



President Evariste Ndayishimiye visits mining sites



On Monday January 6, 2025, the Burundian Head of State, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, on government leave, toured a number of mining and agricultural sites in Karusi and Gitega provinces.

The aim of these visits was to assess the performance of local cooperatives working in the mining sector and to promote sustainable management of natural resources.

In Nyabikere commune, at the Mbabazi site operated by the Shishikara Light cooperative for cassiterite production, the President stressed the need for the Burundi Mines Office (OBM) to review

the contracts signed with the cooperatives, in order to guarantee fair economic returns. He also encouraged the local population to get involved in cooperative activities, and to adopt a culture of hard work and combat laziness, a major obstacle to development.

In the Shombo commune, he visited the Butwe site of Dutezanyimbere cooperative. The President stressed the importance of protecting the environment, urging operators to fill in the holes after mining.

Shishikara Light produced 2 tons of cassiterite between November and December 2024, sold on the local market at \$11 per kg, while Dutezanyimbere

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recorded 8.457 tons of cassiterite, sold on the Burundi market at \$12 per kg.

In the same province, the Head of State visited his 10-hectare cornfield on Gashanga hill, Bugenyuzi commune. This farm, dedicated to the cultivation of maize varieties such as PAN 53, SIDICO and Locales, is a model of modern agriculture.

In the province of Gitega, the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, visited the site of the Abahizi Minérales Cooperative in Makebukoko, which also does extraction. The President encouraged the workers to intensify their efforts to contribute to the country's economic growth.

To round off his day, he visited the East African Drilling and Granite site, where a plant is being built to transform inert rock into tiles, marble, ornamental stone and by-products. This ambitious project aims to strengthen

Burundi's industrial capacity and enhance the value of its natural resources. Through these visits, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye reiterated his commitment to the efficient and sustainable management of national resources. He urged the population and cooperatives to adopt responsible practices and contribute actively to the country's socio-economic development.

During all these visits, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye's speech to both the miners and the population who had come to cheer him on the occasion, focused above all on one essential point: to work and banish forever idle gatherings of young people, known as "amaligala".

In order to banish this scourge forever, he even enjoined communal administrators to each choose a piece of farmland where all delinquents caught in "ligala" would be taken for unpaid work. The harvest from this work will help to meet the needs of any disaster victims. **(Presidency)**

President Evariste Ndayishimiye continues his tour of mining sites in the provinces of Ruyigi, Cankuzo and Muyinga



On Tuesday, January 07, 2025, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, President of the Republic of Burundi, continued his tour of mining sites. It was the turn of the gold deposits located in the provinces of Ruyigi, Cankuzo and Muyinga. This initiative reflects his commitment to responsible mining that benefits the people of Burundi.

During these visits, the Head of State exchanged views with the cooperatives and companies exploiting the gold, congratulating them on their efforts. He also invited the Burundi Mines Office (OBM) to equip itself with modern equipment and use cutting-edge technology for the efficient exploration and exploitation of mining deposits. The aim of this measure is to optimize the country's mining resources, while reinforcing responsible management and environmental protection.

On the bangs of this tour, the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, visited the Ecole Fondamentale Nyarutiti, located in Cankuzo commune. Addressing the pupils, he stressed the importance of hard work and dedication. He reminded them that the year 2025 is dedicated to hard work, with the aim of building a Burundi that will be an emerging country by 2040 and a developed one

by 2060.

This visit testifies to the President's determination to simultaneously promote economic development, education and the spirit of collective work, all of which will contribute to ensuring a prosperous future for Burundi. **(Presidency)**

President Evariste Ndayishimiye visits mining and agricultural sites to promote sustainable development in Burundi



On January 08, 2025, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, President of the Republic of Burundi, continued his tour of the country's mining sites with a visit to the Kasenyamisange A site, located in the Busiga commune, Ngozi province. The site is operated by Burundi Company Mining, which specializes in coltan and cassiterite mining. The Head of State of Burundi encouraged the company to align its activities with the vision of Burundi as an emerging country by 2040 and a developed country by 2060.

In the same vein, His Excellency Evariste Nday-

ishimiye travelled to Kayanza province, where he visited the Kivuvu site, a coltan and cassiterite mining operation covering 33 hectares in Kabarore commune. The site is managed by COMEBU. He urged the company to increase production, while respecting environmental and social standards.

Alongside his visits to the mines, the President of the Republic of Burundi also visited Mr. Manirakiza Marc, alias Pochen, a local entrepreneur from Busiga commune in Ngozi province. He has developed a nursery of 20,000 pepper plants, which he plans to plant over 30 hectares. His ambition is to establish a processing industry to revitalize the agricultural sector. The Burundian Head of State welcomed this initiative and encouraged young Burundians to follow this example to contribute to food self-sufficiency and job creation.

Visiting Kabarore commune, in Kayanza province, the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, called on the population to actively engage in the fight against fraud, to strengthen national solidarity and to aim for financial independence. He also stressed the importance of preserving peace and security, which he described as essential pillars for sustainable development.

These visits are part of the vision to transform the mining and agricultural sectors into engines of economic growth, while improving the living conditions of Burundians. **(Presidency)**

President Ndayishimiye welcomes SUMMA, a company investing in Burundi

On January 9, 2025, the President of the Republic of Burundi His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, received in audience at the Kiriri Palace, the Turkish investors of the SUMMA Company, headed by the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the SUMMA Company, Mr. Selim BORA. The company's delegation arrives in Burundi in the wake of the Round Table which mobilized local and foreign investors for a common goal: the Vision of Burundi as an emerging country by 2040 and a developed country by 2060.

Burundi's Head of State took the opportunity to brief the delegation on the investment opportunities avail-

able in Burundi. Preferred sectors include agriculture, tourism and mining resources. These sectors are underpinned by factors specific to Burundi. In particular, Burundi's geographical position links it to southern Africa via Lake Tanganyika, and to the East African Community via the Tanzania-Burundi-DRC railroad, on which construction work is due to start shortly.

Introduced first by the Turkish Ambassador to Burundi, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of SUMMA presented the company: "SUMMA is a mega-company operating in 15 countries: Turkey, Venezuela, Senegal, Guinea Bissau, Sierra Leone, Equatorial Guinea, Libya, Niger, Benin, Congo Brazzaville, Rwanda, Roma-



nia, Moldavia, Russia, Turkmenistan and the DRC in various sectors.

SUMMA is mainly involved in the construction of large-scale infrastructures such as hotels, conference halls, presidential palaces, shopping malls, stadiums, hospitals, administrative buildings, universities, etc. It is also active in the exploration and construction of new buildings. It is also active in the exploration and production of hydrocarbons and geothermal energy. It is actively seeking investment opportunities in renewable energy

sources, looking for exploration and production prospects in the oil and gas sector.

With regard to the mining sector, SUMMA reassures us that it is exploring various mining opportunities on the African continent and is reaping the benefits of a win-win partnership.

The company is also involved in airport construction and operation projects, as evidenced by the work carried out in this sector in West African countries.

The Head of State welcomed their experience. He put them in touch with the Minister of Infrastructures, Equipment and Social Housing, Mr Dieudonné DUKUNDANE, as well as the General Management of the Burundi Development Agency (ADB) and the Office of Strategic Studies and Development (BESD), to guide them in their choice of areas of intervention. He also highlighted some of the country's needs, such as the construction of a free-way linking the political capital Gitega and the economic capital Bujumbura.

The Head of State thanked the investors for their visit, adding that Burundi and Turkey have always enjoyed good diplomatic relations. He took the opportunity to convey his greetings to his Turkish counterpart and to all Turkish people. **(Presidency)**

An international convention to punish hijacking is passed



Hijacking is punishable under articles 641 and 642 of the Burundian penal code. To better deal with and curb this crime, Burundi has decided to ratify the International Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft, signed at The Hague on December 16, 1970. This Convention is ratified by 185 of the 193 member states of the International Civil Aviation Organization. It applies to aircraft registered and operated for civil transport purposes. The draft law ratifying this convention was on the agenda of the plenary session of the National Assem-



bly on Monday January 06, 2025, chaired by the Right Honourable Gélase Daniel Ndirakobuca, President of the chamber of parliament. The Government had sent the Minister of Commerce, Transport, Industry and Tourism, Mrs Marie Chantal Nijimbere, to give an explanatory statement on the bill.



Responding to the question of what measures had been taken to limit or eradicate aircraft hijackings, Minister Marie Chantal Nijimbere pointed to improved security checks at airports prior to boarding, reinforced cockpit doors to isolate pilots from passengers, armed guards on board in some airlines, international cooperation and advanced security

protocols adopted by the entire aviation industry.

As for the added value of this convention for Burundi, the Government representative stressed that it would improve deterrence and repression of the hijacking phenomenon by establishing a clear, binding and specific legal framework, with extradition or prosecution mechanisms to ensure that the perpetrators of these hijackings, wherever they may be, do not go unpunished.

Following the explanatory statement by the Minister of Commerce, Transport, Industry and Tourism, Mrs Marie Chantal Nijimbere, and the answers she gave to the questions put to her by the Honourable Members of Parliament, the draft law ratifying the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft was unanimously adopted by the National Assembly. **(National Assembly)**

Associations called on to contribute to education



On Monday, January 06, 2025, the Second Vice-President of the Senate of Burundi, Hon. Fabrice Nkurunziza, granted a do-

nation of 90 desks to the Butare 1 primary school, on behalf of the Musasa association of natives of Butare hill, in the Bukemba commune of Rutana province, of which he is a member.

In his message, he said that after hearing the appeal of one of the members of their association who, after visiting this school, saw that it needed desks, they got together to collect this aid.

He took the opportunity to thank the members of their association and appeal to other associations to contribute to education. **(Senate)**

The Second Vice-President of the Senate grants aid to the population of the Kiguhu and Mugondo areas in the Mpinga-Kayove commune

On Thursday, January 09, 2025, the Second Vice-President of the Senate, Honourable Fabrice Nkurunziza, granted food aid to the population of the Kiguhu and Mugondo zones, located in the Mpinga-Kayove commune, Rutana province. The aid, consisting of rice, is intended to support the inhabitants whose crops have been severely affected by torrential rains.

In his speech, Honourable Fabrice Nkurunziza ex-

pressed his concern at the damage caused by the bad weather. Informed of the situation, he stressed that the Senate of Burundi considered it imperative to provide support to these affected communities.

He also appealed to the Ministry of National Solidarity, Social Affairs, Human Rights and Gender, as well as to the natives of Rutana province, urging them to unite their efforts to come to the help of the stricken population. He encouraged the inhabitants to maintain their



courage and continue to work to improve their agricultural production, despite the challenges encountered.



(Senate)

Evaluation of crop season A in the provinces of Muramvya, Mwaro and Gitega



tons per hectare of potatoes, after the use of 1.5 tons of seed.

Libert Nzokirantevye, Director of the Mwaro Provincial Office for the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock (BPEAE), praised the efforts of the CADM cooperative. The cooperative is working to multiply potato seeds, with the ambitious aim of harvesting 200 tons from 10 hectares, after using 16 tons of seed. This initiative aims

On January 07, 2025, the Ministry of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock continued its visits to the province of Mwaro. The aim of this visit was to take stock of field maintenance during the A crop season. This season is mainly dedicated to the cultivation of maize and potatoes.

Mr. Diomède Ndayirukiye, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock, stressed that these visits are crucial to better understand the challenges facing farmers. They also enable us to prepare the conditions for the next crop season A, season B, and to adapt the support measures needed to optimize yields.

The delegation visited the Nyabisindu seed center, which covers 10 hectares of potatoes (Shange variety) and 70 hectares of maize (Isega variety). The results obtained are particularly satisfactory, with a yield of 20

to boost self-sufficiency in quality seed and support local producers.

The delegation expressed optimism about the state of the maize fields, stressing that these results augur well for the achievement of the objectives set out in the Vision of Burundi as an emerging country by 2040 and a developed country by 2060. In particular, the seed sector is highlighted as a key lever for the country's sustainable development. The Ministry of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock is thus pursuing its efforts to ensure better quality and quantity of agricultural production in Burundi.

Agriculture is considered a key driver of sustainable development in Burundi. Through initiatives such as the promotion of quality seeds and support for farmers, the country hopes to strengthen its food security and meet the challenges of population growth and climate change (RTNB)

The United Nations Development Program awards a grant to Burundi to support agriculture



On January 07, 2025, the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock, Mr. Emmanuel Ndorimana, received a donation of 676 sprayers worth 133 million Burundian francs from the UNDP.

According to Mr. Mathieu Ciowela, this donation of sprayers is intended to support the agricultural sector by enabling farmers to combat plant diseases, thus helping to increase agricultural production. He also encouraged the beneficiaries to make good use of the equipment, so as to contribute effectively to achieving the objectives set by the UNDP.

Mr. Emmanuel Ndorimana, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock, emphasized that this donation is in line with the national policy to increase agricultural production, and that it will enable the population to be trained in the fight against plant diseases and pests, thus promoting the development of the agricultural sector. **(RTNB)**

Claims related to job types will be analyzed



On Tuesday, January 07, 2025, the Minister of the Civil Service, Labor and Employment held a meeting with Ministry officials and representatives of civil servants who had a claim to make on the corrections to the job types.

These corrections were made between September and December 2024 by the Ministry of the Civil Service, Labor and Employment, in collaboration with all other ministries. They are in line with the new salary policy, according to which all civil servants must be paid a salary commensurate with their job type. Complaints included the fact that boarding school principals and disciplinary prefects were given the

same job type as supervisors, and that some civil servants were given job types that should result in salary increases, which was not the case.

The Minister for the Civil Service, Labor and Employment, Mr. Venuste Muyabaga, indicated that over 3,000 claims had been lodged. According to him, some of these are due to a lack of understanding of the new wage policy, while others are the result of errors in the data submitted by officials.

The Minister pointed out that 9,700 civil servants had seen their salaries increase, while those of 7,000 others had decreased, in line with the new salary scale.

He stressed the responsibility of civil servants to know their job types, and reminded them that their superiors must also be familiar with this information. He warned that any civil servant receiving a higher salary than he or she should receive would be severely punished, as would his or her superior.

The Minister of the Civil Service, Labor and Employment reassured that current claims will be analyzed rapidly, and that any regularizations will be made by the end of the month, in the interests of work and development. **(RTNB)**

Minister of Infrastructure, Equipment and Social Housing distributes avocado seedlings



On January 08, 2025, the Minister of Infrastructure, Equipment and Social Housing, Mr. Dieudonné Dukundane, granted one thousand Hass avocado seedlings to the people of Tara hill in the commune of Songa in Bururi province.

The Minister of Infrastructures, Equipment and Social Housing, Mr Dieudonné Dukundane, indicated that these avocado plants were distributed to support local development. He called on natives of other hills living in

Burundi and abroad to contribute to the development of their localities of origin and to take this step so that the country develops through avocado cultivation, as 1 kg of avocado costs between 5 and 7 dollars abroad, i.e. 5,000 and 7,000 dollars per ton. "Distributing certain plants among the population can generate three containers worth 300,000 dollars. It's a source of income that didn't exist in Burundi, because there were no other sources of income in terms of cultivation," added Mr Dieudonné Dukundane.

After distributing the avocado seedlings, Mr. Dieudonné Dukundane visited his modern PAN 53 maize and potato field, which covers 5.31 ha. According to him, given the vegetative state of this corn, the harvest will be good. He added that the corn could be produced for export, as corn production was good all over the country. He ended his speech by appealing to the Ministry of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock and the communal agronomist to ensure that agricultural inputs (seeds) are available on time, so that farmers don't miss the growing season. (RTNB)

Bujumbura town hall: pupils back in school



On Monday, January 6, 2025, the second term of the 2024-2025 school year began. In five schools in the economic capital of Bujumbura visited by reporters from the national radio and television of Burundi, students were in class attending lessons.

At the Lycée du Lac Tanganyika II, the school's director, Mr. Laurent Nkengurutse, indicated that 95% of the students were present in class and that classes had started at 7:30 AM. According to Mr. Nkengurutse, the students at this lycée are already informed that any student absent on the first day of classes will be sanctioned. As for the Lycée Municipal de Gasenyi in the Ntahangwa commune, the reporters from the

national radio and television of Burundi found the students already in class. The director of this lycée, Mrs. Hildegard Banyankindagiye, stated that classes had started at 7:30 AM and that the teachers were in the process of grading the exams from the first term.

At école d'excellence de Ngagara, students were in class following their lessons as usual. The director of the Ngagara School of Excellence, Mr. Tharcisse Bendantokira, indicated that out of a total of 444 students, 415 were already in the boarding school. According to Mr. Tharcisse Bendantokira, the delay of the students who had not yet arrived in the boarding school could be attributed to difficulties related to transportation, as some students live far from the municipality of Bujumbura, particularly in Mabayi and Musigati.

At the Lycée Technique Secondaire de Kamenge, the director of this school, Mr. Innocent Manirakiza, stated that 80% of the students had shown up. He emphasized that the number of teachers was sufficient and that food supplies were also available. According to Mr. Innocent Manirakiza, the absence of students observed at the beginning of this second term could be due to

transportation issues and the fact that some students had not yet received all the necessary hygiene supplies for the boarding school.

Similarly, at the Lycée Scheppers de Nyakabiga, reporters from the national radio and television of

Burundi observed that the students were in class following their lessons. The academic supervisor at this school, Mrs. Jacqueline Kamikazi announced that almost all the students had arrived at the boarding school and that courses have started at 7.30 AM as usual. (RTNB)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation

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