



Swearing-in of a new member of the Government of Burundi

A new member of the Government of the Republic of Burundi, appointed on Monday, December 9, 2024 by the Head of State, took the oath on Tuesday, December 10, 2024, at Kigobe Convention Center, in the presence of the President of the Republic of Burundi His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, the Parliament, and the Constitutional Court.

This is the Minister of Finance, Budget and Economic Planning, Honorable Nestor Ntahontuye who replaces Mister Audace Niyonzima. He was a deputy elected in the constituency of Ruyigi province and was chairman of the finance committee at the National Assembly.

With his right hand raised and his left



hand holding the national flag and that of national unity, Mister Nestor Ntahontuye swore loyalty to the Charter of National Unity, the Constitution and the law. "I undertake to devote all my strength to defending the higher



interests of the nation, to promoting the unity and cohesion of the Burundian people, peace and social justice, in the performance of the functions entrusted to me. I undertake to combat any ideology and practice of genocide and exclusion, to promote and defend the rights and freedoms of the person and the citizen," he expressed his commitment.

After the oath, the new Minister of Finance, Budget and Economic Planning signed his firm commitment before the members of the Constitutional Court.

It should be noted that the swearing-in ceremonies of this new member of the Government were attended by two former Presidents of the Republic of Burundi, Mister Sylvestre Ntibantunganya and Mister Domitien Ndayizeye the Vice-President of the Republic, the Prime Minister, senior police and army officers, representatives of the diplomatic and consular corps accredited to Bujumbura, and many other dignitaries. (ABP)

In this Edition:

page

Swearing-in of a new member of the Government of Burundi

1

The Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria commits to supporting Burundi for its Vision 2040-2060

2

Burundi hosts the 3rd Edition of the Continental Dialogue on Youth, Peace and Security

2

The Head of State visits the CENI Data Processing Center

3

The Bank of the Republic of Burundi celebrates its 60th anniversary: a vision for the future

4

A panel of experts at the Presidential Palace in Kiriri on the 2040 - 2060 Burundi's vision

5

Burundi's First Lady Receives in Audience an Old Man Cured of Cataracts

6

Algerian Minister of Foreign Affairs pays working visit to Bujumbura

9

Assistant to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation Takes Part in Kenya National Day Commemoration Ceremonies

10

The Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria commits to supporting Burundi for its Vision 2040-2060



During the audience granted to him, this Thursday, December 12, 2024 by the Burundian Head of State His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, the Special Envoy of the President of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria and Minister of Foreign Affairs, National Community Abroad and African Affairs, Mister Ahmed ATTAF, said that Algeria is committed to supporting Burundi for the implementation of its 2040-2060 agenda.

During this audience where he was a special messenger of the Algerian President HE Abdelmadjid Tebboune to his Burundian counterpart HE Evariste Ndayishimiye on bilateral cooperation and the continental agenda, the Algerian Ministry responsible for foreign affairs reaffirmed his country's commitment to strengthening bilateral cooperation by maintaining approaches aimed at supporting Burundi for its emergence and development.

According to Mr. Ahmed ATTAF, Algeria and Burundi

share the same socio-economic and political will and determination.

"Strengthening relations between our states would be the best way to contribute to the integration of the African continent into the international situation," he said.

He added the willingness of Algeria to give a new dynamism of bilateral cooperation and fraternity with Burundi. Given that the two countries share the same visions of making emerging and then developed nations, this shared ambition will be included in the field of investment, especially since "Algeria is in a good position in terms of capital," he said, before reaffirming the commitment of Algerians to stay alongside their Burundian brothers in achieving their development goals.

During this audience which takes place the day after the In-



vestors Round Table organized in Burundi with a view to mobilizing partners in the implementation of the Government's vision in terms of development, the President of the Republic of Burundi His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye revealed that Burundi is full of many investment opportunities in several areas.

The Head of State of Burundi underlines the existence of several natural assets favorable to investments. He hopes that the principles of cooperation between Burundi and Algeria are strengthened, especially since both countries share the same ideals, those of emergence and development. **(Presidency)**

Burundi hosts the 3rd Edition of the Continental Dialogue on Youth, Peace and Security

Under the auspices of the Burundian Head of State and Champion of the African Union for the Youth, Peace and Security Agenda, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, Bujumbura hosted the 3rd Edition of the Continental Dialogue on Youth,

Peace and Security since 12/12/2024.

Organized under the theme "Strengthening capacities of African youth for peace, education and reinforced coordination as catalysts for the implementation of the continen-



tal program for youth, peace and security", the event was enhanced by several senior Burundian authorities and was attended by more than a thousand young people from member countries of the African Union.

The various speakers who took the floor, including the UNDP Representative and the Representative of the President of the African Union Commission, all welcomed "the visionary leadership of President Evariste Ndayishimiye and his ongoing commitment to serving Burundian youth in particular and African youth in general".

"Your government, Mr. President, has made youth a national priority among the 6 strategic axes of its program," Mr. Thierry Ingabire, President of the National Youth Council of Burundi, had previously announced, listing the various initiatives set up by the Government of Burundi to improve the living conditions of young people, including the Youth Investment Bank (BIJE), the Youth Economic Empowerment and Employment Program (PAEEJ), to name just a few.

While opening the 3rd Edition of the Continental Dialogue which coincided with the Innovation Week, the President of the Republic said that the theme that was chosen is in line with the theme of the African Union for 2024 devoted to the education and training of young people as essential factors for strengthening their entrepreneurial capacities so as to be able to create their own jobs and thus contribute to reducing the unemployment rate.

"If this young population has the opportunity to flourish and develop their potential, there will be possibilities to promote growth and progress in Burundi, in Africa and in the rest of the world," added the Burundian Head of State, who also insisted on the need for States to integrate into their national planning strategies aimed at promoting the youth education for peace in order to dissuade them from participating in acts of violence.



During a panel organized on the occasion, the young ambassadors of the African Union exchanged with the Burundian Head of State, sharing challenges they face and asking him to be their spokesperson with his counterparts, particularly for the adoption of national strategies of the African Union agenda in their respective countries.

Based on the experience of Burundi and relying on his own testimony, the President of the Republic recalled that poverty is the source of conflicts in the world and the only enemy of peace. He took this opportunity to urge young people to fight poverty through hard working and thus avoid falling victim to political manipulation. **(Presidency)**

The Head of State visits the CENI Data Processing Center



The President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, paid a visit on Thursday, December 12, 2024, to the Data Processing Center of the Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI), to inquire about the progress of typing electoral files, with more than 1,600 agents spread over 4 shifts of 6 hours a day.

The President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, told the press after the visit that he is confident that the electoral calendar will be respected because preparations are progressing, and

that all the instruments are in place, including the electoral law and the decree calling voters to the 2025 elections.

The President of the Republic, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, said that as the country's top official, he cannot do without this essential activity for Burundi, which will lead to local, legislative and senatorial elections.

President Ndayishimiye called on all Burundians to fulfill this civic duty of elections, one of the pillars of democracy. The 2025 elections will be free, peaceful and transparent because Burundi is peaceful and safe, and no one can deceive the vigilance of Burundians to disrupt them, he stressed.

The President of the Republic Evariste Ndayishimiye took the opportunity to provide advice to potential candidates for the 2025 elections to make them aware that they will be at the service of the population, because all measures are taken to track down corrupt people and those responsible for economic embezzlement. (RTNB)

The Bank of the Republic of Burundi celebrates its 60th anniversary: a vision for the future

On Friday, December 13, 2024, the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, marked with his presence the 60th anniversary of the Bank of the Republic of Burundi (BRB). During his visit to the headquarters of this emblematic institution, he praised the evolution of Burundian banknotes since the creation of the BRB in April 1964, after the separation of the Bank of Rwanda and Burundi (BERB).

After this visit, the Head of State participated in the symposium organized for this anniversary, where he underlined the importance of the Bank of the Republic of Burundi in the 2040-2060 Burundi's vision.

In his speech, the Governor of the Bank of the Republic of Burundi Mister Normand Edouard Bigendako, recalled that this celebration was an opportunity to reflect on past challenges, but also on new guidelines of the Central Bank. He presented the Bank as an innovative institution, constantly adapting to meet economic ex-



pectations and global changes.

The Governor of the Bank of the Republic of Burundi also highlighted the fruitful relationships established by this Central Bank with international partners such as the Central Banks of the East African Community (EAC), the IMF, the World Bank and other institutions. This collaboration aims at strengthening the role of the Central Bank as a pillar of financial stability and sustainable economic development in Burundi.

The symposium highlighted the reforms undertaken by

the BRB to modernize Burundi's monetary policy and financial system. Among the major projects discussed are, among others, the migration to a monetary policy based on inflation targeting: This framework, which must be adopted before the end of 2026, will allow for better management of interest rates to stabilize the economy.

Another project concerns the digitalization of the financial system, the objective being to capture financial flows in real time and transform the Central Bank into a digital one in the future.

Governor Bigendako stressed that these reforms aim at strengthening price stability and confidence in the financial system, while making actions of the Central Bank in line with the 2040-2060 Burundi's vision.

In his address, President Évariste Ndayishimiye recalled that the key to economic development lies in increasing national production. He urged Burundians to invest more in the primary and secondary sectors, which are the catalysts of growth, while reducing dependence on external support.

"It is imperative to produce more to generate surpluses for the foreign market, which will contribute

to obtaining foreign currency and increasing the value of the Burundian currency," He said.

The Head of State also emphasized on the main role of the Central Bank in regulating commercial banks. He recalled that the Central Bank must sanction any irregularity in this sector, without being subject to political influence.

His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye strongly condemned the campaigns aimed at demonizing the Burundian currency and favoring the dollar on the local market. He committed to strengthening economic sovereignty through measures such as the transformation of natural resources, the development of tourism, and budgetary discipline in public expenditures. He finally recalled that all economic projects must align with the 2040-2060 Burundi's vision, based on the optimization of the country's human capital and natural resources.

The celebration of the 60th anniversary highlighted the achievements of the Central Bank, but also challenges to be addressed so as to ensure a stable and prosperous economy. Building on its heritage and ongoing reforms, the Central Bank is looking resolutely to the future, determined to support Burundi in its ambition to become an Emerging Country by 2040 and Developed Country by 2060. (RTNB)

A panel of experts at the Presidential Palace in Kiriri on the 2040 -2060 Burundi's vision

Kiriri Presidential Palace hosted on Saturday, December 14, 2024, an inedited panel hosted by the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, accompanied by two former Heads of State, President Sylvestre Ntibantunganya and President Domitien Ndayizeye. At the heart of the discussions was the implementation of Burundi's ambitious vision for 2040 and 2060, which aims at making Burundi "an Emerging Country by 2040 and a Developed Country by 2060."

In his introductory speech, the President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye recalled that "everyone's vision stems from a concern for the future", emphasizing Burundi's aspirations to become an emerging country by 2040 and a developed country by 2060. This transformation is based

on several key pillars: state commitment, economic efficiency, social equity, environmental protection and the strengthening of strategic partnerships.



Former President Sylvestre Ntibantunganya, for his part, insisted on the crucial role of international cooperation in the success of this vision, describing it as a "market outlet for the country's productions."

For his part, President Domitien Ndayizeye considered that the real factor of development lies with the Burundians themselves, calling on them to become actively involved in meeting challenges.

The speakers unanimously highlighted peace and stability as prerequisites for sustainable development. President Domitien Ndayizeye thus stressed that "the Burundian community must preserve peace and security, sources of stability and economic growth."

President Sylvestre Ntibantunganya also denounced the lack of commitment of some leaders, calling for political and institutional stabilization.

President Evariste Ndayishimiye warned against economic embezzlement, referring the authors of it as "enemies of development." He also reacted on criticism of the depreciation of the Burundian currency, calling for a rigorous comparison of purchase values with those of currencies in similar contexts.

President Domitien Ndayizeye, for his part, denounced the deliberate creation of foreign currency shortages by malicious actors. He urged the Government to promote

transparency and bring reforms in this sector for economy stability.

Regarding Burundi's natural resources, particularly minerals, which are attracting increasing interest from international investors, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye said measures were underway to ensure that these resources benefit all citizens. President Sylvestre Ntibantunganya called for increased development of these resources, highlighting their potential to boost tourism and generate foreign exchange revenues.

Finally, the Burundian President expressed optimism about the future, stating that "the year 2025 will be a year of reference" in the march towards an emerging and prosperous Burundi. Thanks to its current chairpersonship of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), the country benefits from increased international visibility, an opportunity that he will fully use to accelerate the achievement of the Burundi's vision.

This panel helped mobilize ideas to build a promising future, based on peace, transparency and optimal exploitation of national resources. (RTNB)

Burundi's First Lady Receives in Audience an Old Man Cured of Cataracts



The First Lady of Burundi, HE Angeline Ndayishimiye, President of the Bonne Action Umugiraneza Foundation, received in audience on Tuesday, December 10, 2024, a 96-year-old man, Cyprien Vyumvuhore. The latter, who underwent successful cataract surgery at the Polyclinique Umugiraneza, regained his sight after ten years of illness.

Mister Vyumvuhore shared his emotion and gratitude during this meeting. He made a testimony of his journey marked by many unsuccessful consultations before benefiting from the Plyclinique Umugiraneza health care, set up by the Foundation headed by the First Lady. "I had never been able to get treatment despite my efforts. Thanks to this initiative, I regained my sight. I wanted to come in person to thank the big-hearted First Lady who works for the well-being of the most vulnerable people," he said.

The First Lady, visibly touched by this testimony, expressed her joy at seeing Mr. Vyumvuhore regain his sight. She emphasized on the importance of the Plyclinique Umugiraneza in improving the health of the most vulnerable populations. "I am delighted to know that this old man will now be able to accomplish small tasks and regain his independence thanks to this intervention. I would like to thank the medical team for their professionalism and dedication," she said.

This meeting, marked by exchanges filled with gratitude and emotion, was also organized to receive the blessings of Mr. Vyumvuhore. The latter, although having long addressed his prayers to God about the First Lady, had never met her before.

Umugiraneza Foundation, under the leadership of the First Lady, continues to carry out humanitarian initiatives which aim at improving the living conditions of the most vulnerable people, thus demonstrating the deep commitment of HE Angeline Ndayishimiye to the Burundian population. (RTNB)

Inauguration of a drinking water supply on Bwoga hill : the First Lady and Brarudi at the service of the communities

On Friday, December 13, 2024, the First Lady of Burundi, HE Angéline Ndayishimiye, accompanied by the Minister of Hydraulics, Energy and Mines, Ibrahim Uwizeye, inaugurated a drinking water supply on Bwoga hill, commune and province of Gitega. This infrastructure was built thanks to a partnership between Brarudi and the international NGO AMAZI WATER.

In his welcoming speech, the Governor of Gitega Province, Mister Venant Manirambona, expressed his gratitude to Brarudi and AMAZI WATER for their contribution to accessible drinking water in the region. He recalled that 13 hills in Gitega Province now benefit from this initiative and called for this program to be extended to other hills and neighborhoods in the city of Gitega, where access to drinking water remains limited.

Mister Laurent Bukasa Nsenda, General Manager of Brarudi, stressed the company's commitment to supporting the actions of the Burundian Government, particularly in the sectors of public health and the environment. This water supply on Bwoga hill, costing 120 million Burundian francs, is equipped with 6 taps and supplies drinking water to nearly 600 households.

In her address, the First Lady welcomed this initiative which contributes to improving public health and the living conditions of the inhabitants of Bwoga. She encouraged the beneficiaries to properly maintain this essential infrastructure, which considerably reduces the journeys that women had to make to fetch water.

After the inauguration of the drinking water supply, Brarudi handed over to the Urumuri Center, located at the Gitega Regional Hospital, a support consist-

ing of medical equipment worth 100 million Burundian francs. This contribution is part of the support for the activities of the Bonne Action Umugiraneza Foundation, headed by the First Lady.



On the sidelines of this ceremony, HE Angéline Ndayishimiye also provided special assistance to women hospitalized for obstetric fistula at the Urumuri Center. This assistance included food and various baby equipment, once again demonstrating her commitment to women and the most vulnerable individuals.

The inauguration of the drinking water supply on Bwoga hill and the support actions carried out by Brarudi and the First Lady demonstrate a synergy between public and private actors to meet the needs of the Burundian population. Through these initiatives, Brarudi and AMAZI WATER contribute not only to improving access to drinking water, but also to strengthening the health system, in support of the efforts of the Government and humanitarian organizations.

These achievements mark a significant step in the fight for universal access to drinking water and health care, an essential pillar of sustainable development in Burundi. (RTNB)

Towards the repatriation of members of Burundian armed groups



From December 10 to 12, 2024, a 3-day workshop was held in Bujumbura on the development of a legal framework for the repatriation and reintegration of members of Burundian armed groups operating in the East of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The Chief of Military Cabinet at the Presidency of the Republic of Burundi and Coordinator of the repatriation process, Lieutenant General Silas Ntigurirwa said the workshop will outline the practical arrangements for the voluntary repatriation of members of armed groups who are still in eastern DRC.

Asked when the actual repatriation would begin, Lieutenant General Silas Ntigurirwa said that the precise date is not yet known but that during this workshop, the participants will reflect on different themes to set a carefully thought-out timetable so that we can know when the first will be repatriated.

The representative of the office of the Special Envoy of

the Secretary General of the United Nations for the Great Lakes Region, Mister Serigne Bassirou Dienne indicated that this workshop marks the decisive step on the path to stability and lasting peace not only for Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, but also for the entire Great Lakes region.

According to Mister Serigne Bassirou Dienne, Burundi's commitment to addressing the complex issue of repatriation and reintegration of members of Burundian armed groups operating in eastern DRC demonstrates its determination to promote peace, security and social cohesion.

The National Coordinator of the Disarmament, Demobilization, Community Recovery and Stabilization Program (P-DDRCS) in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mister William Kapuku Bwabwa stressed that the Government of his country, through the program under its responsibilities, provides its full support to the process of formalizing a legal framework for repatriation and reintegration.

The coordinator of the Disarmament, Demobilization, Community Reintegration and Stabilization Program is pleased to see the establishment of a legal framework that will contribute to the reduction of combatants. According to Mr. William Kapuku Bwabwa, this effort is in line with the national strategy for disarmament, demobilization, community reintegration and stabilization in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

This workshop is attended by various stakeholders in repatriation and security in Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, Tanzania as well as representatives of international and regional organizations that support this process. **(RTNB)**

The Speaker of the Senate Calls on Leaders to Change Mentality



The Speaker of the Senate, the Right Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera, participated on Thursday, December 12, 2025, in a 2-day teaching session on leadership, organized in the capital of the province of Gitega, by the International Association Christian Ministries (CIM), through its Global Leadership Summit (GLS) department, intended for leaders in the various sectors of the country's life.

In his welcoming speech, the Representative of the International Christian Association Ministries (CIM), said that

sustainable development cannot be expected in a country without leadership in various sectors. He added that this is the reason why his organization is committed to meet with leaders so as to strengthen their leadership capacity.

The CIM representative clarified that today they have already reached a workforce of more than 30 thousand trained leaders in the country.

In his speech, the Speaker of the Senate, the Right Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera, who was himself invited to this activity, welcomed the CIM initiative which aims at strengthening leadership capacities of the authorities, so that they can better fulfill their mission of leading the population towards inclusive development.

He indicated that leadership does not depend on the position people have, rather it begins with oneself. The Right Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera talked about a common phenomenon in Burundi, where some leaders are increasingly losing their ability to be good leaders because of greed.

He reminded the authorities that a good leader must be characterized by integrity, skills and courage. He called on them to change their mentality and challenged them to work in synergy to lead the country towards sustainable development.

He took the opportunity to urge the leaders of political parties regarding the upcoming elections, to place on the electoral lists, honest men and women, capable of building a prosperous Burundi. (RTNB)

Ombudsman: monitoring and evaluation of recommendations from public listening sessions

The Burundian Ombudsman, Mrs. Aimée Laurentine Kanyana, carried out a follow-up and evaluation visit on Tuesday, December 10, 2024, to monitor the implementation of the recommendations resulting from the public and confidential listening sessions held in July and August 2024, in the communes of Rutovu and Songa, province of Bururi, assigned to the decentralized services of this province.

The Burundian Ombudsman Mrs. Aimée Laurentine Kanyana welcomed the diligence of the provincial authorities who sacrificed their time to follow up on the grievances of the population and find solutions to ensure good cohabitation in the locality. She urged Burundians to align themselves with the logic

of the 2040-2060 vision by cleaning up the business environment for investors and development partners committed in order to contribute to the development of the country.

She also urged the population of Rutovu and Songa communes to change their mentalities, raise their awareness to patriotism and peaceful cohabitation in order to tackle development activities and achieve the emergence of Burundi. (RTNB)



Algerian Minister of Foreign Affairs pays working visit to Bujumbura

On December 12, 2024, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation of the Republic of Burundi His Excellency Ambassador Albert Shingiro met in a working session with the Minister of State, Minister of Foreign Affairs, National Community Abroad and African Affairs of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria His Excellency Mr. Ahmed Attaf,

who was on an official visit to Burundi, since December 12, 2024 as Special Envoy and bearer of a special message from the Algerian President HE Abdelmadjid Tebboune to his Burundian Counterpart His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye.

The two ministers discussed ways to strengthen bilateral cooperation and explore ways and means to further



diversify it into other areas of cooperation of common interest.

Minister Albert Shningiro and Minister Ahmed ATTAH also agreed to continue collaboration between the two countries within regional and international organizations while respecting the intrinsic principles and values of the Burundian and Algerian peoples.

This working session was also a good opportunity to discuss on the continental and global issues and chal-



lenges of the contemporary world.

Furthermore, both sides welcomed the current state of cooperation between the two brotherly countries while recognizing that the window for improvement remains open in growth-promoting sectors.

In conclusion, the both sides agreed to organize the 7th Edition of the joint cooperation commission between Burundi and Algeria in 2025, on a date to be specified through the usual diplomatic channel. (MFADC)

Assistant to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation Takes Part in Kenya National Day Commemoration Ceremonies

On Wednesday, December 11, 2024, the Assistant to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, Mister Syldie Manirerekana joined authorities of the Kenyan Embassy and the Kenyan people residing in Burundi, in the ceremonies of the celebration of the 61st Anniversary of the Independence of the Republic of Kenya.

During the ceremonies, the Ambassador of Kenya His Excellency Mr. Daniel Waisiko WAMBURA



thanked the guests and said that he is happy to welcome them to celebrate and share together the joy of the commemoration of the Independence of the Republic of Kenya. He said that Kenya and Burundi

have good relations of friendship and cooperation. He also congratulated the President of the Republic of Burundi His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye for his contribution to having peace and security in the East African Community region. He also congratulated the Government of Burundi for having well organized the economic round table and the 23rd COMESA Summit chaired by Burundi.



In his speech, the Assistant to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, Mr. Syldie Manirerekana extended his warm and hearty congratulations to the Ambassador of Kenya His Excellency Mr. Daniel Waisiko WAMBURA, to the Kenyan

Government that he represents here in Burundi as well as to all his compatriots. He pointed out that this is an opportunity for Africans to reflect on the meaning of freedom for which African peoples fought for many years during the colonial period. Thanks to the solidarity of the leaders of the time,



the majority of African countries were able to enjoy political autonomy and quickly looked for economic autonomy which remains a challenge to be won today.

According to Syldie Manirerekana, the Government of the Republic of Burundi welcomes the current state of friendly and cooperative relations between these two countries, both qualitatively and quantitatively. Kenya is a partner full of attention and concerned with the development of all member countries of the East African Community (EAC) of which Burundi is also a member. "Burundi is happy to continue to maintain cordial relations with the Republic of Kenya, which is among our most reliable bilateral partners, especially since we are all also members of the African Union (AU), the Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)," stressed the Assistant Minister of For-

eign Affairs and Development Cooperation.

Thus, high-level visits that took place between the leaders of the two countries are eloquent signs of their desire to further deepen relations of friendship and cooperation and following these visits, Memoranda of Understanding were signed as part of strengthening bilateral cooperation in different areas. Among these, the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding in the areas of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries. The Kenya Airways company, which has been operating in Burundi for a long time, allows travelers from the two countries and elsewhere to reach several countries in the world, as well as branches of Kenya Commercial Bank KCB, Diamond Trust Bank (DTB) Jubilee Insurance Company and Summit International which have opened their



doors to serve the Burundian people are also eloquent signs which evidence their desire to deepen relations of friendship, added the Minister's Assistant.

He ended his speech by pointing out that Burundi is on the eve of legislative and communal elections, and the calendar has already been set. Elections being a mandatory and important process for any democratic Government, it is in this context that he implored the sup-

National Council of the Order of Burundian Physicians (CNOMB), a therapeutic art solution for Burundian physicians

A training workshop was held from December 12 to 13, 2024 at the National Institute of Public Health, for doctors who are members of provincial offices, on the medico-legal aspects of the practice of the art of healing. This work-

shop was organized by the National Council of the Order of Burundian Physicians (CNOMB).

In his presentation, Dr. SENDEGEYA Philbert, President of CNOMB, showed that this workshop is orga-

nized with the aim of strengthening the skills of doctors in Burundi on the medico-legal aspects of the practice of medicine, in order to guarantee a practice that complies with legal and ethical standards.

At the end of this workshop, the expected results would be: apply legal and ethical principles in their daily practice, manage medical disputes and limit their legal liability, and establish a framework of good practices in the

management of medical records.

It should be noted that at this training workshop, were present Dr. Nijimbere Olivier, Permanent Secretary in the Minister of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS, and the five doctors who are members of the office of the Order of Physicians of Burundi from each province. (RTNB)

Burundi celebrates World Toilet Day: a call for sanitation

The World Toilet Day was celebrated in Kirundo on Friday December 13, 2024. The event, whose theme was "Toilet, a place of peace", was attended by numerous personalities, including Mr Paul Ndarihonyoye, Assistant to the Minister of Water, Hydraulics, Energy and Mines, and Nestor Girukwishaka, Director General of Drinking Water and Basic Sanitation, as well as the municipal and provincial authorities of Kirundo.



In his address, Mr. Ndarihonyoye stressed the crucial importance of access to decent toilets. He recalled

that poor sanitation is the cause of many diseases, including cholera, typhoid and typhus, particularly affecting children and women. He also highlighted the linkage between sanitation and education, noting that the absence of toilets in schools leads to a high dropout rate in schools.

The ministry representative mentioned the UN statistics, revealing that a third of the world's population does not have access to adequate rest rooms. "The UN Secre-

tary General calls for a general mobilization to address this situation," he emphasized.

Mister Ndarihonyoye also said that although progress has been made in Burundi in terms of sanitation, Kirundo province still faces significant challenges. "That is why it was chosen to host this celebration," he noted.

The Assistant to the Minister responsible for sanitation took the opportunity to urge communities, schools and local authorities to intensify their efforts to promote the use of hygienic toilets.

According to the Minister's representative, the Burundian Government has put in place ambitious programs to improve access to drinking water and sanitation. These initiatives are part of the country's vision of becoming an emerging country by 2040 and developed country by 2060.

At the end of the ceremonies, awards were presented to households and schools that had demonstrated exemplary commitment to sanitation to encourage good practices within communities.

World Toilet Day was an opportunity to recall that access to decent toilets is a fundamental right and an essential condition for improving the health and well-being of all. (RTNB)

Validation of the results of the stability and sustainable reintegration index

The Ministry of Home Affairs, Public Security and Community Development, through the General Directorate of Repatriation, Reinsertion and Reintegration in collaboration with the International Organization for Migration in Burundi (IOM), with

funding from the Bureau of Refugee Populations and Migration (PRM) of the US Department of State, organized from December 12 to 13, 2024 in Bujumbura, a workshop to validate the results of the stability index phase 4, and its application for the improvement of sustainable solu-



tions in Burundi.

This workshop is organized within the framework of the project: "Strengthening capacities for immediate reintegration of Burundian returnees through housing, land, property, shelter, water, hygiene and sanitation as well as protection", which implements initiatives with a view to strengthening stability and sustainable reintegration in Burundi.

According to the IOM Chief of Mission in Burundi, Mrs. Emanuela Muscarà , since 2017, Burundi has received 252,149 returnees. As of August 2024, 86,159 internally displaced persons (IDPs) have been identified, of whom 7% were returnees who became IDPs.

Of these, 93% were displaced for natural disasters reasons, reflecting the vulnerability of communities to climate change. The majority of these populations are often in rural areas facing considerable challenges: lack of infrastructure, restricted access to land and limited living conditions.

IOM Burundi Chief of Mission Emanuela Muscarà highlighted that protracted displacement and the massive return of returnees are increasing pressure on host communities. They are struggling to meet basic needs such as access to food, water and

land. Tensions over resource use are increasing, as are secondary displacements that are exacerbating local instabilities.

According to Mr. Emanuela Muscarà , to address these challenges, IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) has implemented two complementary data collection exercises. These tools enable the production of stability index reports, providing essential data to guide stabilization and sustainable reintegration policies and programs.

As for Mr. Nestor Bimenyimana , the Director General of Repatriation, Reinsertion and Reintegration at the Ministry of the Interior, Public Security and Community Development, the objective of the workshop is to validate the results of the stability index, to present the indicators for studies on sustainable solutions and to integrate information management tools.

Mr. Nestor Bimenyimana , Director General in charge of repatriation, indicated that this approach to stability indices was a reference element for the development of the Communal Community Development Plans (PCDC) for the communes, which will be 42 according to the new administrative division which comes into force since the 2025 elections. (RTNB)

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