

# REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI



Ministry of Foreign Affairs and  
Cooperation for Development

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## Celebration of the 58th Anniversary of the independence of Burundi 2020



Missions and Representatives of International Organizations accredited in Burundi.

In his speech, the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency General Major Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE glorified God the Almighty, who helped Burundi to maintain its independence

On every 1<sup>st</sup> July of each year, the Republic of Burundi celebrates the anniversary of its independence. The festivities marking the 58th anniversary of the independence of Burundi took place in Bujumbura town hall at the Independence Boulevard under the theme: "Everything I do reflects the image of our country". Burundians must therefore take it by heart, and that must be put into practice in everything they do, in everything they say, and in their behavior such as the wish to "Be respected at the international level" which is contained in the national anthem, be realised. Consequently, the Nation will respect Burundi because "Man is respected as he is". The ceremonies were enhanced by the presence of the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency General Major Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE as well as other dignitaries of the country and the Heads of Diplomatic and Consular

for the 58 years that had just passed. He also asked the almighty to give the Burundians courage, intelligence and kindness in order to strengthen the independence of Burundi.

He went on to say that this celebration of joy came at a time when the Burundians are experiencing deep pain because of the unexpected death of late President Pierre NKURUNZIZA.



He also said that this holiday comes at a time when the whole world is worried about the coronavirus, which hinders people from moving freely. But he

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reassured the Burundians by telling them that everything must be done until this virus is eradicated. This celebration also arrives, he added, at the time when Burundi is governed by a new President recently elected by the Burundians themselves in peace and security and enthroned in transparency in collaboration with his new Members of the Government recently appointed.

As far as cooperation is concerned, he said that the doors are open for all those who want to help Burundi but knowing that Burundi wants mutual aid taking into account international conventions of cooperation.



Regarding unemployment, his Excellency the President of Burundi said that the creation of cooperatives on all the hills of the country is a sustainable response to the lack of employment of young Burundians. He ended by giving gifts of thanks to certain Ministers

and certain personalities for their achievements and good behavior towards Burundi, such as the former President of the United Republic of Tanzania, His Excellency JAKAYA MRISHO KIKWETE, etc.

After the ceremonies at the INTWARI stadium, the staff of



the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation for Development met at the precincts of their Ministry to share a drink. On behalf of the Minister, who was prevented, the address was made by the Assistant to the Minister.

The Assistant to Minister conveyed the Minister's greetings to the staff of the institution and reiterated his wish for a happy celebration of the 58th anniversary of the independence of Burundi. He also recalled that an example should be set when putting into practice preventive measures against the coronavirus.

(Source: MFACD-Newsroom)

### Members of the new Government take the oath



The Members of the new Government were solemnly sworn in on Tuesday, June 30, 2020. Before God the Almighty, before the President of the

Republic and before the two chambers of Parliament, they swore loyalty to the Charter of National Unity, to the Constitution of the Republic and the law. Each oath was received by the Constitutional Court.

The right hand raised, the left hand holding the national flag and that of National Unity, the 15 Members of the Government took the oath in turn: "Before God the Almighty, before the President of the Republic and before the two Chambers of Parliament, I swear loyalty to the Charter of National Unity, to the Constitution of the Republic and to the law. I undertake to devote all my strength to defending the higher interests of the nation, to promoting unity and cohesion of the Burundian people, peace and social justice in the performance of the functions entrusted to me. I undertake to fight all ideologies and practices of genocide

and exclusion and to promote and defend the rights and freedoms of the person and of the citizen ". After taking the oath, each Member of the Government passed before the Constitutional Court to sign his undertaking. The ceremonies saw the participation of the country's high authorities, the former Presidents of the Republic of Burundi Sylvestre Ntibantunganya and Domitien Ndayizeye, Representatives of religious denominations, Representatives of civil society organizations, Representatives of the Diplomatic and Consular Corps accredited in Bujumbura, as well as Representatives of International Organizations.

On the sidelines of these ceremonies, the Head of State His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye addressed the Members of the Government who had just taken the oath and announced to them that the time for bureaucracy is over. "It is time to roll up the sleeves to serve as a model in the work of raising the standard of living of the population and in the work of development of the country", indicated the President of the Republic.

The President of the Republic urged the new Members of the Government to avoid clientelism and discrimination linked to political, ethnic, regional or religious affiliation. "You are called to work to the satisfaction of all Burundians without any distinction", insisted the Head of State.

The President of the Republic subsequently announced six (6) priority sectors of national life on which the Government will focus its intervention upon taking office. These are good governance, public health, agriculture and livestock, the future of pensioners, the issue of youth and that of internally displaced persons.

Regarding good governance, the Head of State launched the "zero tolerance" campaign against social injustice, corruption, embezzlement and the squandering of public funds. He called on all Burundians to support him in his fight against these scourges. To effectively track down those who misappropriate public goods and funds, the Head of State has ordered the creation in each commune of the country, suggestion boxes which will serve to denounce the abuses of local leaders and collect the desires of the population.

The President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye said that the sectors plagued by corruption are already known and that those concerned will not be long in coming.

In the field of public health, His Excellency Evariste

Ndayishimiye announced a campaign of merciless struggle against the Covid-19 until this pandemic is eradicated in the country. For an effective fight against this pandemic, the Head of State has ordered to reduce the price of soap up to 50% as well as the water prices in the chief towns of urban centers until the complete eradication of this plague.

The President of the Republic also announced the establishment of Covid-19 screening centers in all provinces of the country and calls on the population to consult in the event of symptoms of this disease. For its part, the Burundian population was called upon to strictly observe the barrier measures decreed by the Ministry in charge of Public Health.

In the field of Agriculture and Livestock, the Head of State said that new farming and watering methods will be popularized and inputs distributed free of charge to agricultural cooperatives to arrive at 3 harvests per year in order to eradicate hunger in Burundi. "The Directors of the provincial offices of agriculture and livestock are invited to be on the ground and to serve as a model in increasing food and agricultural production", said the Burundian number one.

Concerning young graduates but who have no jobs, the Head of State asked them to design development projects which will be financed by the state budget in order to establish an integral socio-economic development, sustainable and inclusive. He promised to make this category of people torchbearers so that they will encourage their comrades who have not studied to participate actively in socio-economic development and to take their destiny in hand.

Regarding the issue of pensioners, the Head of State said that their health care will be paid by the State from July 1, 2020.

"In order to consolidate peace and national reconciliation, the internally displaced will be rehabilitated and will be supported so that they can return to their properties", said the Head of State. For him, the new impetus to rebuild the country must include all stratum of the society without discrimination of any kind.

The President of the Republic took this opportunity to invite the Burundian refugees to return to the fold to participate in the development of the country.

The Head of State ended his speech by asking Members of the new Government to get to work immediately. He invited them to be active and to be inspired by the National Development Plan and especially to take the lead in sustainable development work.

(Source: [www.rtnb.bi](http://www.rtnb.bi))

## The President of the Republic urges the people of Murayi to cultivate in the marshes



The President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye joined the Christians of the Murayi parish in the province of Gitega in the Sunday mass of June 28, 2020. The word of God was centered on the martyrs of Uganda who preferred death instead of denying the name of God. Abbe Ntakarutimana Apollinaire who celebrated the mass recalled that at that time, the king wanted to consider himself as a god but both the Catholics and Protestants who already believed in a single Almighty God rebelled and the King decided to exterminate them. Abbe Ntakarutimana said that these martyrs could serve as an example to the Burundian community becoming witnesses of Jesus and loving one

another.

In his speech, the President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye asked the Christians of Murayi how the cultural season went. He urged them to cultivate in the marshes during this dry season and to properly maintain the vegetable gardens by watering. He said that with this practice, people will be able to consume these vegetables with beans, peas and other crops in order to eat their fill.

At a time when the whole world is under threat from the COVID-19 pandemic, the President of the Republic calls on the population of Murayi to protect themselves and others by scrupulously following the preventive measures taken by the Government through the Ministry in charge of public health. His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye asked the Christians of Murayi and its surroundings to pray for him so that the Almighty gives him the intelligence and the wisdom that will allow him to accomplish the noble mission of governing the country according to the expectations of everyone.

(Source: [www.rtnb.bi](http://www.rtnb.bi))

## Opening of the electoral campaign for the election of the Senators



The President of the Republic of Burundi His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, released on June 25, 2020 a decree opening and closing the electoral campaign for the Senators' elections.

For the purposes of this decree, the campaign is the set of propaganda operations preceding an election aimed at bringing voters to support the candidates in competition.

By this decree, the electoral campaign for the election of Senators is opened on June 27, 2020 and is closed on July 17, 2020. During this period, the electoral campaign begins every day at 6 a.m. and ends at 6 p.m., according to the decree, which stipulates that any propaganda outside this fixed period is prohibited.

The decree specifies that the targeted electoral campaign is made only by political parties, coalitions of political parties and independent candidates whose candidacies have been accepted by the Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI). This campaign aims at the adhesion of the elected municipal Councilors to the political programs of the candidates. Election propaganda is done by speech; read messages, songs; posters; distribution of flyers; meetings; media, as well as any other distinctive sign or symbol of the political party, coalition of political parties or the independent candidate.

The decree indicates that electoral propaganda is free, subject to respect for public order and the observance of legal and regulatory requirements on public meetings. Any electoral meeting is subject to the obligation of a prior declaration to the municipal Administrator at least 24 hours in advance, with copies to the provincial and municipal electoral Commissioners of the district concerned.

The decree specifies that from the close of the electoral campaign until polling day, it is prohibited to wear or display the distinguishing marks of the candidates. Without prejudice to the provisions of the Elec-

toral Code, the offender of this decree is punished in accordance with the electoral law.

(Source: [www.abpinfos.com](http://www.abpinfos.com))

### Prime Minister takes on new duties



At the Presidential Palace Ntare Rushatsi House, on Monday, June 29, 2020, the delivery and recovery between the incoming Prime Minister His Excellency Alain Guillaume Bunyoni and the outgoing 1st Vice-President of the Republic Mr. Gaston Sindimwo and the outgoing Second Vice -President of the Republic Dr Joseph Butore.

On the sidelines of this handing-over and resumption activity, the Prime Minister His Excellency Alain Guillaume Bunyoni indicated that he had received the balance sheet report for the closing of the 2015-2020 legislature, because he explained that, towards the end of 2019, the last Government retreat was held, which was devoted to the overall assessment of the implementation of all the Government's action plans and all the missions that were vested in all the Ministries. This evaluation sanctioned activities and results achieved at a global level of more than 90%, he continued.

The Prime Minister His Excellency Alain Guillaume Bunyoni also announced that this handing-over and resumption activity generally concerned the reception of files which had remained pending and which had to be finalized by the last Council of Ministers which could not take place because, the country knew the unexpected death of the ex-Head of State His Excellency Pierre Nkurunziza, he indicated. He then clarified that these files were already analyzed by the Council of Ministers which had already given guidelines for corrections and adjustments and will have to return to the Council of Ministers for finalization.

Among these files, the Prime Minister His Excellency

Alain Guillaume Bunyoni cited the files of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Community Development and Public Security, some of whose regulatory texts had to be reviewed to adapt them to the new constitution and to the new structure of the Government. These files were already on the table of the Council of Ministers, he said. Other projects are located at the Ministry of the Interior, Community Development and Public Security, including the file relating to the modernization of the national identity card and other civil status documents and the files relating to the delimitation of the City Council and the effective decentralization of the municipalities of the City Council of Bujumbura.

At the level of the Ministry of Justice, these are the files relating to the computerization of land titles services and to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation for Development; there were some files related to the management of the diaspora as well as the management of the Burundian workforce which can be employed in other countries. Finally, at the level of the Ministry of Public Service, Labor and Employment, there are files relating to the harmonization of wages to avoid wage disparities between state officials in a justified manner as well as the revision of the labor code.

(Source: [www.rtnb.bi](http://www.rtnb.bi))

## The handover and takeover at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation of the Republic of Burundi



**O**n June 30, 2020, in the Cabinet of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation of the Republic of Burundi, the handover and takeover ceremony took place between Their Excellencies Ambassador Ezéchiel NIBIGIRA and Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO, outgoing Minister and incoming Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation.

In this ceremony, those who took part were the Senior Officials of the Ministry as well as the media professionals.

During his speech, the outgoing Minister warmly congratulated the incoming Minister on the confidence that His Excellency Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE, President of the Republic of Burundi granted him, entrusting him with the coordination of the activities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and of Development cooperation.

The outgoing Minister then presented to the incoming Minister the Senior Officials of the Ministry including the Permanent Secretary, the Minister's Assistant and the General Directors, while praising the excellent work they have accomplished in synergy with the rest of the staff, both from central administration and

from the foreign service.

He raised this opportunity to express his sincere thanks to all the personnel of the Ministry for their frank collaboration and their tireless efforts for the success of the noble mission entrusted to the Ministry.

In the end, the outgoing Minister wished the incoming Minister every success in his new tasks which are both absorbing and exhilarating.

As far as he is concerned, the incoming Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO warmly thanked His Excellency the President of the Republic of Burundi for the honor he demonstrated him by entrusting him with the coordination of activities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation.

He appreciated the leadership qualities of his predecessor and wished him success in his future functions. He said he will spare no effort to carry the diplomatic torch that the outgoing Minister had just passed on to him even higher and further. Finally, he said that he will do everything possible to get Burundi off the agenda of the Security Council within the United Nations.

After these interventions, the outgoing Minister also handed over to the incoming Minister a condensed document indicating the level of the achievements in the various General Directions and the challenges to indicate, and important files still under processing which deserve particular attention were handed over to the Minister as well.

The handover and takeover ceremony was closed in an atmosphere of perfect understanding and friendship.

(Source: MFACD-Newsroom)

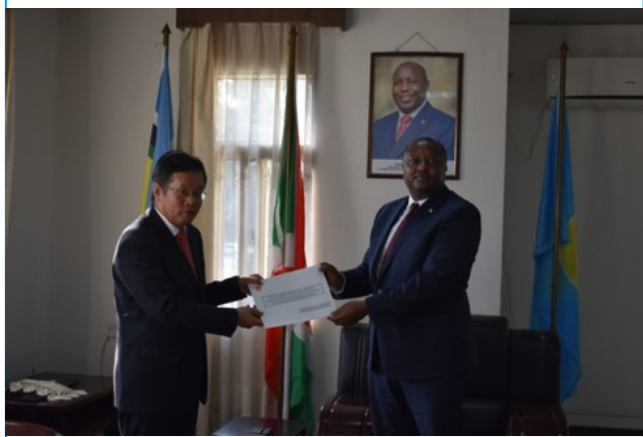
## Hearing granted to the Chinese Ambassador to Burundi



**T**he day after his new duties, on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2020, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO received in audience the Chinese Ambassador to Burundi, His Excellency Li Changlin who came for a courtesy visit.

On the same occasion, SE Li Changlin came to convey to the new Burundian Minister in charge of Foreign Affairs a congratu-

latory message from his counterpart of the People's Republic of China. In his message, Chinese Minister of Foreign Affairs expressed his wish to work with his burundian counterpart to strengthen communication



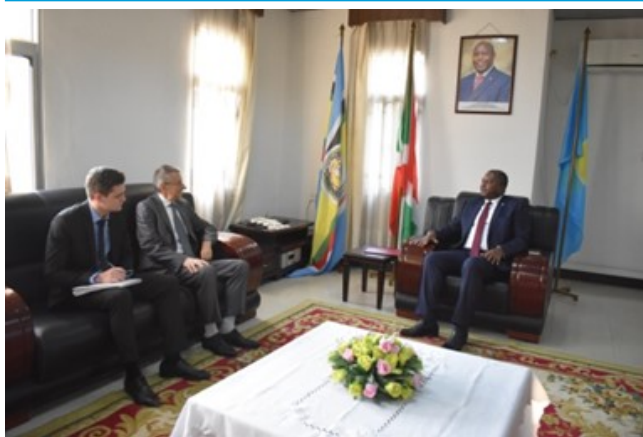
and coordination between the two Ministries in charge of Foreign Affairs, in order to bring the relations of friendship and cooperation to new levels.

In this congratulatory message, His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China testified that China and Burundi have long been marked by support and solidarity on issues of vital interest and have worked closely together on international and regional affairs.

Finally, his message also focused on Sino-Burundian cooperation in areas such as infrastructure, agriculture and public health, which has achieved fruitful results, bringing real benefits between these two countries.

(Source: MFACD-Newsroom)

### Hearing granted to the Russian Ambassador to Burundi



new position, the Ambassador delivered him the congratulatory message from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation. Their discussions focused also on the prospects for development and cooperation.

**O**n 2nd July 20, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO, received in audience the Russian Federal Republic Ambassador to Burundi, His Excellency Valery Mikhaylov.

After congratulating the new Burundian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, on his



(Source: MFACD-Newsroom)

### Appropriation workshop of the national communication strategy for the National Development Plan (PND)

**T**he Ministry of Communication, Information Technology and Media organized a two-day workshop at Gitega, from 29<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020, on the appropriation of the national communication for development strategy in support of the Burundi National Development Plan (PND) 2018-2027 by the implementing actors.

In his opening speech, the Assistant to the Minister Mr. Thierry Kitamoya said that the promotion of communication contributes in more ways than one to the development of the country. He added that the implementation of communication for development will improve and strengthen the level of participation of all stakeholders in the national program from 2018 to

2027 in order to achieve inclusive and participatory sustainable development.

According to Mr. Thierry Kitamoya, the appropriation is mainly dedicated to public and private institutions with the objectives such as improving the level of appropriation of the actors in relation to the strategy, discussing its implication in relation to the strategy and raising awareness of the different parties stake-



holders in the PND of the added value of the strategy with a view to effective ownership.

He added that the workshop program is built around themes including strengthening the understanding of

the strategy by the stakeholders who participated in its development, capacity building on the proper implementation of the national strategy through sectoral communication for development plans in support of the GNP in the various specific sectors, carry out exercises to draw up sectoral communication for development plans, issue the last recommendations before the document is definitively presented to the Council of Ministers.

The Assistant to the Minister in charge of communication, Mr. Thierry Kitamoya recalled that the workshop followed the capacity building workshop in Communication for development and the presentation, enrichment and validation workshop of the strategy document national of Communication for development.

The UNICEF representative delegate in Burundi, Madame Fatumata, said that UNICEF was delighted with the work already done to have the document for the national communication for development strategy, thanks to its technical and financial support. She reassured the Burundian Government in general and the Ministry in charge of Communication in particular of its constant availability to accompany and strengthen its support.

(Source: [www.rtnb.bi](http://www.rtnb.bi))

# Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation for Development

## Department of Communication

[www.mae.gov.bi](http://www.mae.gov.bi)

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