

REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI



Ministry of Foreign Affairs and
Development Cooperation

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Head of State receives high-level UN delegation in audience



The Head of State H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye received in audience on Tuesday, September 15, 2020, at the Ntare House Palace a UN delegation led by the special envoy of the United Nations Secretary General for the Great Lakes region Mr. HUANG Xia and United Nations Under-Secretary General for Africa Bintu Keita.

After the hearing, Mr. HUANG Xia said that this meeting is part of the multidimensional strategic assessment, at the request of the Secretary General of the United Nations and the Security Council. Also at the request of the Secretary General of the United Nations, the United Nations office for the Great Lakes region is preparing a new regional strategy, he said. He then said that this was an opportunity to do a good job of listening in order to make a good multi-

dimensional and regional strategic assessment report.

Mr. HUANG Xia promised that this delegation will use these different strategies to make a good report that will meet the expectations of the Great Lakes countries in order to see how the United Nations can improve their work to better support and accompany the Great Lakes countries.

As for the Spokesman for the Head of State Mr. Jean Claude Karerwa Ndenzako, he announced to the press that the Head of the delegation welcomed the step taken in terms of safeguarding peace, human rights, into account of gender and social affairs. He did not fail to positively appreciate the good cohabitation of Burundians as well as the peace and security that reign throughout the national territory, continued Mr. Jean Claude Karerwa.

The Spokesman for the Head of State also recalled that this hearing took place at the time when the Secretary General of the United Nations H.E Antonio Guterres and the President of Burundi H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye had conducted a conversation by telephone in June 2020. From this conversation, the Head of State explained to

In this Edition:

page

Head of State receives high-level UN delegation in audience

1

Launch of the Torch of Peace, 14th edition

2

The First Lady pays the hospital costs of a Siamese child

3

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation receives a high-level delegation of United Nations

3

Burundi Ambassador to France talks about the current situation in the country

4

Participation of the Ambassador of Burundi in Turkey to working meeting with Turkish investors

6

CENI / Gitega: an evaluation meeting of the 2020 electoral process

8

the United Nations Secretary General the priority areas to which the partners can lend a hand.

According to the Spokesperson for the Head of State, whether during this conversation or this hearing, the President of the Republic has always called for the withdrawal of Burundi from the agenda of the UN Security Council, because, he said, there is no rag burning to keep Burundi on the agenda of the Security Council.

However, the Head of State H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye thanked this delegation for this visit and in particular, he addressed his thanks to the Secretary General of the United Nations H.E Antonio Guterres who kept his promise by sending this high-level delegation, concluded the Spokesperson of the Head of State Mr. Jean Claude Karerwa Ndenzako.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

Launch of the Torch of Peace, 14th edition



The President of the Republic of Burundi, H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye, proceeded this Tuesday, September 15, 2020 to the launch of the national tour of the Torch of Peace 14th edition in the Town Hall of Bujumbura.

He himself lit the flame of that torch on the Independence Square, in the presence of the Prime Minister, Members of the Government, delegations from other provinces and natives of the City of Bujumbura. Before delivering his speech for the occasion, a minute of silence was observed to pay tribute to the late President Pierre Nkurunziza, who initiated the Torch of Peace.

For the President of the Republic, the Torch of Peace has enlightened the population on its usefulness. He said the Torch for Peace brings love, unity and hope for a good future for Burundians.

The Head of State called on everyone to fight against poverty. For him, the Torch of Peace that has been lit is the pillar of community development work. It does not

divide but unifies, sets the tone for the lazy to come out of their torpor and go about community development work.

He added that the Torch of Peace calls for respect for compatriots regardless of their origins and for unity around the same fight against poverty.

This year, the Torch of Peace announces a radiant Burundi. He said it is a time for the Burundians to stand up as one body, to rebuild what has been destroyed, consolidate what is built, heal those who have been broken, take the same path towards the same future, to be a model for other countries and to rebuild the world with them. He handed the Torch of Peace to the mayor of the city of Bujumbura, Mr. Jimmy Hatungimana, a sign that the tour has started from the City of Bujumbura to the other provinces of the country. The evening was livened up with songs.

Shortly before the launch of the Torch for Peace national tour, the President of the Republic inaugurated the Town Hall of the City Hall of Bujumbura, a 5 storey building which will house among other things the City Hall offices.

(Source: www.abpinfos.com)

The First Lady pays the hospital costs of a Siamese child



The First Lady H.E. Angeline Ndayishimiye visited on Tuesday, September 15, 2020 the Kibimba hospital in the commune of Giheta in the province of Gitega, to take out of the hospital a baby named Daniel born Siamese (with 2 heads). He had been operated on by Dr Elysée Nahimana, Director of this hospital with the support of the "Mugiraneza" good deed foundation chaired by the First Lady.

H.E. Angeline Ndayishimiye indicated that it is a satisfaction for the country, through the Ministry of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS, that this ba-

by has been saved. She warmly thanked all those who contributed in various ways to save the life of this baby, the Intwari women's association, the doctors of the Roi Khaled Hospital of Kamenge (CHUK) and those of Kibimba who did everything so that Daniel is still alive. H.E. Angeline Ndayishimiye paid the hospital bill while specifying that care and other acts are free health care for children under 5 years old. The First Lady also visited the maternity and pediatric ward of this hospital where she provided food and non-food assistance to patients such as milk, soaps, porridge flour, sugar, etc. To the parents of the baby Daniel and himself, in addition to the assistance mentioned above, the First Lady gave them clothes as well as for his grandmother who kept him during this stay of 2 months in the hospital, the same gesture of thanks was made by the First Lady to Dr. Elysée Nahimana who operated on the child.

The parents of baby Daniel warmly thanked First Lady Angeline Ndayishimiye and her foundation for having contributed financially to saving their child's life as well as the doctor who operated on him.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation receives a high-level delegation of United Nations



This Monday, September 14, 2020, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation H.E. Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO had an exchange meeting with a high-level delegation jointly led by Mrs. Bintou Keita and Mr. Huang Xia, respectively Under-Secretary General of the United Nations for Africa and Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary General for the Great

Lakes Region.

Mrs. Bintou Keita informed that their mission is part of a United Nations strategic assessment to examine what the United Nations can do to further support the efforts of Burundi as expressed by H.E. the President of the Republic of Burundi in its six essential priorities.



She also indicated that the United Nations especially appreciates the efforts made to facilitate the return of Burundian refugees and returnees. To this end, the United Nations will discuss with the authorities of Burundi to see how to better support the return of the refugees.



The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation H.E Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO, for

his part, appreciated the meeting between the United Nations' delegation and the Burundian side. He noted that the two sides discussed the state of cooperation between Burundi and the United Nations not only with headquarters but also with United Nations branches based in Bujumbura. Discussions also focused on issues relating to the socio-economic field to support Burundi in the implementation of the National Development Plan 2018-2027 but also to support Burundi in other areas such as economic and political governance. He indicated that this meeting will be a kick-off to increased cooperation between the United Nations and the Government of Burundi. He ended his remarks by wishing the members of that delegation a pleasant stay in Burundi.

(Source: MFADC-Newsroom)

Burundi Ambassador to France talks about the current situation in the country



Source Photo : TLMD Magazine

On September 8, 2020, the Ambassador of Burundi accredited in France H.E Ernest NIYOKINDI gave an exclusive interview to TLMD Magazine (TLMD is a network of Journalists and correspondents based all over Africa, Europe and America). During the interview, Ambassador Ernest NIYOKINDI expressed himself

about the many crises that have shaken Burundi, the priorities of H.E the President of the Republic of Burundi and the need for Burundi to open up to the world.

TLMD MAGAZINE wanted to know about the current situation in the country after the investiture of H.E Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE as President of the Republic of Burundi.

Ambassador NIYOKINDI said that with the end of the civil war which lasted more than 10 years and the new leadership established since 2005, Burundi is a country which has regained all its dignity, in which peace and security reign, which is gradually bringing refugees back to the fold, a country that is opening up to the world, which is currently facing the challenges related to its development based on the PND 2018-2027 tool (National Development Plan 2018-2027), to achieve its objectives. He added that it is also a country that has gradually rebuilt itself, relying mainly on its own strengths, through community development work namely: the construction of schools, health centers and public infrastructure, etc.

He said that Burundi is a country whose public authorities have done everything to lighten the burden on the population, one example among others being free basic education and health care for children under 5 years and pregnant women.

Ambassador NIYOKINDI announced that the country has just passed a new electoral process, the 4th in a row since the end of the civil war, which is a first in Burundi and an example for other countries.

He indicated that the electoral process itself was taken in hand, in its organizational and financial aspects by the Burundian people, which

testifies to its maturity and, at the same time, proves to the world how much it is jealous of its independence and of its sovereignty.

Asked about what has fundamentally changed or will soon change in Burundi, the Ambassador of Burundi in France indicated that the system of political governance instituted by the new Constitution provides in itself a big change: the new Government structure and a tightened Government with a single coordinator, the Prime Minister, is a step forward in improving the management of public affairs.

He specified that the President of the Republic and the new institutions, unfortunately elected and invested in a context of national mourning, are committed to perpetuating the work and legacy of late President NKURUNZIZA for the well-being of the population who elected them.

He said that the new authorities have just launched a new dynamic aiming to put the well-being of the Burundians at the center of the concerns and of all the actions of the public authorities: the first measures aimed at the good management of public affairs and the fight against embezzlement, the restoration of citizens to their rights and freedoms, the strengthening of dialogue between Burundians, justice for all, the emphasis placed on actions towards youth and the organization of the population in cooperatives are part of this perspective .

What will also change is more openness to the world through diplomatic relations based on mutual respect, Ambassador NIYOKINDI said.

To the question of knowing the priorities and urgencies of the new President, after the famous controversial 3rd term and the crisis that has rocked the country on various levels since 2015, Ambassador NIYOKINDI first remarked that there was not a third term or over terms.

He indicated that the insurrection and the attempted coup of 2015 took place on a pretext intended to mobilize the international community around an alleged violation of the constitution and thus justify the overthrow of elected institutions in 2010. He indicated that the Constitutional Court validated the mandate of President NKURUNZIZA in 2015 and that it was the only one empowered to do so. Burundi has submitted with good grace to an audit by the EAC Court of Justice; the latter ruled in favor of our constitutional court, thus remo-

ving any form of legitimacy from this insurrectional movement.

As he said, the 2015 turmoil did damage nonetheless because it tarnished Burundi's image, provoked sanctions from the international community and caused Burundians to flee their country.

He said that after managing the crisis and bringing peace and security to the country, one of the current priorities is therefore to bring all Burundians back to the fold. The other priority is to improve the image of the country abroad and lift the sanctions unjustly taken against Burundi in the aftermath of this crisis.

The work of good governance and development of Burundi will take a central place during the legislature which begins, he said.

Ambassador Ernest NIYOKINDI also spoke about the state of Burundi's relations with other countries and relations with France. He said that after the 1st democratic elections in 2005, Burundi has really reconnected with the international community and relations which were at half-mast during the civil war were braced up. Unfortunately, the 2015 crisis brought Burundi back even if many friendly countries have not let go. At present, H.E the President of the Republic intends to open the country more to the world in a relationship of mutual respect and beneficial cooperation to all while respecting the sovereignty of each State. That is to say that overall, relations with all countries will take off again.

He indicated that with France Burundi has very long-standing relations, almost 50 years old; they have suffered from repetitive crises in Burundi but have never been broken. He said France welcomed the development of the situation in Burundi after the recent electoral process.

Asked whether Burundi is keen to restore its image, Ambassador Ernest NIYOKINDI indicated that Burundi should not be ashamed of the way it handled the 2015 crisis because the institutions played their role part and quickly restored peace and security. If the coup was successful, Burundi would be ostracized by the international community when it is not now.

He added that it is paradoxical that the coup attempt having been unanimously condemned by the international community, certain countries welcome and harbor the

authors of this dirty work and refuse to execute the international warrants issued by the Burundian justice against them.

He announced that it is those who have been manipulated and who have imposed sanctions on a Government that has only done its duty who should admit their mistake and lift these measures.

Burundi remains ready to cooperate with all States in accordance with the rules of the game laid down by the Cotonou Agreement in this area, he reiterated.

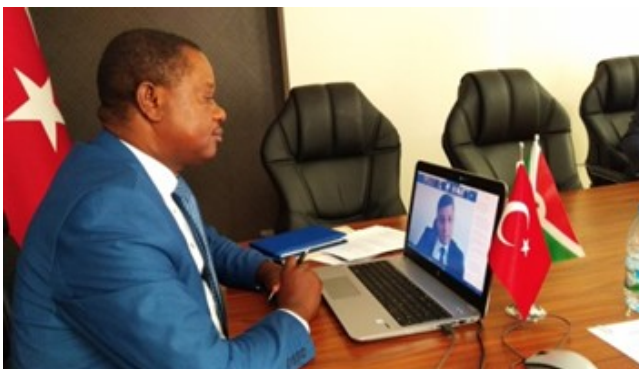
In answering the question of how he sees Burundi in the near future, the Ambassador of Burundi in France

has not mince words: Burundi will be a living and dynamic country, a well-governed country, harnessed to development actions, in the permanent search for the well-being of the population, as promised by His Excellency the President of the Republic of Burundi.

He ended by specifying that it will be a country which will have resumed its place and its role in the concert of Nations when it will have been rid of the misunderstanding and the unjust and unilateral sanctions taken against it.

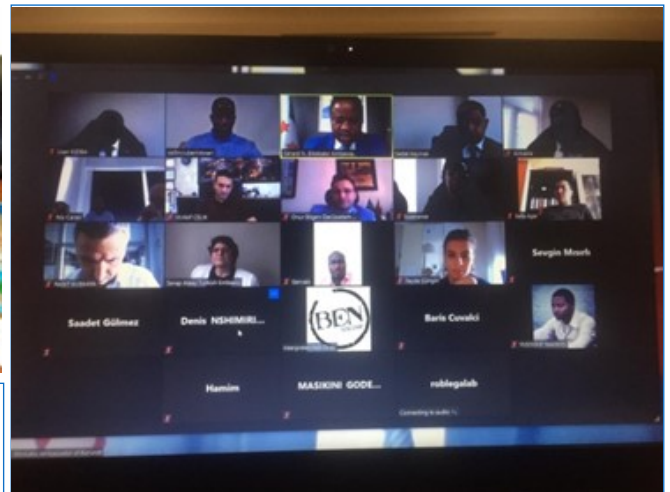
(Source: MFADC-Newsroom)

Participation of the Ambassador of Burundi in Turkey to working meeting with Turkish investors



This Tuesday, September 15, 2020, His Excellency Gérard NTAHORWAROYE BIKEBAKO, Ambassador of the Republic of Burundi in Turkey participated to the meeting entitled "Interconnected Business series: Turkey-Burundi" on the online platform Zoom, organized by the Council of Foreign Economic Relations (DEIK), as part of the strengthening of economic and trade relations between Burundi and Turkey.

This meeting also saw the participation of Her Excellency Madam Serap ATTAY, Ambassador of Turkey in Burundi, the President of the Turkey-Burundi Business Council Mr. Sedat KAYMAK, the Secretary General of the Federal Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Burundi Mr. Denis NSHIMIRIMANA, and Burundian and Turkish businessmen.



During this meeting, the two Ambassadors presented the business opportunities in Burundi and Turkey respectively; and the businessmen of the two countries present at the meeting, had the opportunity to exchange and present their companies.

(Source : Embassy of Burundi in Turkey)

The Minister in charge of Public Health assesses the sanitation in two hospitals of Gitega



The Minister of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS, Dr. Thaddée Ndikumana on Tuesday, September 15, 2020 visited two hospitals in Gitega province, including Kibimba hospital and Gitega Regional hospital, in the political capital. It was to realize the quality of services at those hospitals. The Minister is delighted with the work accomplished by the staff and especially the education of patients to promote cleanliness in this care structure.

As this hospital is located in the political capital of the country, the Minister Dr. Thaddée Ndikumana, speaking to officials of the Gitega Regional Hospital, asked them to carry out reforms such as the construction of operating theaters and other quality infrastructure.

The Director of Gitega hospital, Dr. Frédéric Irambona said that an amount of 2 billion is available to build operating theaters, a maternity unit of 4 levels, a V.I.P hospital block and an administrative block.

Dr. Frédéric Irambona indicated that thanks to the staff agreement, the strikes have ceased and the balance sheet which was in deficit is currently in surplus.

The Minister Dr. Thaddée Ndikumana explained to the staff the slogan "Reta myeyi, Reta nkozi" where everyone has to work to increase production. He promised hospital officials that the Ministry in charge of Public Health will support the construction of buildings that will house the neonatal department, and that an amount of 600 million is available for this purpose.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

Bubanza: awarding of certificates to young winners of the first job internship



The Ministry of East African Community Affairs, Youth, Sports and Culture, through the Burundian Agency for Youth Employment (ABEJ), submitted on Monday, September 14, 2020, certificates of participation to young graduates who have won the first job internship in the province of Bubanza.

Seventy-seven young graduates of the province's first job internship received certificates. The cere-

monies were enhanced by the presence of the Minister of East African Community Affairs, Youth, Sports and Culture, Ambassador Ezechiel Nibigira.

In his speech for the occasion, the Minister Ezechiel Nibigira reminded the young people of Bubanza that the State is no longer able to hire all the laureates of general and technical humanities and universities. And to ask them not to be job seekers but rather job creators and to give them to others.

He seized this opportunity to urge these young people to create profitable projects worthy of financing in order to take advantage of the youth employment support fund to finally manage to create their own jobs. And to specify that the Burundian State will do its best to guide the youth in decision-making in order to enable them to face professional life.

During these ceremonies, the Minister in charge of Youth asked young people to set up economic groups of young people in solidarity on each hill so that they benefit from support for youth employment.

He subsequently announced that his Ministry will deploy, at the end of this month, teams in all provinces to ensure that these economic groups of young people in solidarity are already in place with good projects, ready to be financed.

The Minister Ezéchiel NIBIGIRA called on the youth of Bubanza and invited them to be active in order to be the first to benefit from support for youth employment and funding from the Youth Investment Bank (BIJE).

Mr. Chadrac Nzambimana, one of the young gra-

duates who won the first job internship in the province of Bubanza asks that the number of beneficiaries of this kind of internship be increased to strengthen the capacities of these young people and increase the chances of finding employment. .

It should be remembered that more than 400 young graduates of Bubanza have already benefited from entrepreneurship training and first job internships.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

CENI / Gitega: an evaluation meeting of the 2020 electoral process



The Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI) organized on Wednesday, September 16, 2020 in the province of Gitega, an evaluation workshop for the 2020 electoral process. The workshop brought together members of the Independent Provincial Electoral Commissions (CEPI) from 9 provinces, namely Gitega, Karusi, Ruyigi, Cankuzo, Rutana, Makamba, Mwaro, Bururi and Rumonge under the aegis of the President of CENI, Dr. Pierre Claver Kazihise.

The President of the CENI indicated that in the post-election period, the CENI will carry out an evaluation of the previous electoral process. He said that this evaluation consists of reviewing in detail the course of the process according to Independent Communal Elections Commissions (CECI) by the various actors.

There are many electoral partners, the CENI has already organized meetings with civil society, religious denominations, political parties, security and defense forces; he clarified. As for the meetings with the members of the Independent Provincial Commissions, they took place in the provinces of

Gitega and Ngozi.

During these two meetings, the members of these provincial commissions had the opportunity to discuss and assess the activities carried out and the difficulties encountered.

It is from the challenges collected during these meetings that the CENI will be able to formulate recommendations to present to the authorities of the country with a view to preparing for the electoral process of 2025, that is to say the 2025 process, indicated the President of CENI. And to add on the side of the CENI, "the same recommendations will guide it to better organize the next electoral process".

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation

Department of Communication

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