

# REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI



Ministry of Foreign Affairs and  
Development Cooperation

## MFADC-MAGAZINE Nr 90 of 11th September 2020

### The Head of State received diplomats in audience



The President of the Republic, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, received in audience on Tuesday, September 8, 2020 at the Gitega Palace four Representatives of certain countries and International Organizations namely the World Bank, Turkey, South Africa and the African Union. All four Ambassadors congratulated the

President of the Republic for the elections organized in Burundi.

They also showed their sympathy towards the President of the Republic and all the Burundian people following the demise of the late President Pierre Nkurunziza.

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

### The Vice-President of the Republic of Burundi calls for the mobilization of the population for the destruction of the water hyacinth

The Vice-President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Prosper Bazombanza joined the population of the Town Hall of Bujumbura on Thursday September 10, 2020 in the work of destruction of the water hyacinth on the shores of the Lake Tanganyika at the place commonly known as Ku Mase. Water hyacinth can form floating slicks that cover large areas of the water surface that drive out and block the entry of oxygen into the water.

Thus, the Vice-President of the Republic of Burundi insisted on the negative impacts of this herb which spreads very quickly. He thus called for a strong mobili-

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zation of the riparian population of the Lake Tanganyika for the destruction of this grass.



His Excellency Prosper Bazombanza also called on those in charge of the factories located in the riparian zone of Lake Tanganyika to take all the necessary measures to prevent the waste from these factories from continuing to pollute this Lake.

The Vice-President of the Republic of Burundi also reaffirmed the commitment of the Government of Burundi to support all initiatives of the Town Hall of Bujumbura aimed at promoting the protection of the environment.

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

### The Prime Minister of the Republic of Burundi received in audience the Ambassador of the European Union



The Prime Minister of the Republic of Burundi, CPG Alain Guillaume Bunyoni received in audience on Thursday, September 10, 2020, the Ambassador of the European Union in Burundi, Mr. Claude Bochu.

At the end of the audience, the Ambassador of the European Union revealed to the media that they discussed

the many actions of Burundi-European Union cooperation and the projects and programs funded by the European Union in Burundi. Regarding the projects that will be carried out very soon, he cited the requalification and rehabilitation of national road number 4 (RN4) which will allow the re-establishment of close ties between Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). He also reported on the Jiji-Murembwe hydroelectric dam construction project which will be carried out in partnership with the World Bank.

He further pointed out that the European Union has made it possible to carry out development activities in Burundi in the field of health, road infrastructure and education.

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

### Adoption unanimously of the bill governing the Burundi Capital Market Regulatory Authority



Parliamentarians met in plenary on Thursday, September 10, 2020 at Bujumbura to analyze and

adopt the bill governing the Burundi Capital Market Regulatory Authority.

During his explanatory memorandum, the Minister of Finance, Budget and Economic Planning Dr. Domitien Ndiokubwayo indicated that the Authority will have the status of a public establishment endowed with legal personality, with its own patrimony as well as administrative and financial autonomy. It will be placed under the supervision of the Minister having Finance in his attributions.

The Minister in charge of Finance further indicated that some of the missions of that body are, among others, the



facilitation of the creation of a market on which financial securities can be offered and traded in an orderly, fair, efficient and transparent manner; improve the issue of prospectuses; prospectuses and other distribution documents by means of which the securities are offered to the public, without prejudice to the provisions of the law governing the capital market.



There is also the taxation, the determination of the categories of persons whose approval or authorization is not required to exercise a capital market activity. But also the imposition of remedial measures and the imposition of sanctions provided for by other laws and regulations in force and many others.

After analysis and amendment, this bill was adopted unanimously by the Parliamentarians who were present.

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

### Senators in three-day retreat



circles, Senators need to soak up the different procedures for drafting and voting on laws before the start of the legislature", said the 2nd Vice-President of the Senate.

Honorable Cyriaque Nshimirimana asked the Senators to be attentive and to

**T**he Burundian Senate organized on September 09, 2020 at Gitega, a three-day training course in legalistics and constitutional control for Senators and certain Senate officials.

This training aimed to strengthen the capacities of Senators in the field of legistics. The second Deputy President of the Senate Honorable Cyriaque Nshimirimana who proceeded to the solemn opening of this workshop indicated that Senators do not have to be lawyers. "Coming from different professional

follow the themes that were going to be developed during this workshop in order to start the legislature with sufficient background which will allow them to carry out successfully their missions.

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

## The Torch of Peace organizing committee fine-tunes the preparations for the 14th edition



The organizing committee of the Torch of Peace held a press briefing on Tuesday September 8, 2020 during which Brigadier General Agricole Ntirampeba, President of this committee indicated that on September 15, 2020, the Head of State H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye will officially launch the 14th edition of the Torch of peace in the Town Hall of Bujumbura.

The Head of State's main objective is for Burundi to be a prosperous and flaming country, a Burundi that knows where it comes from and where it is going, a

hard-working and responsible Burundi, said Brigadier General Agricole Ntirampeba.

The President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye wants to perpetuate the dream of the late President Pierre Nkurunziza, initiator and visionary of the Torch of Peace, added General Brigadier of Agricole Ntirampeba. He said that the 14th edition of the Torch of Peace is organized in partnership with the National Olympic Committee (NOC), the Ministry of East African Community Affairs, Youth, Sports and Culture.

The National Olympic Committee (NOC) President, Madam Lydia Nsekera, for her part, indicated that the NOC is helping to build a better Burundi.

The Torch of Peace caravan will end on September 25 in the province of Gitega, concluded the President of the organizing committee.

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

## CENI: Evaluation of the 2020 electoral process with the magistrates



The Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI) organized, an evaluation retreat of the 2020 electoral process with the magistrates, at Bujumbura, on Wednesday September 9, 2020.

In his opening speech the President of the CENI Dr. Pierre Claver Kazihise was satisfied that the elections were held in peace, without any support from the outside. For him, political parties have put forward social projects, a sign that democracy has taken root in Burundi.

"This retreat offered the magistrates who played a leading role in the previous electoral process, an opportunity

to raise the challenges that have arisen so that the next elections will be better compared to those that have already taken place in Burundi", added the President of the Senate.

In his presentation, the CENI President Dr. Pierre Claver Kazihise explained that civic and electoral education for the 2020 elections led to satisfactory results. According to the President of the CENI, voter turnout rates increased in 2020 compared to 2015 while draws and abstentions decreased significantly.

During this retreat, the magistrates recommended continuing to raise awareness, explaining that most citizens do not know the electoral code.

These magistrates also raised the shortcomings that were observed during the previous elections, in particular the fines that were too high for electoral offenses, and asked that the electoral code be popularized to users to know what behavior to adopt during such offenses.

Magistrates, like all other civil servants, have requested the privilege of exercising their right to vote wherever they arrive during the elections, arguing that this civic duty can be missed following transfers or

other obligations. For the elderly and the disabled, the staff of the CENI and the magistrates all agreed that these categories of people could have priority over the voting threads. And the President of the CENI to underline that this instruction had been given to the

Independent Provincial Electoral Commissions (CEPI) and to the Independent Communal Electoral Commissions (CECI); and specified that those who override this measure are outlaw.

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

### The CENI prepares the next electoral process of 2025



Participants made some recommendations, including strengthening voter education and closing voting operations before 4 p.m. to facilitate the count.

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

The Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI) organized a meeting on Monday, September 07, 2020 for the Defense and Security corps. It was a question of making an evaluation of the electoral process of 2020 within the framework of the preparation of the elections of 2025. According to the President of the CENI Dr. Pierre Claver Kazihise, the participants mainly focused on some challenges observed on the ground even if the elections went well.

Dr. Pierre Claver Kazihise took the opportunity to thank everyone who contributed to the smooth running of these elections in general and the Defense and Security forces in particular. Among the challenges observed by the participants there are, the movement of materials used after the vote, people who committed the same offenses but who were not punished in the same way, the Defense and Security corps denied the right to vote in hill elections because the law required voters to vote where they were registered, etc.

Facing all these challenges, Dr. Pierre Claver Kazihise promised improvement. He announced that the CENI has noticed small concerns here and there, and that it will take them into account during the elections of 2025. He indicated that this meeting was organized as part of a better preparation for the next electoral process.



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**REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI****PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC  
Secretariat-General of the State****COMMUNIQUE FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI ON THE SITUATION OF BURUNDIAN  
REFUGEES IN THE MAHAMA CAMP IN RWANDA**

1. On July 26, 2020, three hundred and thirty-one (331) Burundian refugees in the Mahama camp in Rwanda sent a letter to His Excellency the President of the Republic of Burundi to request his involvement in their repatriation into their country of origin in dignity and lawfully within the framework of voluntary repatriation, given that the cause of their exile no longer exists.
2. On August 05, 2020, five (5) Burundian refugees signatories of the letter of July 26, 2020 seized the Diplomatic Mission of Burundi in Kigali, also by letter, by which they denounce the threats by Madame Marguerite BARANKITSE, founder of the NGO Maison Shalom, a refugee herself in Rwanda, and request their physical protection.
3. It should be recalled that the said refugees are recognized and assisted within the framework of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees. They are therefore in the hands of the host country and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees who have the obligation, in accordance with International Law, to remove any artificial obstacle aimed at keeping refugees in refugee camps against their will.
4. The UNHCR has the role of guardian of the 1951 Convention and its 1967 Protocol and is therefore the keystone of refugee protection.
5. In accordance with this legislation, member states must cooperate with UNHCR to ensure that the rights of refugees are fully respected and protected, and to prevent refugees from being held hostage for political reasons.

6. From the foregoing, the Government of the Republic of Burundi calls on the UNHCR and the host Government to ensure that the Burundian refugees in Rwanda who have expressed their desire to return to their country are protected as well as their families, in accordance with the spirit and the letter of the said Convention.
7. The Government of the Republic of Burundi is naturally disposed to warmly and worthily welcome its daughters and sons who wish to return to their homeland.
8. The Government of the Republic of Burundi would like to take this opportunity to thank the UNHCR and the host countries which facilitated the voluntary return of Burundian refugees to their country and invites those who are not yet cooperating in this movement of return of refugees to do the same.
9. The Government of the Republic of Burundi reiterates its encouragement to those of the Burundian refugees still in exile to return to their homeland to bring a contribution to the socio-economic development of their country.

**Done at Bujumbura, August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Prosper NTAHORWAMIYE  
Secretary-General and Spokesman**

# Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation

## Department of Communication

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

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