



Head of state hosts a public broadcast in Ngozi province



The Head of State H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye hosted a public broadcast on Wednesday 30 December 2020 in the capital of Ngozi Province. The Head of State also answered questions from journalists and the public and spoke about several aspects of the country's life.

In his opening remarks, the President of the Republic, H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye, wished the peoples of Burundi a merry Christmas and best New Year's greetings. H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye called on all Burundians to change their mentality and to raise collective awareness in order to achieve sustainable development.

Regarding the issue of ethnic quotas for employees of international local non-governmental organizations after the expiry of the 3-year deadlines granted

to them, the Head of State indicates that the Ministry having the NGOs in its attributions is at work for monitoring and evaluation.

As part of supporting farmers, the Head of State H.E. Evariste Ndayishimiye promised that the Government of Burundi planned to buy the crops in order to cut short the speculation of traders, in addition, the Government of Burundi is at work to seek foreign markets.

As a result, Head of State H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye called on Burundian businessmen and the Burundian population in general to increase production to sell abroad in order to receive abundant foreign currency.

Speaking about the suggestion boxes in all the municipalities of the country, the Head of State H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye said that these boxes

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are of paramount importance. He took the opportunity to warn and invite the administrators at the base to respect the public thing because they are the most pointed at. When asked about household notebooks that are renewed several times in Bujumbura City Hall, the Head of State indicated that this task belongs to the quadrilogy, they are the ones who know the strategy to maintain peace and security even in the family, said the Burundian Head of State.



During this question-and-answer session, the public wanted to know whether Burundi will accept the introduction of the COVID vaccine19. H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye instead called for stronger preventive measures and promised that the Government would spare no effort to protect its people.

Regarding the normalization of relations with the European Union: "The representatives of the member countries were received in audience by the Head of State. He informed that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation is working to implement the commitments of both parties.

On the question of eliminating wage disparities, The Head of State H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye said that the sustainable solution lies in increasing production and Gross Domestic Product and that the process will be gradual, because a lot of resources are needed.

Asked about the poor performance of state-owned enterprises, the President of the Republic H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye promised that the state would pursue the failing managers and sack them by actually detailing their failure.

Speaking about the prisoners who have received the

presidential pardon but are still in prison, the Head of State calms down and says that a census of these prisoners is being made and that they will soon be released. To promote local businesses, Head of State H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye urged Burundians to consume locally produced products to facilitate increased production and also enter foreign markets.

Asked about the Government's position on the trafficking of humans to the Gulf countries in search of employment, the Head of State H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye said that the associations that were doing this traffic have been suspended and that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation is working to establish a legal framework for the search for work abroad legally.

When asked about some divisive churches such as Adventists, the Head of State H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye invites them to pray in truth and fast so that God may forgive them. The Head of State asks them to obey the rules put in place by the State.

Responding to the question of a refugee in exile in Mahama, Rwanda, who wants to return home but which the countries in transit do not facilitate, he advised him to do so in collaboration with the tripartite, UNHCR, Burundi and the country where he is located.*

The Head of State H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye said that the questions addressed to him during this public broadcast are overwhelmingly contributions. He ended the public broadcast with a hope that Burundi will recover because in the six months that the new Government has just come to power are promising.

(Source: www.presidence.gov.bi)

Burundian Head of State places his mandate in God's hands



The presidential family has organized from Monday 28 until 31 December 2020, an inter-faith prayer of thanksgiving that takes place in the province of Gitega at the stadium of the commune Mutaho. It is his very first prayer that this family has organized since coming to power to thank the Lord for the blessings he has bestowed on the people of Burundi in the year of 2020, and to ask for blessings for the New Year of 2021. This prayer began with a mass held in the Parish of Gitongo of the Archdiocese of Gitega, which is located in the Bugendana commune.

The opening ceremonies of prayer at Mutaho Stadium, which began with a parade of people from the 11 municipalities of Gitega province. The presidential couple was in charge, followed by the members of the Government.

Praying for the participants, the First Lady asked forgiveness for all sins that were committed in 2020 and asked for blessings for the year 2021. During the opening prayer, the First Lady implored the Almighty to bless the People of Burundi, the Head of State, all leaders, and the future of Burundi. First Lady H.E Evangeline Ndayishimiye thanked the Lord who protected Burundi from Covid-19, when no country is spared from this pandemic. She begged the Lord to continue to watch over Burundi, the people of Burundi and the entire world facing this pandemic.

Speaking, the Head of State, H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye, also thanked the Lord, who has always shown his presence in the Burundian community during the year 2020, especially by protecting him from the Covid-19 pandemic and by providing the country with a good harvest.

The Head of State later praised the bravery of the late President Pierre Nkurunziza before asking the audience to observe a minute's silence in memory of the illustrious deceased who embodied in the Burundian people this good tradition of always giving thanks to God at the end of the year.

The President of the Republic also recalled that this prayer comes the day after Burundi withdraws from the agenda of the United Nations Security Council. "God always keeps his eye on Burundi. No one doubts it today! This fits well with the theme chosen in 2020: "Happy good is the nation of which the Lord is the God and the people he has chosen as his inheritance," said the Head of State. He took this opportunity to clarify that this 4-day prayer will be a good opportunity to pray for the 7-year period of his mandate and the effective implementation of the social project he has put forward. "Let these four days of prayer be a stable foundation of all blessings that God will bestow on the people of Burundi and the Burundian nation in the year 2021," said the Head of State.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving saw the participation of the country's senior officials including the Vice-President of the Republic, the Prime Minister, the President of the Senate, parliamentarians, members of the Government, the Former First Ladies including Denise Nkurunziza and Laurence Ndadaye as well as the people from all over the country.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

Head of state calls on Burundians to give God a special place



During the official launch of the activities of the prayer of thanksgiving organized by the President of the Republic, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, on behalf of all Burundians, in Mutaho commune, Gitega province, he asked Burundians to give in their lives a special place to God, the Almighty, so that he can continue to bless and protect Burundi and Burundians.

The President of the Republic said that Burundians have the motivation to give glory to God in view of the favors he keeps giving to Burundi. In particular, he

gave the example of Burundi's protection against coronavirus and the neutralization of all those who intended to harm Burundi.

His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye also stressed the fact that Burundi has been spared the pandemic of coronavirus is not the strength of the country but the divine force because all the countries of the world including those bordering Burundi have been strongly affected by this scourge.

The Head of State confided that God's covenant with the People of Burundi has already been concrete, which has been revealed to our grandfather of the nation, His Excellency the late President Pierre Nkurunziza.

The Father of the Nation concluded his address by announcing that the 4 days will be dedicated to prayer for the current Seven Years' Term and the projects that will be carried out during this term.

(Source: www.presidence.gov.bi)

ECCAS: Burundi reaffirms its determination to continue peace and stability efforts in Central African Republic



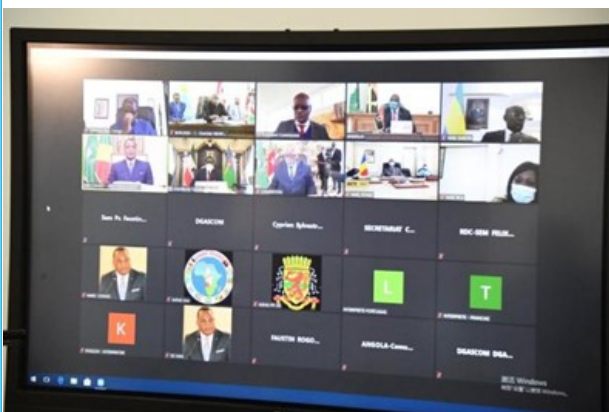
The President of the Republic of Burundi of H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye participated on Saturday 26 December 2020 in an extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government of the member countries of the Economic Community of Central African

States (ECCAS). It is a summit held by video conference, under the aegis of the President-in-Office of the EC-CAS, H.E Denis Sassou N'Guesso, with a view to urgently addressing the political and security situation prevailing in the Central African Republic (CAR), on the day before of the legislative and presidential elections, scheduled for 27 December 2020.

In his opening address, President Denis Sassou N'Guesso informed his counterparts that the summit is meeting at the request of the President of the Central African Republic, whose

country is experiencing an upsurge in armed violence on the eve of the general elections. The President of the Republic of Congo recalled the principle of solidarity, mutual assistance, complementarity, subsidiarity and non-indifference that must characterize the mem-

bers of the community and called for resolutions from this summit that will enable Central Africans to strengthen their democracy, notably by organizing the vote under security conditions. He also called on armed groups operating in central Africa to turn their backs on violence and engage in a democratic process. President Denis Sassou N'Guesso concluded his speech with the hope that the Central African Republic would find a lasting solution to the problems it is currently facing.



After the opening word, Central African President Faustin Archange Touadera spoke briefly on the political security situation in his country. He began by asking his counterparts to observe a minute's silence in memory of the Burundian Soldiers who are members of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Central Africa (MINUSCA) who have fallen out on the field of honour in their defence of peace. From his presentation, it emerged that the Central African Republic is once again experiencing a multifaceted crisis situation that has worsened in the run-up to the elections. The crisis is characterized by deep divisions within the political class and armed clashes between the Central African Armed Forces supported by MINUSCA and a new coalition of rebels. President Faustin Archange Touadera insisted on respect for the constitutional order, which is the main guarantee of the rule of law.

Following this speech, participants read the report of the President of the ECCAS Commission. In this report, it mentions in particular the presence of armed groups that proliferate in the country and threaten the democratic process, in particular by wanting to prevent the holding of the vote at all costs.

The President of Burundi H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye, for his part, returned to the principles of

sovereignty and respect for the constitutional order that must characterize the search for a lasting solution for the Central African Republic. President Evariste Ndayishimiye condemned with the last energy the attacks on the Burundian contingent of MINUSCA and reaffirmed "Burundi's determination to continue efforts for a return to peace and stability in this brotherly country." He concluded by urging armed groups to implement without delay the peace agreements already signed, to refrain from all forms of violence against civilians, United Nations personnel and humanitarian personnel.

During the exchanges between Heads of State and their Representatives, the summit offered its condolences to His Excellency the President of the Republic of Burundi and to the people of Burundi following the killing of Burundian peacekeepers by unidentified armed groups, before presenting a series of resolutions recorded in the final communiqué.

In particular, they unequivocally condemned the use of violence as a means of resolving the crisis and any attempt to challenge the established constitutional order; they called for an immediate cessation of hostilities throughout Central African territory and the withdrawal of the rebels from the front lines. The summit also stressed the need for the ongoing electoral process to continue; the need for an inclusive political dialogue in the aftermath of the elections and under the aegis of the ECCAS.

Participants also instructed the ECCAS Commission to continue contacts for the appointment of a Permanent Ombudsman for the Central African Crisis, in accordance with the Libreville Declaration of 27 November 2020 and the operationalization of a permanent mediation framework for lasting peace in CAR. They also recommended the development and implementation of the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Programs; security sector reform, "Truth-Justice and Reconciliation" transitional justice and securing and developing cross-border spaces.

The summit also recommended the support by Member States, which have the capacity, to express their solidarity with the Central African Republic, including by sending armed troops to help it recover the integrity of its territory. The Conference once again urged the technical and financial partners, whose commitment and considerable efforts have already been made, to continue their support by supporting the implementation of a robust post-conflict reconstruction and development program to finally create

the conditions for a lasting peace in CAR. The summit was attended by H.E Denis Sassou N'Guesso, President of the Republic of Congo and President-in-Office of the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the ECCAS, H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye President of the Republic of Burundi, H.E Faustin-Archange Touadera, President of the Central African Republic, H.E Félix Antoine Tshisekedi

Tshilombo, President of the Democratic Republic of Congo and H.E Theodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo President of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea. The other Member States have been represented by their Ministers with Foreign Affairs in their remit.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

Kenya's Outgoing Ambassador to Burundi Bids Farewell to Head of State



The President of the Republic H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye received in court on Saturday, December 26, 2020, H.E. Kenneth N. Vitisia, the outgoing Ambassador of Kenya to Burundi. He came to bid her farewell after her term. The Head of State congratulated him on his great role in strengthening diplomatic and trade relations between the two countries.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

Validation workshop of the Statistical Annual of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, 2019 edition



On Tuesday, December 29, 2020, at the King's Conference Hotel, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation organized a validation workshop for the Ministry's Statistical Annual, Edition 2019.

The Assistant to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation Mr Ferdinand BASHIKAKO, who opened the workshop, said that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation has just developed its first Static Annual and thus give its contribution to the National Statistics system. He noted that the production of the Statistical Yearbook of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation is part of the general policy of the Government of Burundi, which it contributes to the missions assigned to the National Statistical Information

Council (CNIS).

The Minister's Assistant also indicated that statistical data play a key role in planning, managing, monitoring and evaluating implementation and achieving the objectives of Burundi's National Development Plan 2018-2027. He added that this is why the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation has created within the General Inspectorate, a Main Inspectorate in charge of Statistics and Planning, which coordinated the production of this Statistical Annual.





He indicated that the Department has just produced its first-ever Statistical Annual, which it will make available to users with statistical data. He said that this Yearbook conveys information collected at the Central Administration and the Foreign Service through Burundi's Diplomatic and Consular Missions Abroad.



Other data were collected from the International Organizations and Foreign Association working in Burundi.

Following the opening of the Workshop, Principal Inspector Mr. Terence NDAMUHAWENIMANA presented to the guests the contents of the document of the Statistical Yearbook of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, Edition 2019.

This was followed by comments and recommendations from participants to enrich the document. In general, they appreciated the first step in developing the first edition of the Statistical Annual of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation.



Mr. Terence NDAMUHAWENIMANA, presenter of the Statistical Annual, has indicated that he will take into consideration all the recommendations made that will improve the upcoming Statistical Annuals.

(MFADC-Newsroom)

Universities called upon to be excellent advisors in different areas of national life



The Minister of National Education and Scientific Research, Dr Gaspard Banyankimbona, paid a working visit to the University of Burundi on Wednesday, 30 December 2020. It was to exchange with the leaders of this institution on the implementation of the new legal framework that governs the education sector and on the work dynamics it embodies. The Minister reminded them of the key innovations that challenge them in the foreground.

In his welcome note, the Rector of the University of Burundi, Dr. François Havyarimana presented the

current situation of this institution, its achievements, its challenges and its prospects.

He reported that the number of students at the University of Burundi exceeds 12 thousand, of which 5072 have just been accepted for the bachelor's degree, 4016 in the master's degree and 79 in the doctoral cycle.

According to Dr. François Havyarimana, the University of Burundi provides a budget each year to finance research projects submitted by research centers and research professors; but this budget remains insufficient and also suffers from heavy disbursement procedures at the Ministry of Finance, which does not facilitate research at the University of Burundi.



He said that although the University of Burundi has set up research centers and the three training cycles as well as the creation of new courses in existing faculties, it continues to benefit from the same budget it had when it only organised the bachelor's degree cycle. "More delicately, the construction and equipment of the reception infrastructure has not kept pace due to a lack of financial resources," said the Rector of the University of Burundi.

According to the Rector of the University of Burundi, in order to operate the new campuses and the new streams set up, the University had to assign staff to replace that of other faculties that had left the service for various reasons, so that the old faculties were emptying of teachers in favour of the newly created streams.

He also suggested that the University of Burundi plans to open new courses from the next academic year, including those specifically aimed at welcoming the winners of technical schools as well as the opening of the pharmacy sector. For all these reasons, the Rector of the University of Burundi has requested permission

to recruit teachers so that the challenges facing the University of Burundi are removed.

Speaking, the Minister of National Education and Scientific Research shared with the university of Burundi officials and student representatives the main innovations that challenge them in the foreground. According to the Minister, this is the evolution of the missions of universities where, in addition to the three traditional missions of teaching, research and services to the community, the enhancement of innovative research results and participation in the process of economic development through the creation of companies or industries through start-ups are added. According to the Minister, it is also the Minister for the Evolution of the Missions of Research Teachers, where they are called upon to provide, on behalf of the institution of membership, according to compensation terms agreed with the latter and by contract, services for a fee.

According to the Minister of National Education and Scientific Research, the University of Burundi must reinvent itself, integrate new knowledge, take advantage of new technologies to adapt to the ever-changing world.

"To implement the programmes of Reta Mvyeyi, Reta Nkozi, the expertise of the University and academics will need to be channelled into a dynamic of 'Kaminuza Mpanuzi', to enhance local expertise, to avoid dependence on international experts and thus strengthen the country's autonomy in terms of expertise necessary for local development," commented the Minister.

During the visit, Dr. Gaspard Banyankimbona stressed that the Government of Burundi wants training and research at the University of Burundi to be aligned with the imperative of development and on the real situations of people's lives.

Finally, the Minister of National Education and Scientific Research encouraged research teachers to work as a team for greater efficiency and expressed the Government's desire to make universities and academics excellent advisors in different sectors of national life.

As a reminder, the University of Burundi was established in 1964 and organizes three training cycles. It currently has 1,762 employees, including 506 teachers, 272 with the rank of Doctors.

(Source : www.rtnb.bi)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation

Department of Communication

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