



REPUBLIC OF UGANDA



REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI

JOINT COMMUNIQUE

ON THE

OCCASION OF THE STATE VISIT TO UGANDA BY HIS EXCELLENCY EVARISTE NDAYISHIMIYE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI 13-14 MAY 2021

1. At the invitation of His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, President of the Republic of Burundi, paid a two-day State Visit to the Republic of Uganda from 13-14 May 2021. His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye was accompanied by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation Ambassador Albert Shingiro and other Senior Government Officials.
2. His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni congratulated His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye upon his successful election to the High office of the President of the Republic of Burundi, which attests to the confidence the people of Burundi have in his leadership.
3. His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni expressed his condolences to H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye, the Government and Peoples of the Republic of Burundi upon the passing of H.E Pierre Nkurunziza, former President of the Republic of Burundi. He hailed the former President for his efforts towards reconstruction of the country and embracing ethnic diversity.
4. His Excellency President Ndayishimiye congratulated President Yoweri Museveni upon his election as the President of the Republic of Uganda and commended his statesmanship and commitment to peace, stability and socio-economic transformation of Uganda and the region at large.

5. He further commended His Excellency President Yoweri Museveni for his efforts as a Guarantor of the Arusha Peace Accord and a Mediator on the inter-Burundi dialogue working with former Presidents H.E. Julius Nyerere, H.E. Nelson Mandela, H.E. Jacob Zuma and H.E. Benjamin Mkapa.

6. The Heads of State held official talks at State House, Entebbe, in a cordial atmosphere and reviewed bilateral, regional and international issues of mutual interest.

7. At bilateral level, their Excellencies noted the existing bonds of friendship and cooperation between Uganda and Burundi. They agreed to boost cooperation in various sectors including agriculture, energy, petroleum and minerals, trade, health, finance, tourism and investment, transport and communication, defense and security, education, culture and sports. In this regard, they directed their respective Ministers to ensure that implementation of existing agreements, Memoranda of Understanding and other frameworks of cooperation, is fast-tracked.

8. The two Heads of State stressed the need to increase the volume of bilateral trade between the two countries by bringing together the respective private sectors to identify opportunities for trade and investment. They also underscored the need to enhance infrastructure connectivity such as improving road transport networks to connect both countries.

9. They welcomed the designation of Uganda Airlines that has started direct flights between Bujumbura and Entebbe, which would greatly improve connectivity between the two countries and promote trade, tourism and investment.

10. Their Excellences directed their Ministers of Foreign Affairs to convene a meeting of the third session of the Joint Commission of Cooperation (JCC) and a Joint Business Forum within the next six (6) months.

11. Their Excellences took note of the current status of the outbreak of the Coronavirus pandemic (COVID19) in the region and agreed to strengthen surveillance and control measures in response to the COVID19 and other pathologies with epidemic potential between the two countries

12. Their Excellencies reiterated their commitment towards implementing agreed measures in achieving deeper integration in the East African Community and the wider African Union. They welcomed the entry into force of the Agreement establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area (AFCTA)



on 1st January 2021, which will help boost African trade, development of value chains and integration.

13. The two Heads of State exchanged views on the security situation in the region and underscored the need to maintain peace, security and stability in the Great Lakes Region and in the African continent as a whole. They commended the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) for its role in pacifying the country, including the fight against terrorist groups. They called upon the international community to continue supporting the Government of Somalia in building its institutions, especially the National Army, to ensure that the progress and gains made are consolidated.

14. At international level, the two Heads of State agreed to deepen their cooperation in regional and international organizations on issues of common interest. They underlined the important for the African continent to speak with one voice in intergovernmental negotiations on global challenges such as climate change, the fight against terrorism, the reform of the United Nations Security Council, international migration as well as the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

15. The two Heads of State welcomed the withdrawal of Burundi from the agenda of the United Nations Security Council and the African Union Peace and Security Council as well as the lifting of the sanctions against Burundi by several of its partners. They therefore called on Burundi's partners who have not yet lifted the remaining sanctions imposed on Burundi in 2015 to lift them immediately in order to boost the socio-economic development of the country.

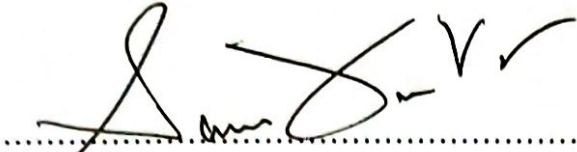
16. His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni expressed gratitude to His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye for honouring his invitation and for the fruitful discussions held. His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye thanked His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, the Government and the Peoples of the Republic of Uganda for the warm hospitality accorded to him and his delegation during the Visit.

17. His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye extended an invitation to His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni to visit the Republic of Burundi. The invitation was gladly accepted and the dates will be agreed upon through diplomatic channels.




DONE at ENTEBBE on 13th May 2021

FOR THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sam K. Kutesa', written over a horizontal dotted line.

**HON. SAM K. KUTESA (MP)
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

FOR THE REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI

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**AMBASSADOR ALBERT SHINGIRO
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION**