipatory actions will be known, and we will know when the lake reaches its level and when forecasts show their signs. In this case, the thresholds will be reached, and we will be able to intervene to save lives, indicated Mr. Désiré Bundoyi.

Previously, interventions were made in response to disasters after they had already occurred, but this time, with the triggers in place, interventions will take place 5 to 7 days before the occurrence of disasters, allowing time to call on people to protect themselves or evacuate, and no loss of life will be observed, added Mr. Désiré Bundoyi. **(RTNB)**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation

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