



The Head of State joins the christians of the Buye Rock Church in Sunday prayer



The President of the Republic His Excellency Pierre Nkurunziza accompanied by the President of the National Assembly, the Right Honorable Pascal Nyabenda joined the christians of the Rocher Church at Buuye in Mwumba commune of Ngozi Province for Sunday worship on May 03, 2020. The Head of State announced that Burundi will be blessed as much as in previous years. Therefore, He asked the Burundians to vote carefully led by the Holy Spirit.

In his speech himself, the President of the National Assembly testified that the Head of State His Excellency Pierre Nkurunziza contributed a lot to become what he is and that there had been nothing as relationship between them

before they met.

Then the Right Honorable Pascal Nyabenda called the Burundians to love one another without any distinction and he added that one's neighbor can become his source of blessing. The President of the National Assembly seized this opportunity to implore the Almighty God to bless the President of the Republic in His future life, after the elections of May 20, 2020.

The President of the Republic, during His preaching, appreciated the blessing from the President of the National Assembly due to the fact that the President of the National Assembly represents the Burundian population. He also reminded that the frank collaboration that characterized the legislative and executive powers has demonstrat-

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ed the hand of God in the activities of his mandate, announced the Head of State.

According to him, since 1962, no power has ended its mandate without internal conflicts between the powers defined by the constitution. Things have changed when Burundi gave the first place to God, especially in the new constitution.

Basing on the word of God drawn from 2 Chronicles 7: 11-18 and the Gospel of John 21: 1-6, the Head of State stressed: "God has manifested himself by forgiving the Burundians, because they invoked his name, they prayed and sought his face and they turned from their bad ways.

(source: www.rtnb.bi)

The healthcare structures now responsible for the inventory of medication needs



AIDS Dr Thaddée Ndikumana indicated that the evaluation of the 2020 Action Plan which ends with the month of June is done on the basis of statistical data which will even allow to elaborate another action plan for the year 2021.

It will be an opportunity to analyze the situation of other diseases such as malaria, after the distribution of impregnated mosquito nets in December 2019, which allowed the reduction of this disease to 58%, said Dr Thaddée Ndikumana. He added that since malaria drugs are distributed for free, health officials will check whether these drugs actually reach the beneficiaries.

Minister Thaddée Ndikumana said that during this 3-day workshop, these officials will assess free care for pregnant women and children under 5 years of age.

As the Central Purchasing Center for Essential Medicines of Burundi (CAMEBU) was solely responsible for the inventory of drugs to be imported, this inventory will now be the work of health centers and health districts which will draw up the lists to be submitted to the CAMEBU, according to the frequent diseases in such or such region, concluded the Minister Thaddée Ndikumana.

(source: www.rtnb.bi)

The Ministry of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS organized on Wednesday, May 6, 2020, a workshop for health officials (provincial doctors and district directors) on the availability and reliability of health data .

The Minister of Public Health and the Fight against

Burundi celebrates world press freedom day



On Monday April 04, 2020 Burundi joined the rest of the world to celebrate World Press Freedom Day which is normally celebrated on May 03 of each year. The day was celebrated under the theme: "Access to information and the security of journalists during election periods".

Press House President Mrs Denise Mugugu, in her welcoming speech, asked journalists to be impartial during these election periods regardless of political tendencies.

She said press freedom is an opportunity for journalists to

help strengthen peace, security and development in the country.

Nevertheless, the President of the Press House Mrs Denise Mugugu deploras the fact that this day takes place when 4 journalists from the Iwacu press group are in prison. She asked the public authorities to release them before the elections, especially since they had already served a quarter of their sentence.

Since the world is paralyzed by the Covid-19 pandemic, the President of the Press House and the Minister of Communication and Media Mr. Frédéric Nahimana ask journalists to report and to broadcast programs that can help the Burundian population to follow the protection and prevention measures well as recommended by the Ministry of Health in its powers.

The UNESCO House Officer in Burundi read the message from Audrey Azoulay, General Director of UNESCO that the COVID-19 pandemic is rocking into worry and uncertainty and that information free-

dom is essential for us to face, understand, think about and overcome the crisis.

"We first measure its vital importance: to inform is to give everyone the means to fight against the disease by adopting the appropriate behavior. This is why our Organization is engaged with the whole UN family in the fight against the infodemia," said Ms. Audrey Azoulay.

Minister Frédéric Nahimana stressed that this celebration occurs during a very special period and asked journalists to play fully their role of being impartial and demonstrating a sense of professionalism to promote good governance and democracy in Burundi.

He also indicated that the Government is on good terms with the media, citing advantages granted to them such as the zero-rating of material intended for the media, the issuance of the press card, the texts governing the profession of journalism put in place, etc. (source: www.rtnb.bi)

The security situation during the 1st week of the electoral campaign was good, according to the Spokesperson of the Ministry in charge of Public Security



The security situation was generally good throughout the country during the 1st week of the electoral campaign, but we deplore the cases of violence noted in certain localities, said the Spokesman of the Ministry of Security Public and Disaster Management, OPP1 Pierre Nkurikiye, on Tuesday May 5 during a press point. He congratulated and encouraged the candidates in the running who comply with the law and warned the

perpetrators of the crimes found to recover immediately in favor of a peaceful electoral climate for all.

Mr. Pierre Nkurikiye said that the Ministry in charge of Public Security deploras certain violations marked by the main criminal acts which, he stressed, must be banned to ensure the smooth running of the electoral campaign. He raised, among other things, violations of the traffic code by excessive numbers of passengers and speeding tickets which led in particular to the death of two people and six others injured on the day of the campaign launch (April 27, 2020), despite the warning of the Ministry of Public Security and Disaster Management.

The Spokesperson of the Ministry went on to denounce other abuses, in particular "remarks calling for violence made twice by the President of the CNL party (National Congress for Freedom), who is also the candidate of this party, at Muremera in Ngozi province (04/27/2020) and in Kayanza province. Insulting and untrue remarks that offend the honor of opponents held by militants of the same party, notably in Bugendana in Gitega province (04/27/2020), in Mugongomanga and Mubimbi in rural Bujumbura province".

OPP1 Nkurikiye also raised attempts at electoral fraud perpetrated by members of the CNL party on Nyabisaka hill in Mutaho commune of Gitega province (May 1, 2020), Nyakibande in Isare commune in Bujumbura province (3/5/2020) and Musanga in commune and Makamba province (4/5/2020).

The spokesperson also raised cases of false teaching about the voting method and warned the authors to break with such forms of fraud attempts.

OPP1 Nkurikiye also raised cases of bodily harm perpetrated by members of the CNL party against those of the CNDD-FDD party which caused two

deaths and 18 injuries among members of this party. He also reported a CNL activist who was abducted and eight others injured among members of that party. "The police have already arrested 64 alleged perpetrators of the violence for investigation," he said.

He indicated that the Ministry in charge of Public Security reiterates its commitment to continue securing this electoral process. He asked the perpetrators of all forms of violations of the law to come together to allow democratic and peaceful competition for all.

(source: www.abpinfos.com)

The Government of Burundi and Afritextile sign a memorandum of understanding



The Afritextile textile complex undertakes to support the Cotton Management Company (COGERCO) to use it in the production of cotton fabrics. A memorandum of understanding was signed on Tuesday, May 5, 2020 between the Government of Burundi represented by the Minister of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock, Dr Déo Guide RUREMA and this company represented by its General Director Mr. Gilbert NZEYIMANA. (source: www.rtnb.bi)

Political party leaders urged to call their activists to order during the current election campaign



The General Prosecutor of the Republic of Burundi, Mr. Sylvestre Nyandwi, released on Tuesday May 5, 2020 a press release relating to the current electoral campaign.

In a lively press briefing at the Supreme Court, the General Prosecutor of the Republic indicated that while the electoral campaign is in full swing, there are some acts of violence of a political nature in certain localities of the country. He gave the example of cases already identified in Kirundo, Ngozi, Kayanza, Gitega and Bujumbura provinces.

In Kirundo, in Ntega commune, clashes took place between certain activists of political parties, leaving one dead and two injured, he said, indicating that a file relating to it had been opened and that he was in tutorial at the Kirundo prosecution.

Mr Nyandwi said that investigation procedures are

already underway for clashes in Bujumbura province that left several people injured in Kabezi and Mubimbi communes.

The Attorney General of the Republic took that opportunity to remind all Burundian citizens in general and activists of political parties in particular that the law is not on the back burner during the current electoral campaign and that anyone who breaks it will be punished .

He particularly reminded the leaders of political parties in the campaign that they are not exempt from prosecution during this period and that they must refrain from any act that could encourage activists to resort to violence. They are also asked to call their activists to order without forgetting to disassociate themselves from those who break the law. (source: www.abpinfos.com)

Residents of Gatumba town relocated and settled in Maramvya



The population of the town of Gatumba in Mutimbuzi commune of the Bujumbura province (west of Burundi) was relocated on Saturday May 2 and settled in Maramvya area, at the 13th cross. This measure was taken after an assessment meeting about the situation of Gatumba, after the waters of Rusizi 1 and Rusizi 2 rivers flooded the houses and caused a lot of material damage and destroyed the houses last Thursday.

This meeting was chaired by the Governor of Bujumbura province, at the same time President of the provincial platform for risk prevention and disaster fight, Mrs. Nadine Gacuti. The General Director of Civil Protection and the President of the National Platform, OPC1 Anicet Nibaruta, representatives of international organizations such as WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, OCHA, IOM, WFP, the Burundi Red Cross and local humanitarian associations also participated in this meeting. (source: www.abpinfos.com)

The end of the voter card withdrawal period, the operation will continue in the Independent Municipal Election Commission



the offices of the Independent Municipal Election Commissions (CECI), as the President of the CENI indicated. (source: www.abpinfos.com)

The operation of withdrawing voter cards continued normally until Monday, May 4, throughout the country, even if not all the registrants could withdraw them during the period fixed by the CENI (from April 30 to May 4, 2020). Those who couldn't withdraw them in that period are asked to go to take them at any time in

ATRABU appreciates the measure to open the Ntakangwa bridge for certain users taken by the Mayor of the city of Bujumbura



The Burundi Transporters Association welcomes the measure taken by the Mayor of the city Freddy Mbonimpa, allowing users of bicycle, motorcycle and Bajaj taxis to cross

the Ntakangwa bridge from Monday, May 5, 2020. Notwithstanding, the ban on arriving in the city center remains valid.

The Mayor of the City of Bujumbura has just authorized bikes, motorcycles and Bajaj to cross the Ntakangwa bridges to enter neighborhoods such as Nyakabiga, Bwiza, Jabe and Buyenzi. The Secretary of the Burundi Transporters Association (ATRABU), Mr. Charles Ntirampeba, appreciates this decision.

He also said that motorcycles are allowed to work until 6:00 p.m. while the Bajaj will work until 9:00 p.m. Mr. Charles Ntirampeba indicated that the drivers of the transport vehicles are committed to respecting these measures and will continue to ensure peace and security . (source: www.rtnb.bi)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Department of Communication

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