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World Food Program hails the promising momentum of Burundi, instilled by the leadership of President Ndayishimiye



The President of the Republic of Burundi His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye received in audience Mr. Michael Dunford, the Regional Director of the World Food Program (WFP) who is visiting Burundi, a country whose very significant progress he first welcomed recorded thanks to the enlightened leadership of President Ndayishimiye, who set the course for socio-economic development to result from the promotion of the agro-pastoral sector.

Accompanied by the WFP Country Representative team, Mr. Dunford told the Burundian Head of State that he made the trip to Bujumbura to collect in person the orientations of the Government of Burundi for the most appropriate support for real needs of the population. He also said that it is important to salute the promising momentum that Burundi is taking in the various areas of national life, and especially in terms of food se-

curity, which has made Burundi the regional champion of canteens school as a prevention strategy against dropping out of school:

"In view of the efforts made by the Government of Burundi, we congratulate you Mr. President for the good results recorded in your country. I am here to assure you of WFP's support and we are ready to accompany you in accordance with the priorities that you will set for us. We are encouraged by the involvement of Burundian leaders in the promotion of the agro-pastoral sector whose potential is invaluable for the development of the country".

Thanking the Regional and National Representation of WFP for their precious cooperation, the President of the Republic of Burundi His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye recalled that he has made the fight against hunger and poverty his priority: every mouth has to eat and every pocket has money". The President of the Republic stressed that this will necessarily involve an increase in agricultural production, an increase which was recently observed during the last cropping season. He also told his WFP interlocutors that Burundi could provide WFP with its national stock of maize and rice:

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"We want to focus on the agro-pastoral sector as an accelerator of economic development. This is an area that has long been under-exploited, but today we no longer produce for consumption only, but we also aim for export. To achieve this, we realize that we will need to invest in industrialization and agriculture products processing. We are preparing our workforce through the new training and professionalization center for young graduates. But also, in the very near future, we aim to provide each municipality in Burundi with a Center of Agricultural Excellence, a kind of agricultural project model with local experts. We are happy to be able to count on the support of WFP".

Regarding the school canteen program, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, as a Good Father of the Nation, expressed his wish to be able to extend the program to as many schools as possible to offer the children of Burundi the same learning conditions. He pledged to conti-

nue discussions on the feasibility with the MAP Representatives, as part of their collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture with whom they are in permanent contact. He added that WFP could now "buy from 'Burundians' to feed the children of Burundi and the world," which would send a strong signal on the positive development of Burundi's history.

In concluding their discussions, Mr. Dunford reiterated his congratulations to the Burundian people who are on their way to becoming a world champion of the environment, in particular thanks to their reforestation and forestry project "Ewe Burundi Urambaye". He also invited the Highest Authority of Burundi to take part in the Food Systems Summit which will take place in February 2022 and which will offer opportunities for advocacy with Major Donors.

(Source: www.presidence.gov.bi)

Burundi and Uganda plan to expand RN6 to improve trade



The Head of State, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye announced, this Friday, May 14, 2021, that Burundi and Uganda will start a project to extend the Ngozi-Muyinga-Kobero road, (RN6) in order to promote trade between the two countries.

The President of the Republic revealed this upon his arrival at Melchior Ndadaye International Airport after a 3-day official visit to Uganda. He said a joint commission made up of Burundians and Ugandans will meet soon to analyze the feasibility of this project.

Burundian Number One said the visit was part of expressing support and solidarity to His

Ugandan counterpart, H.E Yoweri Kaguta Museveni for his inauguration, in particular, and to the Ugandan people for this successful democratic process, in general.

In addition, His Excellency President Ndayishimiye suggested that the visit to Uganda also aimed to strengthen the relations of friendship and cooperation between Burundi and Uganda: "the relations of friendship and cooperation between the Burundi and Uganda predate colonial times when Burundians went to Uganda to work there and some of them even acquired Ugandan nationality. Burundi and Uganda have so far exchanged food products including bananas. Remember President Museveni himself came to Burundi during the 2015 crisis to show us his support and encourage us to move forward. It was therefore an opportunity to thank him and inform him about the current situation".

The President of the Republic also said that during their meeting with his Ugandan counterpart, they decided to strengthen cooperation in the sectors of agriculture, livestock, energy and tourism.

After visiting some Ugandan companies, the Head of State invited Ugandan investors to come to Burundi to explore areas of investment that would be beneficial for Burundi and Uganda, concluded the Head of State.

(Source: www.presidence.gov.bi)

The President of the Republic, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye calls on the population to work hard to fight poverty



The President of the Republic, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye called on the Burundians to fight poverty with all their energy in order to promote their development.

The Head of State delivered this message on Sunday, May 9, 2021, while celebrating Mass with his family at Muramvya Parish, Bujumbura Diocese.

“No one would want to rule a poor, starving population. You will have to roll up your sleeves and work tirelessly to fight poverty and thus promote your

development”, he insisted.

Burundian Number One continued by urging Christians in Muramvya Parish to respect COVID-19 and hygiene barrier measures to improve their health.

Reacting to the information given by the Parish Priest of Muramvya Parish reporting discrimination linked to witchcraft in this Parish, His Excellency President Ndayishimiye returned to the tragic history of Burundi following the fratricidal war that affected bereaved families for several years.

He then called for social cohesion: “We live in an era devoted to national reconciliation and must avoid any behavior that would tend to sow hatred and create divisions of all kinds. Leaders are called to serve as role models in spreading love and solidarity”.

Note that the Parish Priest of Muramvya Parish, Léon Nizigama, in his homily read in the book of John 15:14, also called on Christians to love one another as Jesus loved them.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

H.E Angeline Ndayishimiye visits the KAGE Company



The First Lady of Burundi, Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye, paid a visit on May 10, 2021 to the KAGE company (Kaze Green Economy) belonging to the young entrepreneur Kaze Delphin. The latter manufactures wood or charcoal briquettes from biodegradable waste.

In her speech, Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye, congratulated and encouraged the initiators of

this project which not only contributes to the protection of the environment but also to the creation of employment for young people

The First Lady of the country stressed that the objectives of OPDAD-Burundi and the Bonne Action- UMU-GIRANEZA Foundation, which she legally represents, includes the promotion of the development of young people and women. Thus, she invited all the young people of Burundi to explore the talents that God has given them, in order to develop and contribute to the development of the country.

The KAGE Company, which was founded in 2017, now has 42 employees and has a capacity of 28 tonnes of briquettes per day, but due to a lack of sufficient energy, it produces 5 to 6 tonnes and 3 tonnes of briquettes respectively of charcoal and wood.

(Source: www.presidence.gov.bi)

The First Lady receives in audience the Regional Representative of WFP for East Africa



Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye, First Lady of Burundi, received in audience Mr. Michael Dunford, WFP Regional Representative for East Africa visiting Burundi.

During this visit, the two high figures jointly explored the ways and means for the sustainability and extension of the school canteen program.

Mr. Michael Dunford first congratulated the First Lady of Burundi and all the Burundian authorities for their leadership and their strong determination to contribute significantly to the development of the country. The WFP Regional Representative thanked Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye for accepting to be

the sponsor of the school canteen program in Burundi, which he said testifies of the high-level of political commitment of the country's leaders to the well-being of the Burundian population as a whole.

Mr. Michael Dunford reiterated the commitment of the World Food Program to continue supporting Burundi and to support the First Lady of Burundi in her efforts to improve health through good nutrition for the Burundian population in general, and women and children in particular.

In turn, the First Lady of Burundi thanked Mr. Michael Dunford for the visit and for all the support that WFP continues to give to Burundi. She also reiterated her thanks to WFP for the institutional and technical support it offered to the country office of the Organization of African First Ladies for Development (OPDAD-Burundi).

In addition to the School Canteens program, Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye asked WFP to support the program called "Zero Malnutrition in Burundi" which she launched in October 2020 and which will last for five years.

(Source: www.presidence.gov.bi)

The Senate adopts the bill aiming to bring anti-corruption criminal justice closer to litigants



The Senate unanimously adopted on May 12, 2021, with a few amendments, the bill reallocating the powers of the anti-corruption court, its general prosecutor's office as well as those of the special anti-corruption brigade. The session was marked by

the presence of the Minister of Justice, Madame Jeanine Nibizi, who represented the Government to present the bill to the Senators and enlighten them on the most important aspects. In the explanatory memorandum which led to the drafting of this bill, the Representative of the Government explained that, until now, the repression of the offense of corruption and related offenses was centralized in the single judicial institution based in Bujumbura.

Mrs. Jeanine Nibizi clarified that the decentralization of powers by reassigning the high courts and courts of appeal is a means of allowing litigants to exercise the

possible remedies. For more precision, she indicated that specialized chambers responsible for judging the perpetrators of the corruption offense and related offenses will be set up in the high

courts and courts of appeal in order to bring the anti-corruption criminal justice closer to the litigants.

(Source: www.abpinfos.com)

Normalization of diplomatic relations between Burundi and the Netherlands



As part of the normalization of diplomatic relations, His Excellency Ambassador of Burundi in The Hague had a fruitful meeting with Director Alle Dorhout in charge of Sub-Saharan Africa at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Netherlands, on Monday, May 10, 2021.

The Director Alle Dorhout positively appreciates the efforts of the Government of Burundi with regard to the normalization of diplomatic relations with partners and especially the normalization of bilateral relations between Burundi and the European Union.

He also appreciated the efforts of the Government of Burundi in good governance, human rights and

the fight against corruption. In their interview, the Ambassador of Burundi in The Hague, asked for the deployment of investors in Burundi so that they interact with those of Burundi and that they exchange experiences even before the lifting of the sanctions taken against Burundi by the European Union.

The Ambassador of Burundi in The Hague informed his interlocutor that in this same framework of the normalization of bilateral relations, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation of Burundi plans to pay a visit to the Netherlands with a view to strengthening relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

These two personalities also discussed topics relating to environmental protection in general and the flooding of the waters of Lake Tanganyika which threaten the surrounding population. The Director Alle Dorhout said that Burundi needs advice and assistance in capacity building because the Netherlands has very experienced technicians and experts in the protection of the population that surrounds the coasts of lakes, seas and oceans.

(Source: [MFADC-Newsroom](#))

The Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation holds a general assembly to address all the staff of the Ministry



On 10th May 2021, the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation Mr. Isidore NTIRAMPEBA

represented His Excellency the Minister Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO during a general assembly held for all staff of the Ministry.

In his speech, Mr. Isidore NTIRAMPEBA recalled the measures to fight COVID-19 and invited all staff to respect barrier gestures and to apply more rigor in the implementation of measures to fight the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, Mr. Isidore NTIRAMPEBA took the opportunity to recall the elementary rules that must characterize each civil servant. He cited,

among other things, punctuality at work, processing files on time and meeting deadlines in the transmission of reports.



During this general meeting and after a briefing on the key files falling within the remit of each department, the newly appointed Senior Managers and Executives and those outgoing proceeded to the handover and recovery.

The outgoing Senior Managers thanked the country's High Authorities for the confidence they had been given and promised to stay close to those who replace them whenever necessary to provide them with the necessary support.

The incoming Senior Managers and Managers in turn, appreciated the confidence given to them by His Excellency the President of the Republic, His Excellency the Prime Minister and His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, and promised to do everything to carry out their assigned responsibilities.



The General Assembly closed with the presentation of the Executives who have returned to the Ministry from other institutions.

(Source: MFADC-Newsroom)

ONATEL: corrective measures are needed



The Minister of Communication, Information Technologies and Media Madam Marie Chantal Nijimbere met on Monday, May 10, 2021 the members of the ONATEL board of Directors, the Heads of Departments and the members of the works council in a meeting to assess the recommendations of the meeting that the Prime Minister held in December 2020, in

connection with the recovery of this company.

In this meeting with the responsible Minister, the Board of Directors informed him of an organizational and functional audit of ONATEL which was carried out on the recommendation of the Prime Minister and whose final report has already been presented to the Board of administration for analysis. The Director General of ONATEL, Mr. Privat Kabera, has indicated that the Board of Directors will soon be able to define a timetable for the implementation of the recommendations resulting from this audit.

Mr. Privat Kabera also explained that ONATEL has commissioned a general inspection to examine since its creation, which has pushed ONATEL to sink instead of moving forward, if there is one or the other authority that allegedly embezzled by allowing con-

tracts that do not meet the standards to go through. He said that the General State Inspectorate has already given its provisional report and that the final report will be made public.

Regarding ONATEL's recovery measures, this meeting discussed the renewal of the personnel of this company as far as more than half of the personnel are over the age of 50 and that retirements are high each year. For the Director General of ONATEL, it is essential to recruit dynamic and aggressive young people in the market. He explained that a social plan is also necessary to allow the elderly and the sick to leave voluntarily in order to give a gap for the recruitment of dynamic young people, especially since it is a commercial enterprise.

During this meeting with the Minister of Communication, Information Technologies and Media, the mana-

gement board agreed to implement all the recommendations so that until 2021, all the recommendations that do not require much resources and that ONATEL can implement a roadmap for the implementation of all recovery measures.

Regarding the problem of salaries that are not regularly paid, the Managing Director explained that there is low income following a launch of a new product, ONAMOB for which no working capital was planned. Today, continued the Managing Director, working capital comes from budget lines that allowed management to pay staff.

Finally, the Director General of ONATEL recommended that the staff not be discouraged and get to work diligently to increase income in order to get paid.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

Christians celebrated the Ascension



The Catholic and Protestant Christians of Burundi celebrated this Thursday, May 13, 2021 the feast of the Ascension which recalls the rise of Jesus Christ to heaven, a very important event that occurred 40 days after Easter.

At the Mount Sion Gikungu Sanctuary of Peace and Reconciliation in Bujumbura, Father Coyitungiye Herménégilde explained to the faithful why Jesus Christ ascended to heaven and did not stay with the disciples. Jesus had to leave them so that they could grow in faith. They were used to seeing it done for them, but that had to change.

The disciples had to feel responsible. They had to

understand that the mission of evaluating the world was theirs. From there, the priest urged parents to educate their children in responsibility. We must not suffocate children by keeping them in an eternal dependence, we must rather push them to be able to take charge of themselves, to take charge of their future, to know how to organize their life in case the parents are no longer alive, insisted Father Herménégilde Coyitungiye.

At the Rohero Baptist Church, the preacher asked each faithful to check if they have the signs that characterize believers as the Lord Jesus Christ said. Asked about the message to the faithful, Pastor Clément Niragira invites Christians and non-Christians to prepare for the return of Christ. To prepare for it, we must repent and accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

Muslims celebrate Eid-Al Fitr



Muslims celebrate Eid-Al-Fitr, a holiday that marks the end of the holy month of Ramadhan. At the Buterere Mosque in Bujumbura Town Hall, the prayer was led by Cheickh Hassan Nyamweru, one of the Imams of the Bujumbura mosques.

In his message to the Muslim community, Cheickh Hassan Nyamweru called for safeguarding peace and security. He also asked Muslims to celebrate this holiday in peace and invite their relatives and neighbors to share what they have, while avoiding waste.

On this occasion, Cheickh Hassan Nyamweru asked the Muslim community to join others by investing in cooperatives and in the banking sector to contribute to the development of the country.

Addressing the Muslim community, Cheickh Hassan Nyamweru called on Muslims to avoid divisions, to respect each other, to love each other and to respect the institutions of the State and of Islam.

He explained to his fellow citizens that life on earth has an end and urged them to show humility and do good to prepare for the life they will lead in the Hereafter.

Cheickh Hassan Nyamweru urged followers of Islam not to seek to appear or exert influence over one another. For this Imam, Islam calls for solidarity, love and unity.

It should be remembered that the feast of Eid-Al-Fitr coincided with the Ascension, a Christian feast which recalls the ascension to heaven of Jesus Christ.

(Source: www.presidence.gov.bi)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation

Department of Communication

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