



The Head of State leads a moralization session for Senior Officers of the Defense Corps



The Commander-in-Chief of the Defense and Security Corps took this opportunity to discuss with Senior Officers of the Defense Corps on the problems that the country is facing, on good governance and on their duty as leaders to serve as a model in the establishment of mechanisms that could put the country on the path to development. It was an opportunity for the President of the Republic to remind them that they are the pillars of development and national reconciliation, and to invite them to be good leaders.

The Head of State H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye continues his campaign of moralization towards all layers of Burundian society. After meetings with the natives, the Administrators and the young people of the different provinces, it was the turn, on Wednesday May 26, 2021, of the high-ranking Officers of the Burundi Defense Corps. During a moralization session that he led for them at ISCAM, the President of the Republic reminded them that they are the pillars of the reconciliation of the Burundian people.

In this moralization session, the Head of State stressed from the outset that he had not come to discuss military matters, but rather to talk with them about patriotic love, for invite them to invest more in contributing to the development of the country.

In conclusion, the Head of State urged the senior military officers not to be distracted by Burundi's dark and painful past, not to reconsider this past under the Hutu or Tutsi hat, but to make it the same reading as a Burundian to learn a lesson and do their best to build a harmonious country.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

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The President H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye receives a message from his Central African counterpart



The President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye received in audience, this Thursday, May 27, 2021, Mrs. Sylvie BAIPO TEMON, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Central African Republic, carrying a message from the President of the Central African Republic to his Burundian counterpart.

The President of the Republic briefed him on the situation prevailing in Burundi, which more attracted the admiration of Mrs. Sylvie BAIPO, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Central African Republic.

"Since the Central African political actors and civil socie-

ty have understood the need to live harmoniously, everything is gradually going in the right direction," said President Ndayishimiye, who is delighted to see the progress of the brother and friend country. To reconcile people, we must first reassure life, encourage everyone to work for a living, organize activities that bring many people together, including sports tournaments", the President H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye suggested to him.

The President of the Republic has pledged his support, especially in human resources with experience, whenever needed.

He did not fail to say that even Burundians can go to the Central African Republic to invest in the agricultural sector and thus encourage the Central Africans to see clearly and to feed the population of less than 5 million people more cheaply. It should be noted that a kilogram of rice costs between US \$ 8-9, whereas in Burundi it is less than a dollar.

Minister BAIPO thanked President Evariste Ndayishimiye for his wish to promote South-South cooperation.

(Source: www.presidence.gov.bi)

UN condemns recent attacks in Burundi



The President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye received in audience, this Thursday, May 27, 2021, Ambassador François Louncény Fall, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General for Central Africa.

"I take this opportunity to condemn the attacks

perpetrated in Bujumbura, such as to undermine the efforts already made since the accession of His Excellency President Ndayishimiye to the supreme office of this country", said Ambassador Louncény Fall who affirms to have taken good notes of Burundi's commitment to make a remarkable comeback on the sub-regional political scene in Central Africa and in the Great Lakes region. "We encourage you for the positive actions taken, not only to stabilize Burundi, promote regional reconciliation, but also to overshadow the atmosphere in the Great Lakes region", Ambassador Fall said.

He also congratulated Burundi in advance on the role it will play during the six months of the presidency of the United Nations Permanent Advisory Committee on Security, in order to consolidate the bases of cooperation, security and stability in Central Africa and the Great Lakes region.

(Source: www.presidence.gov.bi)

The Government of Burundi and the World Bank committed to jointly coordinate projects



The President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye received in audience, this Wednesday, May 26, 2021, the Director of Operations at the World Bank on behalf of DRC, Angola, Burundi, Sao Tome and Principe, Mr. Jean Christophe Carret.

After presenting to him the status of projects financed by the World Bank, the Head of State expressed his satisfaction with the collaboration which marked the team of World Bank. He nevertheless raised some difficulties which made it not meet the expected expectations, and promised to make

further adjustments.

"We intend to align all civil servants at work, each in his department, and each funded project must be well specified in its action plan", said President Ndayishimiye, while acknowledging that an adjustment is necessary to achieve satisfactory results.

The Supreme Commander of Burundian development intends to organize good governance, significantly reduce expenses and increase revenues, fight effectively for food security, ensure the good health of the population and professionalize young people who have various diplomas, etc.

"We are very appreciative of your vision and we are delighted to support you in your development program", said Mr. Jean Christophe Carret, Director of Operations, however raising the ownership of projects and expertise on Burundi side.

The Burundian Head of State has reviewed many projects for which the financing of the World Bank will bring great support to the Burundian people.

(Source: www.presidence.gov.bi)

President H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye calls on the population to prepare for Cultural Season C



At the time when the President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye had just proceeded, this Saturday, May 22, 2021, to the harvest of corn on the Mpehe hill of the Bugarama zone in Muramvya province, where he urged the Burundian population to indulge to agriculture in this

season C.

"Agriculture is an industry that never goes bankrupt. We ask the people, each one to develop a small vegetable garden during this dry season", said President Evariste Ndayishimiye.

On this area of 2.5 hectares, including one for the Head of State, 8 tons of corn were produced. Production was expected to vary between 10 and 13 tones, however, if it had not been for the torrential rains that hit the area.

The President of the Republic then visited his field of Japanese plums planted on 2.5 hectares.

(Source: www.presidence.gov.bi)

President H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye asks Burundians to draw strength from the Holy Spirit to reconcile and forgive each other



While he joined the Christians of Saint Michel Parish to celebrate Pentecost, in the company of his family, the President of the Republic, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye urged the Burundians to seek the strength of the Holy Spirit in this period of national reconciliation:

"It is a great day for Burundians because at this time all Burundians need to be strengthened to grant forgiveness and be reconciled with their neighbor, given the tragic events that have taken place in our country. Whether it is the perpetrators of the crimes that have been committed, the victims and the witnesses, all of

us Burundians are called to ask for the strength of the Holy Spirit to be able to denounce these crimes and renounce revenge".

His Excellency the President of the Republic continued by calling on the Burundians to implore divine strength to accept the painful past they have lived through and find the strength to build a bright future.

He took this opportunity to wish the Burundian population and all foreigners living in Burundi a happy feast of Pentecost.

The Archbishop of Bujumbura, Mgr Gervais Banshi-miyubusa, in his homily, also called on the Burundians to reconciliation in order to form a united family, the only way, according to him, to achieve lasting peace.

Note that the celebration of Pentecost in the Parish of Saint Michael coincided with the day of receiving the sacrament of confirmation for the young people, among whom was one of the daughters of His Excellency the Head of State.

(Source: www.presidence.gov.bi)

The First Lady of Burundi receives in audience the Chinese Ambassador to Burundi



The First Lady of Burundi, HE Angéline Ndayishimiye, at the same time President of the Organization of African First Ladies for Development (OPDAD), received in audience on Monday May 24, 2021, the Ambassador of the People's Republic of China in Burundi, HE Zhao Jiangping.

In an interview with the press at the end of the audience, the First Lady of Burundi said that they discussed the activities of the First Lady in general, and those of the OPDAD in particular.

As she is new to her job, H.E Zhao Jiangping came to inquire about the situation so that she can continue where her predecessor left off, she added.

She also stressed that the Ambassador of the People's Republic of China has accepted that she will continue to support the activities of OPDAD and those of the good action foundation "Umugiraneza". She also promised to strengthen cooperation as the two countries enjoy good relations.

As for HE Zhao Jiangping, she affirmed that they had a very friendly conversation and that they mentioned the cooperation projects that they have already carried

out in Burundi, especially in the implementation of the National Development Program (PND 2018 - 2027).

She said China has achieved victory in the fight against poverty, adding that women play an impor-

tant role in economic development. It is for this reason that they shared the consensus to expand cooperation projects to help vulnerable people, and improve the health of mothers and children.

(Source: ABPinfos N ° 12321)

Cibitoke: the First Lady assists families affected by Covid-19



The First Lady, President and founder of the "Umugiraneza" good action foundation with the support of the Merck Foundation, provided assistance to 50 families of women from Rugombo commune in Cibitoke province on Tuesday May 25, 2021, who carried out crossing border small businesses which has stopped due to the COVID-19 pandemic which has caused the border to be closed.

This assistance, worth 4 million Burundian francs, consisted of loincloths, cooking oil, powdered milk, beans, rice and salt.

The First Lady also granted aid consisting of food and other goods to the family of Daniel Nzoyikorera, born Siamese and who received health assistance from the 1st Lady with the support of the Merck Foundation. The First Lady indicated in her speech that the granting of assistance to women affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in their small business activities is a sign of support for these women since before the pandemic, they could support their families.

She urged the beneficiaries of this aid to group together in cooperatives to engage in other income-generating activities. On behalf of all beneficiaries of this aid, Madam Bernadine Nahimana welcomed the support of the First Lady, and appreciated the fact that their problems are known to the Burundian authorities.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

The President of the National Assembly receives in audience the Ambassador of the People's Republic of China in Burundi



The President of the National Assembly of Burundi, the Right Honorable Daniel Gélase Ndabirabe received in audience on Tuesday May 25, 2021, in his office, the new Ambassador of the

People's Republic of China, H.E Ms. Zhao Jiangping.

At the end of the audience, the Chinese Ambassador to Burundi expressed his satisfaction to be received by the President of the National Assembly. She said they had just met on traditional relations between the National Assembly of Burundi and the National Assembly of the People's Republic of China.

H.E Jiangping pointed out that they reached a consensus to broaden the exchanges between the two legislative bodies, especially at the level of the standing committees by sharing experiences, achievements, economic development, etc.

The Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Burundi did not forget to mention that within the framework of the China-Africa Cooperation Forum, we can share experiences by channeling efforts to promote democracy through constructions.

The President of the National Assembly of Burundi, in turn, praised the relations of friendship and cooperation between China and Burundi. He said that during their meeting, they took a retrospective look at bilate-

ral relations and found that they were good in the sense that we shared a lot of things in terms of economy, politics, diplomacy, etc.

He said they agreed to continue to promote these relations of friendship and cooperation to make them even more dynamic.

(Source: ABPinfos N ° 12324)

The Senate unanimously adopted the bill fixing the general State budget, fiscal year 2021/2022



The Plenary Assembly of the Burundian Senate unanimously adopted, on May 26, 2021, in its hemicycle of Gitega (center of the country), the bill establishing the general budget of the State, for the financial year 2021 / 2022. The Minister of Finance, Budget and Economic Planning, Dr. Domitien Ndi-hokubwayo, indicated in this plenary assembly that it goes from 1422.81 billion FBu in 2020/2021 to 1563.3 billion FBu in 2021/2022, ie an increase of 9.8%, while specifying that this budget is made up of current income and donations.

However, Dr. Ndi-hokubwayo said that the budget in

question shows an overall deficit of 151.8 billion FBu against 153.2 billion francs bu in 2020/2021, a decrease of 1.4 billion FBu (0.91%). Speaking on the priority allocations retained in the 2021/2022 draft budget, Minister Dr. Ndi-hokubwayo presented the details as follows: support for development projects of hill cooperatives for an amount of BIF 87.8 billion; the implementation of a fair wage policy in the public sector for an amount of 34 billion BIF; the allocation of a road maintenance fund to finance the "Zero Pothole" road network maintenance campaign for an amount of BIF 28 billion; the continuation of provisions for the elections for an amount of BIF 13.2 billion; continued construction of administrative buildings for an amount of BIF 11 billion; the subsidy and production of seeds for an amount of 3 billion BIF and the recruitment of teaching and health personnel respectively for the amounts of 2.7 billion BIF and 854.1 million BIF.

(Source: ABPinfos 12326)

Gitega: the Burundian Senate seeks the truth about the events of 1972



The Senate of Burundi released on Wednesday, May 26, 2021, a press release in connection with a series of conferences on the events of 1972, under the theme: "to remember and properly qualify the events of 1972". The said press release was read by the Second Deputy Speaker of the Senate Hon. Cyriaque Nshimirimana.

This press release indicates that the Burundian Senate is organizing these conferences with the aim of advising the executive power and the National Assembly in accordance with article 192, point 6 of the constitution, on the issue of the eradication of ethnic divisions in order to build a just, equitable and truly reconciled Burundi.

According to this statement, the Senate of Burundi seeks to know the truth about the action of the Government in the events of 1972, through a series of conferences of testimonies and reflections.

It is for this reason that the Senate opened the podium to give an opportunity to all those who have something to say, whether they are for or against, alleged perpetrators or alleged victims, in order to help the Burundian Senate to collect enough testimonies and rich reflections to reach the truth about the nature of the crimes committed in 1972, continues the

Second Deputy Speaker of the Senate Hon. Cyriaque Nshimirimana in this press release.

He said that the Burundian Senate is taking this opportunity to ask national and international opinion to support this action which aims to know the truth and reconcile the Burundian people. The Burundian Senate thanks those who have already presented or who will present their testimonies during this series of conferences, he added.

The Second Vice-President ended the reading of this press release by announcing that the third conference is scheduled for Friday, May 28, 2021, at the Hotel Club of Lake Tanganyika. The fourth will take place on June 11, 2021 at the same location and the fifth is scheduled in Gitega on June 25, 2021.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

Senate: adoption of the bill ratifying a donation agreement between Burundi and IDA



The Burundian Senate met on Tuesday May 25, 2021 in plenary session to analyze the bill on the ratification by the Republic of Burundi of the donation agreements N ° D7900-BI and TFOB5105-BI between the Republic of Burundi and the International Development Association (IDA) relating to the second additional financing of the KIRA health system support project, signed in Bujumbura on May 3, 2021.

The Minister of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS Dr. Thaddée Ndikumana was invited to the Senate to defend the said bill. The session was chaired by the First Deputy Speaker of the Senate Mrs. Spès Caritas Njebarikanuye.

In the explanatory memorandum, the Minister in charge of Public Health announced that the World

Bank will support Burundi for free health care for children under 5 and pregnant women, as well as for the care of children under 5 years old and pregnant women in charge of gender-based violence. This 2nd additional funding from the Kira project of 34.8 million Special Drawing Rights (SDR) is equivalent to US \$ 50 million for the IDA grant and US \$ 4.6 million for the GAVI donation under the support project for the health system in Burundi, has just been signed between the World Bank and the Government of Burundi.

The initial development goal is to increase the use of quality reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health services and, in times of crisis or emergency, to provide an immediate response, continued the Minister.

After the clarifications provided by the Representative of the Government of Burundi in the person of the Minister of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS, the Burundian Senate unanimously adopted this bill.

The Senate then received in plenary session the Burundian Ombudsman Honorable Edouard Nduwimana

who came to present the 2020 annual report of the institution he heads.

The Burundian Ombudsman said that out of the 442 cases analyzed in 2020, 117 cases were closed. 29 cases were declared inadmissible, either constituting cases pending before the courts, or inadmissible due to the fact that the party in question does not have a public mission, and 305 cases are still being processed. He indicated that hearings of the applicants were made as well as field visits to make inquiries relating

to the processing of the files under analysis.

Among the challenges faced by the Ombudsman Institution, Honorable Edouard Nduwimana raised the non-decentralization and unsuitability of this Institution to current circumstances, as well as the non-appropriation of its recommendations by some members of the Government.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

Burundi Senate adopts two bills



The Burundian Senate met Thursday, May 26, 2021 in Gitega, to analyze the bill amending Law No. 1/06 of March 10, 2020 establishing and granting the status of Supreme Guide of Patriotism to the late President Pierre Nkurunziza. The Minister of Justice Mrs. Jeanine NIBIZI was the guest of the day to provide clarifications on this bill.

In her explanatory memorandum, Minister Jeanine Nibizi indicated that the modification of this law is necessary because article 4 of the law establishes a national day dedicated to patriotism and organized in July when the Government wants to celebrate this day on June 8 of each year. The law specifies that the national day dedicated to patriotism is chaired by President Pierre NKURUNZIZA while he is no longer alive. It is therefore obvious to replace "President Pierre NKURUNZIZA" by "the President of the Republic of Burundi", she added.

After the clarifications provided by the Minister of Justice, the Burundian Senate adopted this bill amending the law establishing and granting the status of Su-

preme Guide of Patriotism to President Pierre Nkurunziza with 38 votes for out of 1 vote against.

Before, the Senators had analyzed and adopted the bill establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area (ZLECAF). The project was presented by the Minister of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock, Ir Deo Guide Rurema who had represented the Government of Burundi.

The plenary session was chaired by the First Deputy Speaker of the Senate, Mrs. Spès Caritas Njebarikanyu.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

The Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation opens the 51st meeting of Experts of the United Nations Permanent Advisory Committee in charge of Security Issues in Central Africa



On May 25, 2021, the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation Mr. Isidore NTIRAMPEBA proceeded to the opening of the 51st meeting of Experts of the United Nations Permanent Advisory Committee in charge of Security Issues in Central Africa (UNSAC).

UNSAC being a consultation platform in order to provide appropriate responses to the security challenges affecting the stability of our sub-region and its sustainable development, Experts from all delegations are called upon to debate for three days on questions relating to the review of the geopolitical and security situation in Central Africa; monitoring of the situation in Chad, the Central African Republic and the Republic of Equatorial Guinea; violent extremism and terrorism

in Central Africa; the promotion of disarmament in Central Africa; piracy and maritime security in Central Africa; the management of elections in Central Africa; the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda in Central Africa and the human rights situation in Central Africa; the human rights situation in Central Africa; and the review of the financial situation of the Committee.

This meeting is organized around the theme "the management of electoral processes in the area of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS)".



Notice that the meeting of Experts of the United Nations Permanent Advisory Committee on Security Issues in Central Africa (UNSAC) which is scheduled from May 25 to 27, 2021, will be followed by a ministerial session on May 28, 2021.

(Source: MFADC-Newsroom)

Burundi, elected to chair the Bureau of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa



The 51st meeting of Experts of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security questions in Central Africa (UNSAC) which began on April 25, 2021, was the occasion to present the report of the outgoing Bureau and to proceed to the election of the incoming Bureau. During these elections, Burundi was elected to chair the Bureau of the United Nations Permanent Advisory Committee in charge of Security Issues in Central Africa.

The First Vice-Presidency returned to Gabon while

Angola occupies the 2nd Vice-Presidency of the Bureau of the Committee. For the position of rapporteur of the Bureau of the Committee, Cameroon and Sao Tome and Principe have applied, their files are still under analysis.

The Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation Mr. Isidore NTIRAMPEBA said that the election of Burundi to the presidency of the UNSAC Office is of a great importance for Burundi because it gives it a place of choice within the International Community. He recalled that this is in addition to the various contributions of Burundi within the United Nations and the African Union in peace keeping and security area.

Mr. Isidore NTIRAMPEBA did not fail to point out that the presidency of the UNSAC Bureau conferred to Burundi will greatly contribute to its image among other Nations. To this end, Burundi will use the place and the prerogatives conferred to it by this appointment to do everything so that the search for appropriate solutions to security issues in the Central African region occupies an important place.

In addition, Mr. Isidore NTIRAMPEBA indicated that

the fact that Burundi was able to host such a meeting, is an eloquent sign which makes it possible to prove to the world that Burundi is a peaceful and frequentable country, in contrary to what is said here and there by ill-intentioned people who have other political aims intended to tarnish the image of the country. Indeed, the fact that all these foreign delegations are in Burundi proves that there is peace and security as well as beautiful places and tourist sites to visit.

Mr. Isidore NTIRAMPEBA added that the future is bright for Burundi because, after this meeting, Burundians expect a revitalization of tourism and a growth of foreign investment. For this, Government of Burundi will do whatever is necessary to bring improvements in this direction.

Note that the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee in charge of Security Questions in Central Africa meets once every six months under the chairmanship of the UNSAC Bureau at the ministerial level in one of the member States.

(Source: MFADC-Newsroom)

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation officially launched the 51st Ministerial Meeting of the United Nations Permanent Advisory Committee in charge of Security Questions in Central Africa



The 51st Ministerial meeting of the United Nations Permanent Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa was held on May 28, 2021.

In his opening speech, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, HE Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO indicated that it is within the framework of the continuity of the mission devolved to the

Permanent Advisory Committee in charge of security questions in Africa (UNSAC in acronym) set up by the Secretary General of the United Nations in accordance with Resolution 46 / 37B adopted on 6/12/1991 by the General Assembly of the United Nations, following the request formulated by the respective Member States that the meeting is held in Bujumbura for the 3rd time after the ministerial meetings of the Committee in 2012 and 2014.

He indicated that the theme chosen for this meeting is entitled: the management of electoral processes in the area of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS).

HE Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO, explained that the choice of this theme was not the result of chance for the good and simple reason that in recent decades, democratic elections have become the norm in many African countries in general and in those of the sub-region in particular. He indicated that the

choice of the said theme was dictated by the imperative to subscribe to the spirit and the letter of the Declaration of Malabo, of December 4, 2020 on democratic and peaceful elections as a means of strengthening stability and achieving the development objectives in Central Africa. He recalled that the successful elections help consolidate democracies and set the stage for the prospect of economic development in Central Africa.

With regard to Burundi, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, HE Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO indicated that the constitution of June 7, 2018 devotes a whole title to the elections, the related provisions of which guarantee the right to vote, free, transparent and fair elections, the practical details of which have been defined in the electoral code. This same constitution provides the establishment of an independent National Electoral Commission which must guarantee the freedom, impartiality and independence of the electoral process.

He said that in Burundi, the electoral process which is one of the expressions of Democracy in democratic

systems is gradually consolidating, and democratic culture is becoming more and more a reality.



After the overview of the general and specific considerations on the choice of the theme of the 51st Ministerial meeting by HE Albert SHINGIRO, various speeches by different Representatives of countries and International Organizations followed and the meeting continued behind closed doors.

(Source: MFADC-Newsroom)

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation closes the 51st Ministerial Meeting of the United Nations Permanent Advisory Committee in charge of Security Questions in Central Africa



The 51st meeting of the United Nations Permanent Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa (UNSAC) which began on May 24, 2021 in Bujumbura, was closed on Friday May 28, 2021.

Before the closing, the Representative of the Democratic Republic of Congo presented a vote of thanks to Burundi.

In his closing speech, the Minister of Foreign Affairs

and Development Cooperation, HE Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO thanked all the delegations who took part in the great “give and take” meeting. He said Burundi was honored to host the meeting, after the 2012 and 2014 meetings were held in Bujumbura respectively. It is a manifestation of a strong friendship not only towards the Burundian people but also a mark of very great confidence in the new President of the Republic of Burundi HE Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE who since his arrival in power, has not ceased to strengthen relations of friendship and cooperation between our countries, he added.

He said that as the theme of the meeting was centered on the management of elections in the area of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), he shared with them the Burundian experience of holding the referendum on the constitution of June 2018 and the elections of 2020 which took place in a free, transparent and peaceful manner, and entirely financed by national means.

HE Albert SHINGIRO also thanked the other delega-

tions who also shared the experiences of their respective countries. He indicated that democracy being a process, it is only through the organization of free, transparent and peaceful elections that we will further strengthen political and democratic governance in our sub-region.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation said that during this meeting, after the report of the outgoing bureau and the election of the Bureau of the incoming committee, all the delegations went through, with a fine comb, in a very relaxed atmosphere and in all serenity, all the questions on the agenda.

In an interview with journalists, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, HE Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO said that the participants from the 11 countries represented, mainly addressed the issues of peace and security, starting with the security situation in Central African Republic and Chad. He indicated that the participants supported the 2 countries so that their peace situation can improve so that their populations can deploy their efforts in development issues.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation pointed out that another summit will be held on June 4 in Brazzaville to take an in-depth look at the situation in Chad.

H.E Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO indicated that they addressed the challenge of terrorism on land and sea. The delegations of the countries of Central Africa agreed to combine their efforts to get rid of these phenomena. Other points discussed concerned the imple-

mentation of United Nations resolution 1325 on women, peace and security and the phenomenon of mercenarism. He said that the delegations present will transmit them to their respective Heads of State.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation said that chairing this committee is a great honor for Burundi. Hosting a meeting of this dimension, the first time since 2015, shows that Burundi is gradually returning to the national and international scene. He indicated that Burundi will carry out its 6-month mandate, explaining that the country has the resources it takes to get there.

Recall that alongside the delegations of 11 countries in Central Africa, this meeting saw the participation, among others, of the special Representatives of the Secretary General of the United Nations to the African Union, for the Great Lakes region and the African Union Special Representative for the Great Lakes Region.

On the evening of Friday May 28, 2021, the participants to the 51st meeting of the United Nations Permanent Advisory Committee in charge of Security Questions in Central Africa (UNSAC) were invited by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation HE Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO at the Hotel du Club du Lac Tanganyika, to share a drink to the rhythm of Burundian drums and traditional dances. The day's activities were closed in an atmosphere of joy and fraternity.

(Source: MFADC-Newsroom)

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation receives in audience the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General for Central Africa



This Wednesday, May 26, 2021, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation His Excellency Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO received in audience the Special Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations for Central Africa Mr. François Louncény Fall, who is in Burundi, within the framework of the 51st ministerial meeting of the United Nations Permanent Consultative Committee in charge of Security issues in Central Africa. This happened when terrorist act was committed on the night of May 25, 2021 in the Town Hall Bujumbura.

During his visit, the Special Representative of the

Secretary General of the United Nations for Central Africa informed the Minister that they were sincerely outraged by this act of terrorism which took place while the Government of Burundi provided sufficient efforts to ensure the safety of its population and even that of other countries. He therefore saluted Burundi's contribution to peacekeeping operations through AMISOM and MINUSCA. The Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General for Central Africa has declared that he absolutely condemns this criminal act.

The Special Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations for Central Africa also took this good opportunity to salute the efforts of the Burundian Government which made it possible to stabilize the country on the security level, which led to Burundi being lifted from the agenda of the United Nations Security Council. Mr. François Loucény Fall also congratulated Burundi on taking the chairmanship of the United Nations Permanent Consultative Committee on Security Issues in Central Africa and said they are confident that Burundi will be up to the task.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation His Excellency Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO, meanwhile, told his guest that he is happy to see this meeting being held in Burundi. He took this opportunity to brief him on the situation in Burundi where he informed him that the security situation in Burundi is good from the North to the South, from the East to the West, passing by the Center. The Minister emphasized very well that the act of terrorism which occurred on May 25 in the Town Hall of Bujumbura is an isolated act which aims to sabotage the good efforts of the Burundian Government with regard to the preservation of peace and security of the country. He said some of the perpetrators are already caught and will be punished according to the law. Investigations were already underway to find out the reasons behind this despicable act.

Regarding the holding of the 51st ministerial meeting of UNSAC, His Excellency Albert SHINGIRO declared that Burundi is happy to host this meeting on its soil and that, in the policy of the Government, the President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE aims to open up Burundi on the regional and international scene.

(Source: MFADC-Newsroom)

Burundi could ratify Kinshasa Convention before the end of this year

In an audience granted to him by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation His Excellency Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO, the Special Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations for Central Africa came back to the Convention of Central Africa for the control of small arms and light weapons, their ammunition and all parts and components that can be used for their manufacture, repair and assembly, known as the "Kinshasa Convention", adopted in 2010 by eleven signatory countries. He encouraged Burundi to ratify this convention which is already in force for some countries in the region.

Regarding the ratification of the Kinshasa Convention, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation thanked his interlocutor for this reminder, and promised that Burundi would make the necessary efforts to ratify it before the end of this year.

Note that the "Kinshasa Convention" aims to strengthen the control of small arms and light weapons and

to combat their illicit trade and trafficking in Central Africa. It was negotiated within the framework of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Issues in Central Africa (UNSAC) and unani-



mously adopted on April 30, 2010 in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo, during the 30th ministerial meeting of the Committee.

(Source: MFADC-Newsroom)

The Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General for Central Africa congratulates the Government of Burundi for the displayed management of COVID-19

In an interview with the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation His Excellency Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO during his courtesy visit of May 26, 2021, the Special Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations for Central Africa Mr. François Louncény Fall let explode his great appreciation for the decision of Burundi to hold this 51st meeting of the UNSAC, face-to-face.



He also announced that the Organization he represents appreciates and commends the Government of Burundi for the efforts made to fight the global COVID-19 pandemic.

On the humanitarian level, the Special Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations for Central Africa has indicated that they have noted with regret the upwelling of Lake Tanganyika but that they are ready to fight together against climate change and their harmful effects.

Regarding humanitarian issues, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation announced that Burundi is welcoming Burundian refugees who are returning in mass from neighboring countries such as Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Tanzania, etc.

However, the issue of refugees is an international one. To do this, Burundi is seeking support from regional and international partners in order to support the integration of returning Burundians and those who receive them.

The Minister also took this opportunity to announce that some Burundians have moved internally, following the upwelling of Lake Tanganyika caused by climate change. He took this opportunity to appeal to Burundi's partners in the regional and international community, in order to support Burundi and to provide support to these Burundians in internal displacement, within the framework of facing the challenge of climate change which is shared.

Minister Albert SHINGIRO ended the discussions by making a comment on the management of the COVID-19 pandemic in Burundi. He informed the Special Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations for Central Africa that the Government of Burundi has made the choice between the economy and the health of the population.

The Government having understood that health is not recoverable once it is gone but that the economy can always be restored, it has chosen to prioritize the health of the population, by organizing massive campaigns of free COVID-19 tests.

Thus, Burundi is the least affected country in the region, but COVID-19 also exists in Burundi. The Government continues to take care of the population and to raise awareness for the observation of barrier measures against this pandemic.

(Source: MFADC-Newsroom)

Burundi new Ambassador in Nairobi presents her Credentials



On Tuesday May 25, 2021, the Ambassador of the Republic of Burundi Her Excellency Madam Evelyne HABONIMANA presented to the Head of State His Excellency Uhuru KENYATTA, her creden-

tials which accredit her as Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of the Republic of Burundi to the Republic of Kenya.

Kenya and Burundi enjoy good relations of friendship and cooperation, and are all members of the East African Community.

The good cooperation that so fortunately exists between these two countries is based, among other things, on the sharing and strengthening of investment opportunities within the framework of existing and future economic cooperation, at bilateral and regional level.

(Source: Embassy of Burundi in Nairobi)

Diplomatic week: The Ambassador meets the Diplomatic Heads of Missions accredited to Burundi



The Ambassador of Burundi in Dar Es Salaam HE Gervais ABAYEHO met on Thursday May 27, 2021 certain Heads of Diplomatic Missions accredited to Burundi with residence in Dar es Salaam, in order to prepare together the diplomatic week as well as a business trip scheduled for the last week of June 2021.

After a discussion session, the Diplomats agreed to meet on June 25, 2021, in Burundi where they plan to visit certain tourist sites to get an idea of the immense business opportunities offered by the country.

As a reminder, the Diplomatic Week should take place from June 28 to 30, 2021, therefore this business trip explains why the Heads of Missions accredited to Bu-

rundi should meet in Bujumbura a few days earlier. It will be a golden opportunity for them to savor the beauties of Burundi before attending the independence ceremonies on July 1, 2021, to which they have been invited.



The Ambassador HE Gervais ABAYEHO took the opportunity to show his colleagues an updated document from the Investment Promotion Agency (API) on business opportunities in Burundi. He also took the opportunity to praise the success of Burundian coffee, which quality is well established on the world market.

(Source: Embassy of Burundi in Dar Es Salaam)

The Ministry in charge of Public Health receives two donations of medicines



As part of its continued technical and logistical support in the fight against COVID-19 in Burundi, the World Health Organization (WHO) handed over on Wednesday May 26, 2021 to the Ministry of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS, a donation of various products, materials and consumables worth 426,747 US dollars, or more than one billion FBU. The lot includes laboratory kits for COVID-19 screening, management equipment (respirators, oxygen adapters, oxygen tubes, etc.), personal protective equipment for prevention and control of infection.

This medical equipment had been identified by mutual agreement by the technicians of the WHO and the Ministry in charge of Health as meeting priority needs, in line with the recently validated National Response Plan against COVID-19. According to the Minister of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS, Dr Thaddée

Ndikumana, this donation strengthens the screening and management of COVID-19 cases, and also supports the mass screening campaign "NDAKIRA, SINANDURA KANDI SINANDUZA" initiated by the President of the Republic of Burundi HE Evariste Ndayishimiye.

Dr Xavier Crespin, WHO Representative in Burundi congratulated the Government of Burundi for the remarkable efforts made in the response against COVID-19 and reaffirms the commitment of WHO and the various technical and financial partners to support Burundi in the fight against this pandemic.

UNICEF also provided the Ministry of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS with antimalarial drugs and inputs for an amount of BIF 614,410,699 which will contribute in the fight against malaria with funding from the Department of Financing International Development (DFID).

About 407,000 children under 5 suffering from uncomplicated malaria and 16,000 people suffering from severe malaria will be able to be treated thanks to this donation from UNICEF.

According to Mr. John Agbor, UNICEF Representative in Burundi, with 4.8 million cases and 2.735 deaths in 2020, malaria remains a public health problem in Burundi. Joint efforts by all are needed to limit the death rate from this disease, he concluded.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

The National Committee for the Fight and Management of the Covid-19 pandemic visits the Gatumba screening site



The National Covid 19 Management Committee on Thursday visited the screening site being installed at the Gatumba border post. The purpose of the visit was to inquire about the progress of the site development work. The Gatumba screening site on the border with the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is composed of a hand washing device, a waiting room before screening with a capacity of 60 people, a screening center, a results waiting room, a results recording station.

At the end of the guided visit, the Vice-President of the National Covid19 Committee and Minister in charge of Public Health Dr. Thaddée Ndikumana affirmed that this Gatumba screening site on the border with the DRC meets the standards required in the matter. It will be operational from June 1st. It is at this time that the Gatumba border post will be reopened to facilitate the

entry of visitors from the DRC.

The Minister of Public Health and the Fight against Aids Dr. Thaddée Ndikumana, believes that similar Covid19 screening sites should be set up at other border posts between Burundi and neighboring countries.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

Restitution meeting on the evaluation of IFAD's country strategy and program in Burundi



The Government of Burundi in collaboration with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) organized on Monday, May 24, 2021, a virtual meeting to review the evaluation of the strategy and the country program of IFAD in Burundi.

In his opening speech, Dr. Déo Guide Rurema, Minister of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock indicated that this evaluation covers ten projects and programs for the period from 2009 to 2020. The evaluation is the first to be conducted by IFAD's Independent Evaluation Office, the Minister said.

The objective of the meeting was to assess the performance of the country strategy and program as well as the impact of IFAD's operations in Burundi. The conclusions of the evaluation will enrich the discussions during the preparation of the next strategic options program (COSOP) in order to further strengthen the partnership between IFAD and the Republic of Burundi, explained the Minister.

Dr. Déo Guide Rurema said that the impact of the program on rural poverty in the intervention areas is satisfactory. The effects and impacts observed in terms of improving production and productivity (increase in

food crop yields by 211% and milk production from 382 to 1,400 liters / lactation, etc.) enabled an improvement in income at least 30% for households benefiting from the program, which has resulted in an improvement in their living conditions.

Among the factors explaining this performance, Minister Déo Guide Rurema cited the continued and long-standing presence of IFAD in Burundi, the sustained commitment of the Government, the professionalism and stability of project staff as well as the participatory approach and the "make-do" approach at the community level.

However, it was noted that some activities or funded sub-projects were not the subject of a prior environmental and social study. The capacities of national actors to ensure the mitigation and compensation of the environmental and social impacts of the achievements are also weak.

The evaluation recommended prioritizing strategies and actions to reduce land pressure and facilitate access to assets for the most vulnerable, strengthen actions to develop the resilience of populations and infrastructure towards the climate change, continue and update the interventions to improve the food and nutritional security of beneficiaries, strengthen actions to develop the resilience of populations and infrastructures towards the climate change and complete the transition to the program approach.

The Minister of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock recalled that since 1979, IFAD has financed 14 development projects in Burundi at a cost of USD

668.9 million at approval, of which 43% loans and grants from IFAD, nearly 43% international cofinancing and 14% by the Government of Burundi and beneficiaries.

The Minister of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock, Dr. Déo Guide Rurema thanks IFAD for the

multifaceted support provided to Burundi and asks it to continue to support the country to build together this major project in order to ensure food security, and that he has no doubt that together the results will be better because “the Union is Strength”, he concluded.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

The Ministry in charge of Public Health receives two donations of medicines



The Minister of Communication, Information Technologies and Media in collaboration with the World Bank group proceeded on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at the hotel Le Panoramique, to the launch of a workshop to disseminate a diagnostic study on the digital economy in Burundi.

The Minister of Communication, Information Technologies and Media, Mrs. Marie Chantal Nijimbere said that the National Development Plan (PND 2018-2027), in certain strategic axes provides for the development of production support infrastructure, the strengthening of the system education and improving training as well as governance as key areas to achieve sustained strong inclusive growth by 2027.

She added that for the implementation of the National Development Plan, the Ministry in charge of ICTs has put in place a national policy for the development of information and communication technologies which will be made concrete through sectoral strategies, the overall vision of which is to make the ICT sector a catalyst for economic growth by 2027. In addition, according to Mrs. Nijimbere, the period of the COVID-19

pandemic that the world is going through has revealed that digital transformation must have a place in our society and in Government policies because the use of digital technology has become overwhelmingly essential to overcome the challenges linked to the crisis. She also pointed out that in Burundi, the political will to develop the ICT sector which is a transversal sector obviously matches the mission of all stakeholders which is universal access to ICTs to achieve digital inclusion.

According to the Minister having ICT in her attributions, in Burundi this sector presents strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats and this is why a diagnostic and analytical study is important in order to bring concrete actions to boost the transformation of Burundi's digital economy. She also stressed that the report of the study on the digital economy in Burundi is a great opportunity that will enlighten all stakeholders in the ICT sector whether in decision-making, in the prioritization of actions or the implementation of policies in this sector.

Minister Mrs. Nijimbere further clarified that the results of this study go hand in hand with the lines of intervention of the ministerial strategy for the ICT sector through the development of digital infrastructure through a well-regulated, attractive, productive and competitive digital sector ecosystem. This through the development of digital skills that will support the performance of the education system in accordance with national needs and international standards in this sector. The existing infrastructure will also benefit from it through the use of platforms allowing the modernization of public administration ser-

vices.

This will contribute through digital inclusion to the offer of financial services, promote financial inclusion for all, and by promoting digital entrepreneurship which is one of the areas of intervention of the national program for the economic empowerment of young people recently launched by the President of the Republic of Burundi. The Resident Representative of the World Bank in Burundi, Mrs. Véronique Kabongo said that the digital economy is one of the elements that will be able to accelerate the economic development of the

country. She said that we have started to make the diagnosis to properly determine the areas of intervention necessary for this digital economy to become a reality as soon as possible. She promised that based on the will of the Government of Burundi, the World Bank will be able to invest in an important project to push digital technology in Burundi and all stakeholders are invited to participate in digital development.

(Source: ABPinfos N° 12324)

Towards an adequate legal status for community radios



The Ministry of Communication, Information Technologies and Media in collaboration with the UNESCO office in Burundi organized in Bujumbura from May 24 to 25, 2021, a workshop to review the report of the national consultation on the status legal of community radios in Burundi.

According to the UNESCO coordinator for peace in Burundi, Mr. Bruno Dzounesse Tayim, for almost 5 years, community radios have been on UNESCO's agenda. And to add that capacity building activities for community radio staff started in 2017.

He said that these trainings, organized as part of the 1st phase of the project entitled "strengthening the capacities of community radios through ICTs" focused on various themes such as the management of a press organ, the strategy of marketing, planning, financial management, taking into account the gender dimension, the use of ICTs, specified the Coordinator of UNESCO in Burundi.

In this context, some equipment was handed over to the first radio stations benefiting from the project activities, namely dove FM, CCIB FM +, HUMURIZA FM, Radio Voice of the Woman of Giheta, he underlined. The UNESCO Coordinator in Burundi explained that the 2nd phase of the project mainly focused on the theme "gender and media" which aimed to ensure a place for women in the participation in radio activities, the participation of women in decision-making bodies, management of the Radio to root out anything that touches on sexist stereotypes and prejudices.

For him, despite the local contribution of the population of community radio stations, which everyone is aware of, their sustainability is experiencing enormous difficulties, including the absence of their definition, legal status, qualified personnel, poor mobilization of funding, etc.

According to the Assistant to the Minister of Communication, Information Technologies and Media Mr. Thierry Kitamoya who opened the workshop, the objective of the workshop is to reread and revisit the report produced at the end of the national consultation on the legal status of community radios, the legal and regulatory framework with a view to integrating into the law governing the press of 2018, provisions which significantly improve the legal status of community radios.

He indicated that the Ministry is aware of the role played by community radios which promote citizen participation and help bring about the change so

sought after by the National Development Plan (PND 2018_2027) put in place by the Government of Burundi.

The local media help in the process of democratization of information and the Government appreciates the role of community radios in the dissemination of information which helps the populations of deep Burundi to improve their living conditions.

The participatory method adopted by community radio stations is part of the National Development Communication Strategy in support of PND 2018_2027, he continued.

For Mr. Thierry Kitamoya, the Government hopes that the initiators of these participatory social development tools will be able to place themselves on the side of the logic of profit which is incompatible with the logic of citizens.

To deal with the precariousness of the media, which are tools for raising awareness of a change in mentality, the Government of Burundi has set up the Media Support Fund but which cannot meet the needs, hence the Assistant Minister called on Burundi's partners to support this fund. He recalled that the Ministry having the media in its attributions has many media support projects contained in the sector strategy for the establishment of the PND 2018_2027 including the improvement of the legal and political environment, the modernization of equipment, etc.

The communication officers of the country's high institutions, representatives of community media, experts in press legislation and stakeholders in this field took part in this workshop.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

National Exam 2021 edition: 90,683 candidates expected



The students of the 9th year took the national competition edition 2021, giving access to post-basic education, this Tuesday, May 25, 2021.

The passing of this test lasts 3 days. The test was officially launched by the Minister of National Education and Scientific Research, Mr. François Havyarimana, at the Kaburantwa communal high school in Buganda commune, Cibitoke province. He noted that the competition was going normally except on a center where there was a lack of 12 copies which were taken on another center without difficulty. The Minister called on the students to work calmly as they do

in other assessments.

In Bujumbura Town Hall, the national competition was supervised by the Provincial Director of Education in Bujumbura Town Hall, Mr. Fidélité Nibigira. The Mayor of the city of Bujumbura Mr. Jimmy Hatungimana arrived on the ground to find out about the national competition.

The Mayor and the Provincial Director of Education noted that the candidates presented themselves en masse, despite a few cases of absence for various reasons including school dropouts. The candidates were also serene and hopeful of success, said the mayor who spoke with some students.

Minor problems were recorded at the beginning, in particular the late arrival of some supervisors and some badly registered names in particular at Ecofo Mirango1 in Ntakangwa commune. But everything is back to normal and the activities of the first day of the national competition went well in the town hall of Bujumbura.

A total of 90,683 candidates were expected to sit the competition in 955 examination centers across the country.

The national competition covers Maths, languages, humanities, science and technology, entrepreneurship.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation

Department of Communication

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