

REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI



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Burundi and Egypt sign cooperation agreements



di, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, accompanied by his Spouse and a strong delegation made up of four Ministers and ten men business.

Speaking to the press at the end of a tête-à-tête meeting with his Egyptian

counterpart H.E Abdel Fattah Al Sisi, President Evariste Ndayishimiye declared "the most eloquent sign of cooperation is materialized by the signing today, of cooperation agreements between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Republic of Burundi in several areas of common interest".

The two Heads of State confided, during their tête-à-tête, that their respective countries are entering "a new phase, that of concrete for a common destiny", and that Egyptian businessmen were invited to take advantage of the opportunities that Burundi offers in terms of investment. Finally, President of Burundi H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye invited his Egyptian counterpart to pay an official visit to Burundi at the time of his convenience.

(Source: www.presidency.gov.bi)

Burundi and Egypt signed, on Wednesday, March 24, 2021, six cooperation agreements that include visa exemption for holders of diplomatic or service passports and the implementation of the integrated water resources management project in Burundi.



This comes on the sidelines of an official visit started on March 23, 2021 by the President of the Republic of Burun-

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The Minister in charge of Foreign Affairs accompanies the President of the Republic of Burundi in an official visit in the Arab Republic of Egypt



At the invitation of his Egyptian counterpart H.E Mr. Abdel Fattah-El-SISI, the President of the Republic of Burundi H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye began a three-day official visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt on March 23, 2021.

Accompanied by His Spouse and a strong delegation made up of four Ministers and Businessmen, the President of the Republic of Burundi was greeted at Cairo International Airport by his Counterpart H.E Mr. Abdel Fattah AL-SISI.

The delegations of Burundi and Egypt, under the leadership of their Heads of State, thus led discussions on investment, technology transfer, tourism, projects on Lake Tanganyika, support from Egypt in the field of in-

frastructure and health.

This Wednesday, March 24, 2021, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation H.E Mr. Albert SHINGIRO and his Egyptian colleague H.E Mr. Sameh Shoukry, in the presence of the two Heads of State, signed six cooperation agreements. These agreements include, among others, the Visa Exemption for Diplomatic or Service Passport Holders and the Imple-

mentation of the Integrated Water Resources Management Project in Burundi.

After a tête-à-tête with his Egyptian counterpart H.E Abdel Fattah Al Sisi, President of Burundi H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye told the press that their countries had just entered a new phase and that the most eloquent sign was materialized by the signing, of cooperation agreements between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Republic of Burundi in several areas of common interest.

The two Heads of State instructed their Heads of Diplomacy to implement the signed agreements without delay.

(Source: MFADC-Newsroom)

Burundi and the Swiss Confederation undertake to strengthen their cooperation



This Monday, March 22, 2021, the President of the Republic of Burundi His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye received in audience Mr. Valentin Zellweger, new Ambassador of the Swiss Confederation in Burundi, who had come to present his Credentials to

him.

The President of Burundi H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye congratulated Ambassador Zellweger on the confidence his country has placed in him, a country which has geographical similarities with Burundi and has earned the nickname of "Switzerland of Africa".

The Head of State His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye also welcomed the good relations of friendship existing between Burundi and the Swiss Confederation, "a country which, in Burundi's painful past, was part of the solution and not to the conflict."

Ambassador Valentin Zellweger, meanwhile, pledged to "continue cooperation between their countries, which has always been marked by trust and mutual respect".

The new Ambassador of Switzerland welcomed the indications of openness of the Burundian President and indicated that Switzerland calls for a strengthening

of bilateral relations to better guide its support to the action of the Government of Burundi.

(Source: www.presidence.gov.bi)

The Head of State signs in the condolences book in tribute to President Magufuli



The President of the Republic, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye signed, this Monday, March 22, 2021, in the book of condolences at the Embassy of the United Republic of Tanzania located in the City of Bujumbura, in support of the Tanzanian people following the death of the Tanzanian President, late His Excellency John Pombe Magufuli.

As soon as he disappeared on March 17, 2021, the Burundian Number One immediately declared a 7-day national mourning, from March 18 to 25, 2021, to show the support and solidarity of the Burundian people to their Tanzanian neighbors.

In addition, the Head of State dispatched a special envoy to Tanzania in the person of the Vice-President of the Republic, His Excellency Prosper Bazombanza, to take part in the preliminary farewell ceremonies to the late His Excellency President Magufuli.

Burial ceremonies of the President of Tanzania were scheduled and took place in Chato, his hometown, on March 25, 2021.

(Source: www.presidence.gov.bi)

The Head of State calls on Burundians to get tested regularly to COVID-19



In the Eucharistic celebration of the 5th Sunday of Lent (March 21, 2021) at the church of the Regina Pacis parish in the City of Bujumbura, the Burundian Head of State accompanied by his family, called on the population to be tested regularly to Covid-19.

The Presidential Family joined the Christians of this parish in the Sunday prayer. He urged them to get tested to COVID-19 regularly, at least once a week because, he said, voluntary testing centers have been set up all over the country, and the test is offered free of charge.

The Head of State also asked the Burundian population to scrupulously follow the barrier measures taken to prevent this pandemic.

The Head of State His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye has substantially supported this parish in the process of extending the church with sheets she needs to cover this church and 200 bags of cement.

(Source: www.presidence.gov.bi)

Farmers Above All



On Friday, March 12, 2021, the President of the Republic, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, joined the rice farmers of the Mubarazi swamp in Mbuye commune of Muramvya province, in the work of weeding and fertilizing the fields.

To support this fertilization campaign for this field which extends over 170 ha located in 3 communes namely Rutegama and Mbuye de Muramvya and Bugendana de Gitega, the PRODEFI program and the NGO One Acre Fund - Tubura donated fertilizer.

One Acre Fund - TUBURA is an agricultural NGO that has been operating in Burundi since 2012 with the aim of creating a significant impact on the lives of as many farmers as possible with small areas of land, in terms of harvest, productivity and income. This orga-

nization currently serves around 125,000 households spread over 335 hills in Muramvya provinces, where its national headquarters are located in Gitega, Kayanza, Mwaro and Ngozi provinces.

In season 21B, NGO Tubura distributed 4.887 tonnes of Fomi Imbura, Fomi Totahaza and Fomi Bagara type fertilizers, 266 tonnes of Lime, 7.649 solar lamps on credit that can be paid back in 6 months.

During the week of March 8, 2021, at the request of the Governor of Muramvya Province, this NGO supported rice farmers in the Mubarazi swamps with 8.750T of KCL and participated in the mass application days that have followed by the visit of His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye to launch the fertilizer spreading campaign in these rice fields.

As stated by Mr. Ryan Martin, Director of One Acre Fund - Tubura, "Even if the organization works in the agricultural sector, this does not prevent it from contributing in the realization of other projects aimed at the development of other sectors."

His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye recommended the technical services of the State, especially those working in the agricultural sector, to visit the field regularly for close supervision of farmers.

(Source: One Acre Fund)

Late President Magufuli: the High Authorities of Burundi append their signatures in the book of condolences



On Tuesday, March 23, 2021 in Bujumbura, the country's Senior Authorities continued to affix their signatures in the condolences book opened at the Embassy of the United Republic of Tanzania in

Bujumbura, following the death of the President of the United Republic of Tanzania H.E John Pombe Magufuli, in order to express their sincere condolences to the Tanzanian people who lose their Head of State as



well as to the bereaved family.

After signing in the condolences book, Prime Minister H.E CPG Alain Guillaume Bunyoni stressed that the Burundians are saddened by the death of the Tanzanian President and join the Government, the family and the Tanzanian people who are going through difficult times.

As for the President of the Senate, the Right Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera, he expressed his condolences to the Tanzanian people and the bereaved family while stressing that the late Presi-

dent Magufuli was a Pan-Africanist. "With the death of President Magufuli, Burundi and the African continent have just lost a leader and a visionary ally," said the Right Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera.

Note that other members of the Government including the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation H.E Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO as well as the Mayor of the city of Bujumbura have also affixed their signature in the book of condolences opened at the Embassy of the United Republic of Tanzania in Bujumbura, in memory of this illustrious deceased.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi, edited by MFADC-Newsroom)

Assessment of the response to COVID-19 in Burundi



The National COVID-19 Committee met on Monday March 22, 2021, under the chairmanship of the Minister of Home Affairs, Community Development and Public Security CPC Gervais Ndirakobuca, to assess the implementation of the campaign against the COVID-19 pandemic in Burundi.

After the meeting which took place behind closed doors, the Minister of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS, Dr. Thaddée Ndikumana, held a press briefing to give the main conclusions.

The National Pandemic Management and Response Committee has found that the numbers of people testing positive for COVID-19 are declining, said Minister in charge of Public Health Dr. Thaddée Ndikumana. A total of 2,618 people have been tested positive, 2,420 cases have been cured, and 192 people are under treatment. "We deplore 6 cases of death from COVID-19 since the first tests

carried out in Burundi", he added.

The Ministry in charge of Public Health, Dr. Thaddée Ndikumana rejects the accusations of the syndicalists on the mismanagement of the means allocated to the response against COVID-19. "There is no COVID-19 account managed by the Ministry, all funds are managed at the level of the Ministry in charge of Finance", he said. He added that these funds are used to buy reactants, drugs and other materials. The vehicles and fuel used by the medical teams are provided by the partners. So, no possible embezzlement at the level of the Ministry in charge of Public Health, continued Dr. Thaddée Ndikumana.

To deal with complaints of corruption in the granting of COVID-19 certificates, the Minister said that the system will soon be computerized, so that the applicant for the certificate can receive it by e-mail or on the mobile phone.

Dr. Thaddée Ndikumana also pointed out that following the bad weather of recent days, the COVID-19 testing sites of ETS Kamenge and Sebatutsi are closed, the tents having been blown away. He informed the public that those who want to be tested can go to national or district hospitals, or to the Place called "Bon Accueil" in Bujumbura Town Hall.

The press took this opportunity to ask questions not rela-

ting to COVID-19, to Minister Thaddée Ndikumana. Responding to the question on the problem of the management of morgues, the Minister in charge of Public Health Dr. Thaddée Ndikumana, specified that hospitals should equip themselves with their own morgues,

the private ones can also set up morgues, and especially there should also be put in place a public mortuary in the Town Hall of Bujumbura.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

Burundi - Government: Dr François Havyarimana appointed as Minister of National Education and Scientific Research



The President of the Republic of Burundi, H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye, appointed on Tuesday March 23, 2021, Dr François Havyarimana, Minister of National Education and Scientific Research, to replace Dr Gaspard Banyankimbona. Mr. François Havyarimana, Doctor of Biology, was until then Rector of the University of Burundi since June 2018. He was replaced in this position by Dr. Sanctus Niragira.

(Source: ABP-N ° 12229)

Mwaro: the 2nd Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly calls on the population to get down to development work



The Second Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly Honorable Abel Gashatsi on parliamentary recess joined the population of Gisozi in the province of Mwaro, on Thursday March 25, 2021, in the bamboo planting work along the valley of the Mubarazi River in order to protect the banks of this river.

The Second Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly Honorable Abel Gashatsi, in his message after the works to protect the banks of the Mubarazi river, called on the population living along this river to protect it

because for him it is of capital importance in increasing production so that every mouth has food and every pocket has money, according to the slogan of "Responsible and Hardworking Government". He also asked agriculture Officials at the provincial level to conduct feasibility studies to exploit the marshes of this river, not only during the dry season, but throughout the year.

The Second Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly also called on the population of Gisozi in Mwaro province to group together in cooperatives to work together and increase production because "unity is strength", he said.

He did not fail to provide advice to this population so as not to listen to the detractors of peace because in the recent past, young people from the locality have fallen into the hands of the latter, responding to the insurgency of 2015 and suffered heavy penalties.

The local Administrators, he asked them to sensitize

the population to avoid laziness, the source of all evil in society. Honorable Abel Gashatsi also asked the people of Gisozi to send their children to school to acquire knowledge in order to be able to develop.

On the sidelines of the work and in order to encourage the population in their workplace, the Second Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly Honorable Abel Gashatsi visited a modern farmer Mr. Ntiburumusi Patrice on Musimbwe hill, Nyakararo area, Gisozi commune, an agri-breeder who has more than ten purebred dairy cows shivers with hectares of modernly landscaped fields, with contour lines and fodder grasses to feed his cows.

He then visited a cooperative that makes laundry

soaps from palm oil derivatives mixed with soda, on the Kiyange hill in Gisozi commune. The Second Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly Honorable Abel Gashatsi also visited a modern pig farmer named Kabweya Charles from Kirambi hill in Rusaka commune in the same province of Mwaro. The latter feeds the pigs with germinated larvae in his laboratory as proteins to replace the cakes derived from the oil palm.

Honorable Abel Gashatsi ended the day with a visit to the Nyabisindu Agricultural Radiation Center in Kayokwe commune, which produces selected seeds of beans, corn and potatoes to provide them to the population in need.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

Presentation of Credentials by the Ambassador of Burundi in Lusaka to the President of the Republic of Angola



The Ambassador of Burundi in Lusaka H.E Mr. Pascal RUHOMVYUMWORO presented, on March 24, 2021 in Luanda, the Letters of Credence accrediting him as Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of the Republic of Burundi in the Republic of Angola, to H.E Mr. João Lourenço, President of the Republic of Angola.

Note that Burundi has maintained historic ties of friendship and cooperation with Angola for decades. It should also be noted that the Ambassador of Burundi to Angola has his residence in Lusaka, Zambia.

(Source: MFADC-Newsroom)

Validation of the periodic report on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women



The Ministry of National Solidarity, Social Affairs, Human Rights and Gender, in collaboration with the UN Women in Burundi, organized on Tuesday March 23, 2021, a validation workshop of the 7th national periodic report on the implementation of the international convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women. The aim is to bring together the key partners to submit the 7th report produced by the standing committee for opinions and considerations, in order to produce a reliable and refined report to be transmitted to the authorized bodies.

This 7th report has been prepared in accordance with the general guidelines for the presentation and content of periodic reports. It covers the period between 2017 and 2020.

According to Mrs. Scholastique Ntirampeba, the UN Women delegate in this workshop, the convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women is one of the most important references in the area of women's rights which has triggered and supported many positive changes in the lives of women, girls and communities across the globe. It is an important reference alongside the Beijing Platform for Action, Resolution 1325 and the SDGs for all of UN Women's work.

Mrs. Scholastique Ntirampeba explained that UN Women in Burundi works with the standing interministerial committee for initial and periodic reports to prepare reports refined by sharing experiences with a view to including the recommendations made in previous re-

ports.

UN Women congratulates the Ministry in charge of Gender Promotion through the national report writing committee for its commitment to share this report which reflects the updated situation of women's rights in Burundi.

For Mrs. Scholastique Ntirampeba, UN Women in Burundi in her capacity as an actor specializing in gender equality and women's empowerment, will remain at the disposal of the Ministry in charge of Gender, as much to improve the content of the report that contributes to the progress of the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), in its entirety.

As for the Director General a.i of Human Rights, Education for Peace and National Reconciliation at the Ministry in charge of Gender Promotion, Mrs. Séraphine Rucakumugufi, Burundi has subscribed to several international and regional instruments of promotion of human rights, in accordance with the clauses of these instruments, Burundi produces reports on the status of implementation of the content.

She said that Burundi has subscribed to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women without reservation since April 4, 1991, it has already produced several implementation reports on the matter, including an initial report and 5 periodic reports.

According to Mrs. Séraphine Rucakumugufi, Director General a.i of Human Rights, Education for Peace and National Reconciliation at the Ministry in charge of Gender Promotion, the Ministry of National Solidarity, Social Affairs, Human Rights and Gender has set up since 2016 a standing committee to draft initial and periodic reports to be submitted to treaty bodies, so that sectoral data is collected and processed by experts in the concerned fields.

And to conclude that until now, the Ministry in charge of Gender, which is the National Coordinator of interventions in the promotion and protection of human rights, is delighted with the regularity, quality and consistency of the reports produced by this committee on behalf of Burundi. After discussions and debates, the

7th national periodic report on the application of the international convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women, was validated through alterations, additions and recommendations.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

Gitega: the various services called upon to grant young people first job internships



The Ministry of East African Community Affairs, Youth, Sports and Culture, organized on Wednesday March 24, 2021 in Gitega, an awareness workshop for reception structures for young graduates on first job internship. In his opening speech for this workshop, the Director of the Burundian Agency for Youth Employment (ABEJ) Mr. Vital Niyungeko indicated that unemployed youth are a burden that weighs heavily on the State and families.

The Ministry of East African Community Affairs, Youth, Sports and Culture, organized on Wednesday March 24, 2021 in Gitega, an awareness workshop for reception structures for young graduates on first job internship. In his opening speech for this workshop, the Director of the Burundian Agency for Youth Employment (ABEJ) Mr. Vital Niyungeko indicated that unemployed youth are a burden that weighs heavily on the State and families.

He thus asked the heads of the various services to continue to help young unemployed graduates by granting them first job internships in order to remove them from this situation of unemployment which can lead them in particular to actions of disrupting security, he insisted.

On behalf of the Ministry in charge of Youth, the Director of ABEJ Mr. Vital Niyungeko thanked IFAD which, through its PRODEFI program, supports rural youth in the employment sector. He said more than 800 unemployed youth have benefited from IFAD internships.

Mr. Vital Niyungeko also thanked the services ensuring the supervision of young graduates in first job in-

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Mr. Vital Niyungeko also thanked the services ensuring the supervision of young graduates in first job internship. He also asked the members of the Communal Councils to include in their development plans, projects that could increase jobs for young people. And to call on these young people to be dynamic while in service where they are doing their internships, in order to increase the chances of being engaged in these hosting structures, concluded the Director of ABEJ.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation

Department of Communication

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