



Egypt and India ready to support Burundi



"Burundi, the southernmost source of the Nile, has remained by our side in the vast plan to divide the waters of the Nile. We will spare no effort to support him in various sectors such as health, agriculture, defense, etc. ",

said the Egyptian Ambassador Yasser El Atawi, before informing him that His Excellency Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt would like to welcome his burundian counterpart on Egyptian soil in order to further strengthen their relations.

"The water of the Nile is not only a question of development but also and above all a question of human lives", launched the President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye while thanking his counterpart for his invitation.

(Source: www.presidence.gov.bi)

The President of the Republic, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, received, on Friday January 29, 2021, two new Ambassadors representing the Indian Republic and Egypt, respectively H.E A. Ajay Kumar and H.E Yasser El Atawi, who came to present their credentials to him.

"Despite the economic changes caused by the Covid-19, India intends to recover its economy, and we promise you that we are ready to support in the information technology sector", said H.E A. Ajay Kumar while adding that his country is committed to strengthening its relations with Burundi.

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Exchange of New Year greetings ceremony with the Diplomats: Burundi is living "new days"



This Friday, January 29, 2021, the President of the Republic of Burundi His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, accompanied by the First Lady, Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye, organized at the Ntare Rushatsi Palace a ceremony of exchange of vows with the members of the accredited Diplomatic and Consular Corps in Burundi.

In front of an audience of diplomats from all four corners of the world, the Burundian Head of State painted a picture of the general situation of the country, the day after 2020 which was marked by exceptional events.

He was pleased that the organization of this ceremony took place at a time when peace and security reign throughout the national territory thanks to the vigilance and maturity of the Burundian people.

Six months after his inauguration, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye said he was satisfied with the results already recorded in the implementation of the urgent programs that the Government of Burundi had set itself to carry out at the start of the new legislature: "After the elections which went well, we set about restoring confidence between the political actors. It is thanks to this that those who had fled the country in previous years decide, day after day, to return to their homeland. We encourage those who are still in doubt to make up their minds and to follow the footsteps of their compatriots because there is never a better place than home. Restoring confidence also means fighting against economic malfeasance and fighting against impunity".

Indeed, the President of the Republic pointed out to his august guests that "this exchange of vows takes place in a national context that we can qualify as new days in the political, social and economic life of the country".

Reminding them of the priorities and strategies of the Government of Burundi which only target the well-being of the Burundian population through socio-economic development projects, the Burundian Head of State urged friendly countries and international partners to support the efforts of the Government of Burundi: "As regards to development itself, we would like to make use of this platform to express our gratitude to the countries and organizations which have already shown their willingness to support Burundi on its many projects.

Our wish is that all the points of divergence and the gray areas observed in our relations with certain countries and organizations are a memory of the past, to now deal with and face together the challenges of the moment in order to find solutions for a better future".

Regarding relations with other countries and international organizations, H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye welcomed that "the time has come for a dynamic of complementarity and mutual understanding based on dialogue. And we are delighted to see that things are developing for the better". The Burundian Head of State closed his remarks by pleading "for greater international solidarity" especially in these times of a global pandemic for the benefit of the people.

(Source: www.presidence.gov.bi)

Gitega: Closing of the thanksgiving prayer organized by the CNDD-FDD



The interfaith prayer of thanksgiving which was organized in the province of Gitega by the ruling party CNDD-FDD ended on Saturday January 23, 2020. The prayer began on Wednesday January 21, 2021. It is the Chief of State H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye, who closed this prayer of thanksgiving.

By closing this prayer, the Head of State asked the Almighty to be at Burundi's side throughout the year 2021. Holding in his hands the national flag with the

members of the committee of wise men of this party, the Senior party Officials and servants of God, he implored the Lord to endow the CNDD-FDD with a new leader worthy of the name.

Before the closing of the prayer of thanksgiving, the President of the Republic had provided advice to the ruling class of the country and to the population. For the Leaders, he asked to serve the people loyally, with love and humility. To achieve this, he recommended that they do battle with a spirit of dishonestly winning and renouncing unworthy behavior in search for positions of responsibility.

As for the population, the President of the Republic recommended to obey their Leaders. The mutual respect of the two aforementioned groups will lead the country on the path of development in all directions, he reassured.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

Never without media: H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye calls for a reconsideration by the CNC of certain restrictive measures



On January 27 and 28, 2021, in the premises of the Kiriri Garden hotel, Media Professionals and Institutional Communication Managers met

as part of an exchange workshop on "the role and responsibility media in the development of the country, the safeguard of social cohesion and the protection of human rights".

The President of the Republic of Burundi His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye enhanced by his presence the activities of the second and last day of the workshop.

This was an opportunity for the Head of State to develop the broad lines of his vision for a prosperous and united Burundi, supported by a responsible and hard-working Government at the service of the well-being of the entire population.

To media professionals, H.E President Evariste Ndayishimiye recalled the importance of the role played by the media in safeguarding social cohesion and in the pursuit of sustainable development goals in Burun-

di.

Indeed, the President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye invited the assembly to reflect on the impact that the profession of journalism could have in communities depending on whether journalists choose to be party to conflicts or to solutions: journalists have a capacity for nuisance proportional to their capacity to positively and effectively influence their living environments and the development of the country. You can be knowledge popularizers, participate in the intellectual emancipation of the people. I therefore invite you to conscientiously exercise your profession.”

By reaffirming his commitment to a free and responsible press, the Head of State, in this capacity, urged media professionals to ensure strict compliance with deontology, professional ethics and the laws in force. He also invited them to become more involved in the implementation of national socio-economic development policies, above all as Burundian citizens.

By welcoming their undisputed contribution to the efforts for peace and national reconciliation undertaken by the Government of Burundi, and in the desire to begin a new page in the history of Burundi, the President of the Republic spoke in favor of a reconsideration of the restrictive measures currently af-

fecting certain media. He recommended that the National Communication Council (CNC) hold talks with stakeholders so that rapid solutions can be identified.

Responding to the concerns submitted to him by certain media professionals relating to material challenges, the Head of State promised them that the Government of Burundi will continue to support the media sector for the promotion of a free and responsible press in order to strengthen democratic culture and freedom of expression.

He then instructed the Ministry in charge of Media and Communication to actively summarize and follow up on the recommendations and commitments made during this workshop, which will serve as references in the development of a new communication strategy and the promotion of ICT.

Combining the useful with the pleasant, the activities of this workshop ended with a ceremony of exchange of greetings from media professionals and Head of Institutional Communication with the Head of State His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye.

A new page is being written in Burundi, in the colors of a free and responsible press in the service of socio-economic development.

(Source: www.presidence.gov.bi)

The Head of State recommends to the monitoring committee for the reconstruction of Kamenge market to respect the deadline for the work



During a descent made in the afternoon of Wednesday January 27, 2021 to Kamenge market rehabilitation site, the President of the Republic H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye recommended to the committee responsible of monitoring this work to

take all the necessary measures in order to meet the execution deadline.

During this descent carried out to take stock of the state of progress of reconstruction work on this infrastructure devastated last year by a fire, the Head of State also had the opportunity to take a guided tour of the various blocks and certain locations, in particular the places where the hydroelectric systems will be installed, the tracks which will serve as passage for fire trucks, etc.

Before closing this visit, the Burundian Number One suggested to the committee responsible for the monitoring to increase the workforce, to meet the deadline for the work.

(Source: www.presidence.gov.bi)

UNDP committed to strengthening its interventions in the fight against poverty



The President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye received in audience, on Friday January 29, 2021, Mrs. Nicole KOUASSI, the new Resident Representative of the UNDP, partner of Burundi in the socio-economic sector.

H.E President Evariste Ndayishimiye first talked about the socio-economic situation of the country, particularly the development projects underway and his commitment to control and monitor the institutions to see if they are working properly.

The need to strengthen interventions, the empowerment of young people and women, support for public administration, points that were analyzed between his predecessor and the Head of State, found favorable responses in a document that Madam Nicole KOUASSI presented to the Head of State.

The President of the Republic expressed his wish to see the United Nations revive development support in favor of Burundi for its recovery, given its past.

(Source: www.presidence.gov.bi)

Honorable Réverien Ndikuriyo elected new Secretary General of the ruling party



The Honorable Réverien Ndikuriyo was elected on Sunday, January 24, 2021, Secretary General of the CNDD-FDD party by the Bagumyabanga gathered in an extraordinary congress in the province of Gitega. Honorable Réverien Ndikuriyo replaces H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye, current President of the Republic of Burundi, at the head of the CNDD-FDD. This extraordinary congress took place after a prayer of thanksgiving organized by the ruling party in the same province.

After his election, the new Secretary General of the CNDD-FDD party, Honorable Réverien Ndikuriyo,

thanked the Bagumyabanga who placed their trust in him. He reiterated his commitment to do his best to build the CNDD-FDD party, promising to be a good shepherd who will bring all the Bagumyabanga together. He took this opportunity to invite the faithful of the CNDD-FDD to collaborate well, working together to achieve the effective development of the country.

Taking the floor, the President of the Republic and Chairman of the Committee of Elders within the CNDD-FDD H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye warmly congratulated the new Secretary General of the CNDD-FDD party by wishing him success in his new functions described as fairly difficult. He reassured the Bagumyabanga that the Honorable Réverien Ndikuriyo is a wise man who likes to work. He asked for the support and collaboration of all Bagumyabanga so that the ruling Party could keep moving forward.

He had the opportunity to provide advice especially to the authorities of the country, asking them to renounce to the economic malfeasance which is observed in a lot of public institutions and to fight energetically any form of corruption. The Head of State also asked the

population to always denounce what is wrong through the suggestion boxes.

On this same occasion, the Honorable Lazare MVUYEKURE was elected new National Secretary

in charge of development replacing the Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera, current President of the Burundian Senate.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

Mukike: the Senate Speaker satisfied with the production of Sangwe cooperatives



On Tuesday January 26, 2021, the Speaker of the Burundian Senate, the Right Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera joined the members of the Sangwe Coopérative of the Hill Kanyunya in Mukike commune of the province of Bujumbura, to lend them a hand in the harvest of potatoes. He congratulated them for their contribution in increasing agricultural production.

On this occasion, the Senate Speaker praised the work done by the Sangwe Cooperative in Kanyunya, which already has 167 members, all determined to achieve integral, harmonious and sustainable development.

The Speaker of the upper house of Parliament was pleased to note that all the hills of Mukike commune are now covered with food crops, contrary to what was observed in the past years.

The Right Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera warmly thanked the administrators and intellectuals from this hill who joined forces with the farmers of this hill to supervise them. He took this opportunity to invite intellectuals from other hills to join the Sangwe Cooperatives of their native hills and to take the lead in getting everyone involved in the development work.

For the Speaker of the Burundian Senate, no one

should be left behind in the battle against hunger, because, according to him, every mouth should have something to eat, he said.

Addressing the population of Mukike commune, the Senate Speaker indicated that food support must stop and invited the population to produce enough to meet their needs.

On the occasion of these potato harvesting activities by the Sangwe Cooperative in Mukike commune, the Senate Speaker pointed out that the Sangwe Cooperatives operate harmoniously, without political or ethnic discrimination as some malicious languages claim. He took the opportunity to call on the population not to listen to defectors who only seek to sow disunity to keep the country in misery.



He also encouraged the members of this cooperative to practice breeding, in order to have manure to fertilize

their fields.

Responding to the concerns of members of cooperatives in Mukike commune who are struggling to find a market for their agricultural production (rice, potatoes and wheat), the Speaker of the Senate reassured them, suggesting that he will discuss it with the Minister in charge of Agriculture and Livestock and with the Minister in charge of Trade.

After these potatoes harvesting works, members of the Sangwe Coopérative of the Hill Kanyunya offered the Speaker of the Senate a gift of several baskets of food to show him their gratitude.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

The Deputies analyzed and adopted the Senate amendments concerning two bills



The Deputies meeting on Wednesday January 27, 2021 in plenary session at the Kigobe convention center, analyzed and adopted the Senate amendments on the bills on "management and regulation of veterinary products in Burundi" and "management of pesticides in Burundi".

The President of the National Assembly, the Right Honorable Gélase Daniel Ndabirabe, recalled that the bill on "management and regulation of veterinary products in Burundi" establishes a legal framework on the conditions of manufacture, preparation, detention, import, export, marketing and regulation of veterinary products. It also allows managers and distributors of veterinary products to align with the registration system in force in the East African Community.

(Source: www.abpinfos.com)

The Burundian Prime Minister receives in audience the members of the OPEGCH



CPG Prime Minister Alain Guillaume Bunyoni received in audience on Wednesday January 27, 2021 the members of the Observatory for the Prevention and Eradication of Genocide, War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity in Burundi (OPEGCH).

At the end of the audience, the President of this observatory, Mr. Jean de Dieu Mutabazi, indicated that the members of the observatory for the prevention and eradication of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity in Burundi met the Prime Minister who is in charge of Government action so that he can be aware of the action plan of this council and that he can also help them to carry out certain activities contained in their action plan.

The President of the Observatory for the Prevention and Eradication of Genocide, War Crimes and Crimes

against Humanity in Burundi pointed out that this council collaborates with various Ministries including that of the Home Affairs, Community Development and Public Security, those in charge of Defense, Justice, Foreign Affairs, the East African Community and the one in charge of Gender and Human Rights.

In turn, the Prime Minister promised to facilitate their collaboration with these above-mentioned Ministries and also promised that the Prime Minister's services are ready to give their contribution so that the achievements of this observatory can move forward, concluded Mr. Jean de Dieu Mutabazi.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation receives the true copies of the credentials presented by the Ambassadors of India and Egypt



The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation H.E. Amb. Albert SHINGIRO received in audience the afternoon of this Thursday, January 28, 2021, at the Cabinet of the said Ministry in Bujumbura, SEM. Yasser El-Atawi, new Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt to Burundi, who presented him with true copies of letters accrediting him as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Arab Republic of Egypt to our country. On this occasion, they exchanged views on strengthening bilateral relations, particularly in the economic

field and the regional situation.

On the same day, the new Ambassador of the Republic of India to Burundi with residence in Kampala H.E. A Ajay Kumar handed over the copies of the credentials to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation H.E. Amb. Albert SHINGIRO.

They seized this opportunity to discuss the strengthening of relations of friendship and cooperation between our two countries.



between our two countries.

Note that these two Ambassadors handed their Letters of Credence to the President of the Republic of Burundi H.E. Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE, the day after their meeting with the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation.

(Source: MFADC-Newsroom)

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation invited to the New Year greetings ceremony by the President with the diplomatic and consular corps accredited to Burundi



This Friday, January 29, 2021, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation His Excellency Ambassador Albert Shingiro accompanied by the Permanent Secretary, his Assistant and certain executives of the said Ministry was invited by the President of the Republic of Burundi His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, accompanied by the First Lady Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye at the New Year greetings ceremony with members of the Diplomatic and Consular Corps accredited to Burundi, organized at the Ntare Rushatsi Palace.

In his speech, the President of the Republic of Burundi announced that he is delighted to start the year 2021 in an atmosphere of peace and tranquility in all nooks and crannies of the country. And to add that in Burundi, the rule of law is consolidated more and more in all sectors of national life, that citizens have understood the value of harmonious life in society and have become real artisans of peace, tranquility and socio-economic development in the country.

The President also welcomed the results obtained after six months at the head of Burundi, through the implementation of the priorities pinned in the emergency, namely social peace, good governance, the fight against the pandemic of Covid-19, the revitalization of the agro-pastoral sector, the empowerment and capacity building of young people, the improvement of the conditions of retirees, as well as the repatriation of refugees.

The Head of State also said that this New Year greetings ceremony is taking place in a period that we can call "new days" in the political, social and economic life of the country. He also reiterated the Government's commitment to strengthening, among other things, respect for human rights and good governance. "Our determination is that no crime can be committed and go unpunished whoever commits it," he said.

As for relations with other countries and international

organizations, more than five years later, HE Mr. Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE welcomed the fact that the time of divergences and unnecessary controversies gave way to a dynamic of complementarity and mutual understanding.

And to add that the workhorse of the Burundian Government is dialogue with our bilateral and multilateral partners.

The Head of State did not fail to announce that the wish of the Government of Burundi is that all the points of divergence and the gray areas observed in our relations with certain countries and organizations be a memory of the past, for from now on to tackle and face together the challenges of the moment in order to find solutions for a better future.

He once again stressed that only dialogue will allow a win-win cooperation based on mutual respect.

And as for the outlook for this year, the President of the Republic said that the Government plans to curb the challenges identified in the areas of good governance, the fight against corruption and citizen participation in the affairs of the country.

He further promised that all the Government's efforts will be focused on the development of human capital, the fight against the Covid-19 pandemic, education and social protection.

(Source: MFADC-Newsroom)

The Minister of Home Affairs, Community Development and Public Security presents the major achievements of the 1st Quarter of the year 2020-2021



The Minister of Home Affairs, Community Development and Public Security, CPC Gervais Ndirakobuca presented, during a press point organized

on Monday January 25, 2021, the major achievements of the Ministry in the 1st quarter of the year 2020-2021.

The Minister Ndirakobuca indicated that it is on the one hand, actions of the Government, recommended to all the Ministries and on the other hand, actions registered with the Ministry of Interior, Community Development and Public Security.

The actions of the Government registered with all the Ministries are in particular the participation in the community development work and in the national reforestation program "Ewe Burundi urambaye" specified the Minister Ndirakobuca. He stressed that community works were carried out every week in all

the communes of the country and that 199 nurseries were set up. Four meetings were held by the Minister with the executives of the Ministry, 13 meetings held by the Minister in 13 provinces with the Governors, the communal Administrators, the elected council members and the administrative at the base, two meetings held by the Ministry with the political parties Leaders and those of religious denominations.

In terms of the fight against corruption, CPC Gervais Ndirakobuca recalled that a so-called "modern police" commission was set up, suggestion boxes were installed in all the municipalities of Burundi and that the number 413 used by the population in the denunciation of corruption has been opened to the public free of charge. He said as a result 13 police officers were punished, including 7 for corruption and 6 for fraud.

To better serve the public, the duration of delivery of documents by the National Police of Burundi has been revised and the new deadline is posted at the entrance to the services. These are the laissez-passer which is issued within 2 days, the passport issued in 3

days, the CPGL card issued in 2 days, the driving license issued in 3 days and the criminal record issued in 2 days.

In order to avoid queues in front of certain services of the General Police Station, whose forms of extract from the criminal record or registration certificate are now downloadable on the website of the Ministry, underlined the Minister Ndirakobuca.

As part of the strengthening of administrative political governance and institutional capacity building, the Minister indicated that a quarterly periodic report and another semi-annual report have been produced and sent to the competent authorities. 18 monitoring and evaluation raids were carried out by officials including one raid carried out by the National Police in all police regions, 5 raids carried out by the national selection of the Ministry, 2 carried out by the General Directorate of Statistical Studies, and a descent of the General Directorate of Territorial Administration.

(Source: www.abpinfos.bi)

Welthungerhilfe (German NGO) grants the Burundian Government screening kits for Covid-19



The Minister of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS Dr Thaddée Ndikumana on Tuesday January 26, 2021 received a donation of 49,000 rapid test kits worth € 122,000 offered by the German NGO "Welthungerhilfe". A donation that comes to intensify and support the campaign "NDAKIRA SINANDURA KANDI SINANDUKIZA Covid_19", initiated by the Head of State H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye. This donation from Welthungerhilfe to the Ministry of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS consists of

49,000 antigen detector diagnostic test kits (COVID-19) comprising: a cassette, an extraction tube with nozzle cap, an extraction buffer, a sterile swab for collection, instructions for use and conditions for storage and transport.

The NGO Welthungerhilfe reiterates its commitment to always be at the side of the Government of Burundi in order to support its efforts that it continues to deploy for the well-being of the population both in the field of health and in other areas sectors of the life of the country.

According to the Minister of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS, Dr Thaddée Ndikumana, these kits reinforce the Government's efforts to carry out the massive 3-month screening campaign that the Government has initiated.

The Minister Thaddée Ndikumana thanked this German NGO Welthungerhilfe which supported the Government's efforts in the detection and management of positive cases of Covid_19. These kits will com-

plement those available to the Government to intensify screening.

The Minister Thaddée Ndikumana also informed that this German NGO Welthungerhilfe, which normally works in the field of malnutrition in the Northern provinces, has chosen to lend a hand to the Government to make a success of the three-month campaign that it is in the process of lead across the country.

The Minister Thaddée Ndikumana ended his remarks by reminding the population not to stigmatize those cured of Covid_19 because this disease is not a shameful disease and that the therapy administered showed that after 7 to 10 days, the patient restores.

On the sidelines of this activity, the Minister in charge of Public Health Dr Thaddée Ndikumana carried out a visit to CAMEBU to supervise the implementation of a concrete action by the Government of Burundi in relation to the direct supply of drugs to health districts implemented by CAMEBU.

This concrete Government action recommended to the Ministry of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS aims to bring essential drugs closer to the health districts, whereas before the districts were supplied by CAMEBU. From now on, CAMEBU is responsible for delivering drugs to district pharmacies, said Minister

Thaddée Ndikumana.

And to add that this distribution carried out by the CAMEBU also serves to reduce the cost of transport but also to guarantee the quality by the adequate transport and the quality control which takes place at the CAMEBU by specialists in the matter for "ensure that the drugs delivered are of high quality".

This distribution made by CAMEBU will also guarantee secure transport and will avoid the diversion of drugs halfway because it has been found that drugs volatilize before reaching their recipients, he continued.

For the Minister, this action of distributing drugs at the level of district pharmacies contributes to shortening the journey for those responsible for health districts, which will be limited to the distribution of drugs in health centers.

Among the essential drugs that CAMEBU dispatches to district pharmacies are also reagents to diagnose COVID_19 and drugs for patients with COVID-19, he added.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

The Ministry in charge of East African Community Affairs satisfied with its achievements in the 1st semester of the 2020-2021 fiscal year



The Minister of East African Community Affairs, Youth, Sports and Culture, Ambassador Ezéchiel Nibigira, hosted on Wednesday January 27, in his Cabinet, a press conference to present the great achievements of his Ministry for the 1st Semester of the Year 2021.

The Minister Ezéchiel Nibigira said that the major achievements of the Ministry during this period cover

three key areas of intervention, namely the area of the integration of Burundi within the East African Community, the area of youth and that of Sports and Culture.

In the field of the integration of Burundi within the EAC, Ambassador Ezéchiel Nibigira indicated that there was the organization of a high-level forum on the state of play of the integration of Burundi within the EAC which took place in Kabezi commune in December 2020, the organization of an official launching workshop of the project "advocacy for a healthy trade on the borders, the organization of an evaluation workshop of the implementation of the protocol establishing the common market of the East African Community and the use of the central EAMS system in collecting data on the state of play of the implementation of the said protocol, the official launch of

the platform entitled : "Fifty million African women entrepreneurs", and the coordination of the participation of Burundi in the community meetings which were held on video conference, Microsoft teams and zoom.

For the youth sector, the Minister in charge of Youth clarified that there was the organization of a high-level retreat for young people with the academic level of engineering, master's and doctorate; capacity building for young entrepreneurs grouped together in different associations; monitoring of the operationalization of the Youth Investment Bank (BIJE); and monitoring the establishment of a body that will facilitate the Government of Burundi to better use the amount of more than 40 billion granted to young Burundians for the creation of businesses.

For the field of sports and culture, there was the organization and holding of activities relating to the inter-communal football championship, 2020/2021 edition; the organization of the national cycling championship, 2020 edition, the organization of the 14th edition of the

torch of peace, 2020 edition; the organization of traditional games at the national level; the organization of the week dedicated to the Burundian drum; the organization of the national festival of Burundian culture; and the restitution of the photographic inventory of the architectural heritage of Burundi.

The Minister of East African Community Affairs, Youth, Sports and Culture did not fail to point out that there are certain challenges to which the Ministry is working to find solutions, including the pandemic of Coronavirus which disrupted the functioning of the East African Community and caused all community meetings to be held by video conference, with problems of connection to the internet and the challenges related to the content of the legal framework governing sports organizations which is incomplete and needs updating and others. He also added that he is satisfied with the achievements of his Ministry during this first semester.

(Source: www.abpinfos.com)

The role of the media remains essential in the country's development



The Minister of Communication, Information Technologies and Media, Mrs. Marie Chantal Nijimbere, on Wednesday January 27, 2021, opened a workshop to reflect on the role of the media in the

development of the country, organized for professionals of media and spokespersons for the various sectoral Ministries.

The Minister Marie Chantal Nijimbere said that the National Development Plan stipulates that the role of the media is essential in the development of the country. This reflection activity reminds participants of professional deontology and ethics to guarantee social harmony and the protection of human rights, their social responsibility and the use of different media.

According to the Minister in charge of Communication and Media, there must be an effective and responsible management of fake news at this time when there is the proliferation of online press.

Mr. Jérôme Niyonzima, media expert, who presented on the role of the media in strengthening social harmony and preserving human rights, showed that social harmony is, in principle, the place in the sun for everything the world, no matter the size.

In this case, the media can contribute by giving a voice to everyone, whether the beneficiaries or the authorities, underlined Mr. Niyonzima, noting that the media can contribute in the protection of human rights, just as they can harm people.

According to Mr. Niyonzima, the violation of human rights can be direct or indirect. This is the direct violation when the media publish information that does not respect human rights, when they violate the privacy of individuals, block access to the media for citizens or if they publish information, images or photos that harm the vulnerable, or victims.

Mr. Jérôme Niyonzima also specified that it is about the violation of human rights, in an indirect way, when

the media give voice to the detractors of the truth, when they encourage the authorities who violate human rights and when they publish information that is not rigorously verified when running the scoop.

According to the media expert, the barriers that hinder positive media action are ignorance of the law and the content of the code of ethics, the lack of humility of the media and the lack of fluidity between the media and sources of information.

(Source: www.abpinfos.bi)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation

Department of Communication

www.mae.gov.bi

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