

# REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI



Ministry of Foreign Affairs and  
Development Cooperation

**MFADC-MAGAZINE**  
**N° 85 of 7th August 2020**

## Communal Festival: "Let's unite our forces for the development of our communes"



Burundi celebrates the communal festival every first Saturday of August. For this year, the communal feast was celebrated around the theme "Let us join forces for the development of our municipalities".

The Head of State His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye accompanied with his spouse, enhanced with his presence on Saturday August 01, 2020, the ceremonies of the National Day of the Communes which took place in his native Commune of Giheta in Gitega Province.

On this occasion of the celebration of the National Day of the Communes, the Head of State congratulated the newly elected Administrators of the Communes and urged them to be good leaders who will lead the population to development. He also thanked the Burundian population for having placed

their trust in him by voting for him massively. His Excellency Evariste has pledged to be the commander in the battle against poverty.

The citizens of Giheta Municipality thanked the President of the Republic for having supported his native Commune. They then offered the President of the Republic two heifers as an acknowledgement for his involvement in supporting the Commune in development work.

The Vice-President of the Republic His Excellency Ir Prosper Bazombaza, meanwhile, went to his native commune of Rusaka in the Province of Mwaro at the Yanza center where the festivities of the Communal feast took place.

The Prime Minister CPG Alain Guillaume Bunyoni in the company of his spouse, joined also the population of the Muha Commune in the town hall of Bujumbura to celebrate the communal feast in conviviality. He asked them to be diligent at work and to observe the rules of good governance.

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

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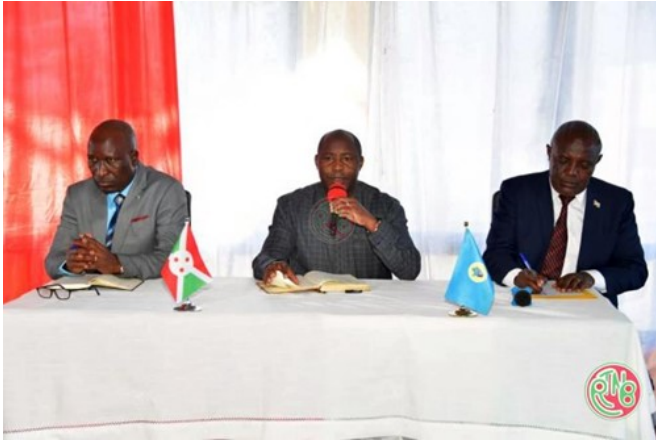
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## Ngozi: The Head of State meets elected officials and heads of services



In his work descent in the province of Ngozi, the President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye met on Tuesday, August 4, 2020 in Ruhororo commune, the new elected officials and the heads of the services of the same province. After welcoming the new Governor of Ngozi Province, Mr. Epipode Baranyikwa, recounting the current situation in all areas, the meeting continued behind closed doors.

At the end of the meeting, the Spokesperson for the President of the Republic Mr. Jean Claude Karerwa Ndenzako revealed to the press that the objective of

the meeting was consistent with the orientation of the new Government which was set up by the President of the Republic at the end of June and which he baptized "Reta mvyeyi, Reta nkozi" (A Responsible and Laborious Government), which constantly cares about the well-being of the population.

According to the Spokesperson, it was therefore an opportunity to wink at the newly elected officials and those in charge of the services so that they know that they were elected or chosen for no other reason than to serve the Burundian people. At the end of their mandate, it is good that they are not accused of irresponsibility but that they leave with pride of their good work, insisted the Head of State, according to his spokesperson.

Mr. Jean Claude Karerwa Ndenzako indicated that in this meeting, it was a question of providing advice to these elected officials and of strengthening their capacities so that they carry out the functions they have just started. Such meetings will continue in other provinces, he concluded.

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

## First session of new deputies elected in 2020



The new team of Deputies elected in 2020 met on Tuesday July 4, 2020, at the Palais des Congrès in Kigobe, for their first session scheduled from 4<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> August 2020. The President of the Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI), Dr. Pierre Claver Kazihise informed that this session is held in accordance with article 175 of the Constitution: "the 1st session meets as of right, on the 1st working day following the 7th day of the end of the legislature which runs, after the validation of his election by the Supreme Court ". He specified that this team is made up of 123 Deputies (elected and co-opted) and that the 1st ses-

sion of the National Assembly must be led by the oldest Member, in accordance with article 175 of the Constitution. "After verification, the Dean of the Deputies, Mr. Venant Sinzinkayo, 65 years old, from the constituency of Gitega was installed in the presidium.

The President of the CENI thus handed him the list of 123 elected Deputies, before calling on the new team to work



for the good of the country and to promote mutual respect throughout this new legislature which will last for 5 years.

Mr. Venant Sinzinkayo immediately read the elected Deputies who will consider the adoption of the rules of procedure of the National Assembly, in accordance with the same article 175 of the Constitution

of Burundi. This article states that "from its first session, the National Assembly adopts its rules of procedure which determine its organization and functioning". The establishment of the office will be the next step of this first session, after the adoption of the rules of procedure, said Mr. Venant Sinzinkayo.

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

## Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation meets the UN agencies in Burundi



On 04 August 2020, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation His Excellency Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO met at the KIRIRI Garden Hotel, a delegation of United Nations agencies in Burundi led by the Resident Coordinator, Mr. Garry Conille. The discussions focused on areas of cooperation.

In his speech, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation first thanked this delegation for its presence at this first meeting since taking office. His Excellency Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO also said that this meeting comes at a time when Burundian people have fully appropriated the electoral process which is coming to an end that went well in a relaxed, calm atmosphere with the involvement of all the key players who have decided to take charge of the destiny of their dear homeland. The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation reminded them that the peaceful coexistence of Burundians, security on national territory, tranquility and freedom of expression are a reality in Burundi.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation underlined the determination and commitment of the new Government to work for the

benefit of the nation as outlined in the program speech delivered by His Excellency Mr Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE, President of the Republic of Burundi during the ceremonies of his inauguration. It gives more hope not only to the Burundian people, but also to the international community, of which the United Nations agencies are a part. His Excellency Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO called them to be Burundi's Ambassadors, not only to the United Nations but also to their respective countries.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation seized this opportunity to express on behalf of the Government of Burundi the gratitude to the United Nations Country Team in Burundi for its multifaceted interventions on behalf of Burundian citizens in need.



His Excellency Albert SHINGIRO reminded that Burundi has a National Development Plan for Burundi (PND 2018-2027) containing the Government's priorities. The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation reminded his speakers that in December 2016, United Nations member states, as part of the Comprehensive Quadrennial Review of operational activities

for the development of the United Nations system, recommended to the United Nations system to strengthen links between development, humanitarian action and peace; national ownership and leadership based on existing efforts and using the UNDAF Development Assistance Framework Plan or equivalent planning frameworks. He also noted that it is in this dynamic that the United Nations Country Team in Burundi and the Government of Burundi have developed the United Nations Framework Plan for Deve-



lopment Assistance (UNDAF 2019-2023, which focuses on building community resilience and providing services, in support of the National Development Plan

and the Sustainable Development Goals.

His Excellency Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO has asked all United Nations agencies in Burundi to align the interventions with Burundi's National Development Plan 2018-2027 and, above all, to incorporate the six priorities that His Excellency Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE, President of the Republic of Burundi, highlighted in his Program Speech.

Finally, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation stressed that the time has come to normalize diplomatic relations with Burundi's traditional partners, and also that it is time to open the door to new partners who will develop mutually beneficial relations with Burundi.

In turn, the Resident Coordinator of the United Nations System, Mr. Garry Conille, indicated that the implementation of the United Nations Framework Plan for Development Assistance (UNDAF 2019-2023) would be useful for harmony in cooperation between stakeholders. He also pointed out that the United Nations in Burundi is committed to the six priorities announced by His Excellency Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE, President of the Republic of Burundi.

(Source: MFADC-Newsroom)

### Exchange and information session about COVID-19 response level in Burundi



**O**n Thursday August 6, 2020, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation H.E Amb. Albert Shingiro together with the Minister of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS Dr. Thaddée NDIKUMANA held an information session with partners of the United Nations system in Burundi.

In his opening words, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation H.E Amb. Albert

Shingiro said that this meeting was part of the framework of evaluating the steps already reached in the campaign against COVID-19 "I RECOVER, I WANT NEITHER TO BE CONTAMINATED NOR TO CONTAMINATE COVID-19" in order to have a common understanding with the partners.

On his behalf, the Minister of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS Dr Thaddée NDIKUMANA briefed the response level to COVID-19 in Burundi and the new directions taken by the Government of Burundi about the management of funding mobilized by the United Nations system for this purpose.

The Minister of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS Dr Thaddée NDIKUMANA indicated that among the directions taken by the Government of Burundi against the effects of COVID-19 include the continuation of the slogan "I RECOVER, I WANT NEITHER TO BE CONTAMINATED NOR TO CONTAMINATE COVID-19" practice by integrating the monitoring of COVID-19 and the construction of reception rooms in

care structures for the provinces already affected by COVID-19.



The Minister of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS also indicated that the Government of Burundi wants the funding mobilized by the partners as part

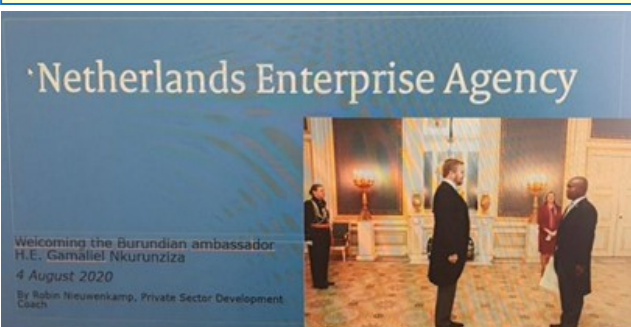
of the response to be oriented primarily towards the construction of ventilated reception rooms, triage and isolation room in all municipalities that already have cases in order to avoid contamination.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation H.E Amb. Albert Shingiro indicated that the Burundian Government appreciates and thanks the partners for their support in the fight against the Coronavirus. He also said that the Burundian Government will continue to collaborate with partners.

In their various interventions, the Representatives of the International Organizations of the United Nations system in Burundi appreciated this exchange and information session.

(Source: MFADC--Newsroom)

## Economic diplomacy at the center of the actions of the new Burundian Government



This Thursday, August 4, 2020, the Ambassador of Burundi to the Netherlands H.E Gamaliel Nkurunziza had fruitful discussions with the Responsible in charge of Burundi at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, Mr. Steven Sutton and the officials of the Dutch Agency for investments, Mr. Robin Nieuwenkamp and Mrs. Quirine Timmerman within the framework of the promotion of investments in our two countries.

During these exchanges, the Ambassador of Burundi in the Netherlands explained to them that economic diplomacy is at the center of the actions of the new Government led by H.E Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE, President of the Republic of Burundi, with particular emphasis on the promotion of foreign investments and trade, the technology transfer and the strengthening of mutually beneficial partnerships with our technical and financial partners, through investment projects aligned with the priorities of Burundi's National Development Plan.

In the context of foreign investments, H.E Gamaliel Nkurunziza also informed them that Burundi encourages foreign investors to come and invest in Burundi, by making known many business opportunities that Burundi offers. The Government of Burundi is committed to providing foreign investors with an ideal framework of a win-win partnership, hence the various advantages that are guaranteed depending on the case and the documents in the possession of the investor. Examples include customs benefits including import VAT, customs duties, and tax and non-tax benefits.

The Ambassador of Burundi to the Netherlands also recalled the priority sectors for investment in Burundi which are agriculture and food transformation, water and sanitation; fishing and breeding; energy and mining; the processing and production industry; modern maritime transport and the construction of modern infrastructure in the tourism and energy fields.

The Ambassador of Burundi to the Netherlands H.E Gamaliel Nkurunziza seized the opportunity to ask the Dutch authorities to change the status (orange) of Burundi which blocks Dutch investors while the security situation throughout the national territory is generally good.

(Source: MFADC-Newsroom)

## Meeting of His Excellency Ambassador Gérard NTAHORWAROYE BIKEBAKO with the Chairman of the SUMMA Company, Mr. Selin BORA



In the framework of mobilization of partners on the National Development Plan 2018-2027, Ambassador Gérard NTAHORWAROYE BIKEBAKO was received in audience by Mr. Selim BORA, the Chairman of

the SUMMA Company in Istanbul on July 17, 2020 following the meetings held between the Chairman of the SUMMA Company and His Excellency the former Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Burundi during his official visit to the Republic of Turkey on March 7, 2020.

The objective of the visit was to follow up the talks of these personalities and mostly to update together with this partner the program of his visit to Burundi planned for the beginning of May 2020 but disturbed by travel restriction due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In his welcome speech, Mr. Selim Bora presented his condolences for the unexpected death of His Excellency Pierre NKURUNZIZA, former President of the Republic of Burundi and seized this opportunity to congratulate the new Burundian Government Members while expressing his wishes of every success to

His Excellency Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE, President of the Republic of Burundi. Mr. Selim Bora expressed his hope of working in synergy with the new Burundian authorities. Therefore, Mr. Selim BORA reminded that the SUMMA Company had already carried out many projects around the world in terms of infrastructure. In Africa, airports, stadiums, hotels as well as government cities have been built in the Republic of Congo Brazzaville, Cameroon, Chad, Niger, Senegal, Equatorial Guinea and recently in Rwanda.

For the case of Burundi, among the projects mentioned by the Minister of Foreign Affairs during their meeting in May 2020, Selim BORA underlined that the SUMMA Company is interested in the following projects:

- The expansion of Melchior NDADAYE international airport;
- The construction of the government city in the new political capital of Gitega;
- Energy projects according to the priorities of the Government of Burundi.

At the end of the interview, the President of the SUMMA Company underlined that his technical teams will be deployed very soon in different countries for the feasibility analysis of certain projects already submitted and those likely to be, including Burundi. He expressed his wish to obtain necessary elements for the projects proposed to him by the former Minister of Foreign Affairs in March 2020 relating to the visit of members of the SUMMA Company who will come Burundi.

(Source: MFADC-Newsroom)

## WHO grants medical products to the Ministry of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS

The Representative of the World Health Organization (WHO) in Burundi, Mr. Bah Keita handed over on Tuesday August 4, 2020, a donation of medical products and pharmaceutical materials to the Ministry of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS. The handing over ceremonies took place in the premises of the Central Purchasing of Medicines of Burundi (CAMEBU) in the town hall of Bujumbura.

In his remarks, the Representative of the WHO speci-

fied that the material handed over consists of 50 portable oxygen concentrators, material and personal protective equipment for health personnel consisting in particular of face masks, several types of protective glasses as well as aprons, laboratory products and consumables including amplification and extraction reagents, safety boxes for handling sharps, etc.

Mr. Bah Keita said that the donation also includes emergency trauma and surgery kits consisting of sup-

plies and medicines to meet the needs of patients requiring surgical care in emergency situations.



He clarified that this donation has a value of nearly 600,000 US dollars.

The Minister of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS, Dr Thaddée Ndikumana, for his part, thanked WHO and all the partners for this gesture and invited them to continue to support Burundi. He said that these medical products will soon be distributed to regional and district hospitals, in order to serve the population.

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

### Karusi: Minister of Health visits some Hospitals



The Minister of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS Dr. Thaddée Ndikumana visited on Wednesday, August 05, 2020 at the Province of Karusi, respectively the Fiftieth Anniversary hospital, the Buhiga hospital of the same province. He also visited the Kobero border which separates Burundi and Tanzania in Muyinga Province.

At the Karusi fiftieth anniversary hospital, Dr. Thaddée Ndikumana met the health staff, whom he asked to work for the good of the population, to treat the sick without discrimination and to work in solidarity.

The Minister in charge of Public Health indicated that this hospital will become a reference center for the East and Central region. Dr. Thaddée Ndikumana provided this fiftieth anniversary hospital with drugs for the treatment of malaria, an electrocardiogram diagnostic device, equipment for personal protection against COVID-19, etc.

At Buhiga hospital still in Karusi province, the Minister of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS Dr. Thad-

dée Ndikumana met a group of Specialists in Surgery from Bujumbura who are there to support General Practitioners working in the districts sanitary facilities. These Specialists were deployed at this hospital to operate on diseases requiring operations such as emergency infectious pathologies, burns and many others.



At Kobero on the border between Burundi and Tanzania, Dr. Thaddée Ndikumana wanted to realize the

collaboration between health workers, immigration authority's agents and those of civil protection in the fight against COVID-19.

Dr. Thaddée Ndikumana arrived when the health workers were doing the screening. All drivers who enter Burundi are obliged to have their temperature taken. Suspected cases are referred to Muyinga hospital for COVID-19 screening. The Minister said that soon, one-minute COVID-19 rapid tests will be carried out on site at this center. Everyone will be tested and for those who are suspected of being affected, the samples will be sent to Muyinga hospital and the results will be available within 1 hour.

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

## The Youth agency (ABEJ) is engaged to help unemployed young graduates



The Ministry of East African Community Affairs, Youth, Sports and Culture through the Burundian Agency for Youth Employment (ABEJ), organized on Tuesday August 04, 2020, a training workshop for young graduates from the municipalities of Ngozi in their first job internship, under the theme: "entrepreneurship, tools for successful business".

The Representative of PRODEFI northern region, who financed the training, indicated that this first job internship program has already generated more than 1044 micro-enterprises for the beneficiaries, 4560 young people have received small livestock including pigs, goats to start the business, and more than 6992 young people including 2371 of the female sex received training to well manage a business.

The Minister in charge of Youth Ambassador Ezéchiel Nibigira indicated that in the provinces of Ngozi and Bubanza alone, 30% of young people who received internships benefited from paid jobs. He asked these young people to come together in associations and / or cooperatives, to develop their projects well, and above all to approach the bank for young people that has just been created in order to grant them credits so that they can carry out their projects. These projects must also be bankable to take advantage of the envelope of 300 million that the President of the Republic has just made available to support the initiatives of young people, underlined the Minister.

The trainer Mr. Jean Pierre Ndayishimiye taught these young people to link intelligence to the entrepreneurial spirit, to identify and seize business oppor-

tunities, to stimulate competitiveness, innovation and economic growth to get started in business with a capital not exceeding 150,000 Burundian francs.

Some young people who have benefited from such training have already started businesses. Madam Nzeyimana Mediator is from the commune of Ngozi where she opened a cabaret four years ago, she started with 5 lockers of drinks and lemonades but currently, she has a capital of more than 60 lockers. Others have bought pigs, others make computer-assisted drawings that provide them with income.

The common challenge for all these young people is that they do not work in associations, the capital of a single individual remains minimal. These young people have assured that they are looking for co-shareholders.

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



# Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation

Department of Communication

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