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Ministry of Foreign Affairs and
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SPECIAL EDITION : DIASPORA WEEK, 5TH EDITION

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation organizes the 5th Edition of the Diaspora week



On Tuesday July 27, 2021, the Vice-President of the Republic of Burundi His Excellency Prosper BAZOMBANZA enhanced with his presence the opening ceremonies of the 5th Diaspora Week, 2021 Edition, under the theme "The Contribution of the burundian Diaspora in the implementation of responsible and laborious government's policies and Programs", at the Royal Palace Hotel.

In his welcome speech, the Mayor of the city of Bujumbura, Mr. Jimmy HATUNGIMANA, wished a warm and cordial welcome to all the guests and wished them a good time in Bujumbura. He thanked His Excellency the Vice-President of the Republic of Burundi and other High Authorities who presen-

ted themselves in the activities of this Diaspora Week despite their specifications. He also thanked the Government of Burundi through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation for having chosen to hold these activities in the Town Hall of Bujumbura. He added that it is an honor for the economic capital of the country.

In their speeches, the President of the International Diaspora and the Representative of the International Organization for Migration all thanked the Government of Burundi for having organized this week of the Diaspora, 2021 Edition because it is an opportunity offered to the members of the Diaspora to visit their dear homeland and investigate ways to contribute to its development.

In his speech the Minister of Foreign



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His Excellency Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO said that the Government of Burundi has adopted a National Development Plan 2018-2027. He called on all the burundian people, including members of the Diaspora, to take ownership of the said plan and contribute to its implementation.

Note that since July 2014, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation organized a Diaspo-

ra Week except in 2019 and 2020 because of the global Corona Virus pandemic. Several projects have been carried out by members of the burundian Diaspora in different sectors of national life and several actions have been carried out to support the Diaspora.

The Diaspora Week is organized every year at the end of July to allow participants to celebrate "Communal Day" scheduled for the first week of August. The Minister Albert SHINGIRO invited members of the Diaspora to massively celebrate this day in their native communities alongside their brothers and sisters. The place of the Diaspora in the development of the country is very remarkable, as evidenced by the provincial and municipal administrators. Their achievements have responded to the concerns of the population in the fields of agriculture and animal husbandry, health, education, infrastructure and others.

(MFADC)

Responsible and Laborious Government's policies and programs towards members of the burundian Diaspora during the 5th Edition of the Diaspora week

During the activities of the Diaspora Week, several themes were presented in particular: Modernized agriculture to support the economy, a new philosophy of national education, a national health policy / health for all, the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commis-

Reta Nkozi) serves as a leading example to face the grievances of the population in their daily life, protection, to change the image of the country through good governance in clairvoyance, in intelligence, in the love of work, in wisdom and patriotism, that is why we speak of "TWESE HAMWE TURASHOBOYE" (Together we can).



sion, justice and fairness, repatriation, resettlement of refugees and others

In his speech, the Vice-President of the Republic, Mr. Prosper BAZOMBANZA said that the motto of the responsible and hard-working Government (Reta Mvyeyi,

The Government of Burundi and its people are proud of the peace and security that reign in Burundi. There is also the voluntary and massive repatriation of Burundians to their country of origin.

The Government of Burundi is in the process of putting certain projects working in the National Development Plan, namely; the new philosophy of national education, construction of hospitals in all the municipalities of the country, the eradication of poverty, fight against corruption and economic embezzlement, the protection of human rights, creation of banks, etc. In their different presentations, the speakers underlined, each in his field, the role of the Diaspora in the development of the country.

(Rédaction-MAECD)

The President of the Republic of Burundi leads a moralization session for members of the burundian Diaspora who participated in the 5th Burundian Diaspora Week, 2021 Edition, at the Royal Palace Hotel



As part of activities of the Diaspora Week, the President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE led on the second day a moralization session for

members of the burundian Diaspora who participated in the 5th burundian Diaspora Week, 2021 Edition, on Wednesday July 28, 2021 at the Royal Palace Hotel.

In his speech, the Head of State welcomed the members of the Burundian Diaspora and wished them to benefit from the hospitality offered to them by their country and positively appreciates their massive participation in these activities which are dedicated to them. He indicated that this moralization session is an opportunity to discuss their contribution to the current development process and the realities of Burundi. He demonstrated the need to keep their burundian culture in their country of residence.

"Instead of favoring foreign mentalities, you would do better to refer to your national life", articulated the President of the Republic while noting that social protection and solidarity have always characterized the burundian people.

The President of the Republic also asked the burundian Diaspora to be good Ambassadors of Burundi in their countries of residence and not to take into consideration the false statements disseminated against Burundi "No one could claim to love his country while he propagates hateful or defamatory remarks against him, sullyng his image, continued the President of the Republic. The Head of State His Excellency Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE told the burundian Diaspora that burundian citizens are at the crucial phase of reconciliation and of building their sus-



tainable development. However, he deplores the fact that some burundians are seeking to make divisions instead of uniting to build the country. "We advocate sound and fair management to banish all forms of frustrations among citizens," added the President of the Republic Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE.

The President of the Republic promised members of the Diaspora to facilitate their investments and reassured them that the doors of the Presidency are open to all those who want to contribute in supporting the development process. He told them that the technical services of the State in charge of the Diaspora are available for any services that the Diaspora might need.

Members of the Diaspora took turns speaking to express their willingness to contribute in the implementation of responsible and hard-working government policies and programs. The moralization session continued behind closed doors. At the end of the session, the Spokesperson of the President of the Republic Evelyne BUTOYI informed that during this moralization session, the President of the Republic urged the burundian Diaspora to be good Ambassadors of their native country in the countries of residence and to promote the image of Burundi. She also indicated that the participants in this moralization session promised to invest more in contributing to the development of their dear homeland.

(MFADC)

An excursion to Muramvya by members of the burundian Diaspora during the Diaspora Week, 2021Edition



Members of the burundian Diaspora made an excursion to Muramvya province to the Lovimax tea extension, processing and marketing plant which is under construction.



The Governor of Muramvya Province Mr. Diomède NZAMBIMANA welcomed members of the Burundian Diaspora to his province. Governor Diomède NZAMBIMANA called on the burundian Diaspora to come and invest in Burundi because Burundi has many investment opportunities.

He also congratulated the new team which had just been elected, whose President is a native of Kiganda Commune in Muramvya province.

During these activities, recommendations resulting from the working days of the Diaspora week were issued to members of the Diaspora, in particular to promote the image of Burundi in order to encourage investors to come and invest there.



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The Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation Mr. Ferdinand BASHIKAKO who represented the Minister to close the Diaspora Week reminded them to take into consideration the advice given to them by the President of the Republic in order to safeguard burundian culture and not to be indoctrinated by the cultures of their countries of residence. The Permanent Secretary also congratulated the new leaders of the International Diaspora and wished them good success in their work which awaits them. (MFADC)

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Visit to Burundi of the Nigerian Minister of State in charge of Foreign Affairs: A joint commission of experts is set up for rapid implementation of the agreements

On July 29, 2021, the President of the Republic of Burundi His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye spoke with Amb. Zubairu Dada, Nigerian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Special Envoy of the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria His Excellency Muhammad Buhari.

From the President HE Evariste Ndayishimiye, Amb. Zubairu Dada carried a Message of fraternal greetings and best wishes for a strengthening of the excellent relations which fortunately exist between Burundi and Nigeria.



During a cordial conversation, the discussions focused on the will shared by the highest authorities of Burundi and Nigeria to strengthen the fraternal ties that unite their countries.

Indeed, in order to quickly materialize the existing agreements and those to come, a joint commission of experts was set up.

Among the sectors of cooperation identified are education, agriculture, diplomacy and the exploitation of the Burundian subsoil.

President Evariste Ndayishimiye indicated that "Burundi is entering a period of economic recovery" and that even if "the financial challenges are not lac-

king, they do not seem insurmountable because Burundi can count on the resilience of its citizens, but also on the 'support from friendly countries including Nigeria "

The two personalities are committed to doing everything possible to promote mutually beneficial cooperation between their countries in particular and between African countries in a global sense.

While awaiting the conclusions of the bilateral discussions which are continuing at the level of the Ministries responsible for Foreign Affairs, the Burundian Head of State expressed the wish to soon visit the Federal Republic of Nigeria to exchange experiences. (www.presidence.gov.bi)

The First Lady launches the hepatitis B screening campaign among pregnant women



Burundi joined, this Wednesday July 28, 2021, with other countries of the world to celebrate the Day dedicated to the fight against Hepatitis B under the theme "Hepatitis cannot wait, mothers cannot wait . "

The ceremonies marking the day began with the official launch of the Hepatitis B screening campaign among pregnant women by the First Lady of the country, Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye, an activity that took place at the Community Medicine Center of Buyenzi, in Bujumbura Town Hall.

The ceremonies continued with an awareness-raising workshop for decision-makers, senior executives and executives from the ministries in charge of Health, Finance, National Solidarity and technical and financial partners on the Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission.

The WHO Representative in Burundi, Dr Xavier Crespin, said in his speech that "more than 90 million people are living with hepatitis in the Region and more than 124,000 Africans die each year from the consequences of " undetected and untreated hepatitis. "

Dr Thaddée Ndikumana, Minister of Public Health and

the Fight against AIDS, meanwhile, said that studies already carried out show that more than 5% of people in Burundi are infected with the hepatitis B virus while about 10% have Hepatitis C.

Speaking, the First Lady of the country, Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye stressed that the step taken by Burundi gives hope that the country will be able to achieve its goal of eliminating the virus of Hepatitis, HIV and Syphilis by 2030: "the screening equipment as well as the hepatitis treatment drugs are available in Burundi, it is no

longer necessary to go abroad for treatment," suggested Her Excellency the First Lady while acknowledging that these drugs are unfortunately still expensive. She therefore appealed to technical and financial partners to support Burundi so that screening equipment and drugs are accessible especially for pregnant women and that newborns can be protected.

Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye also invited the populations to respond massively to screening for the hepatitis virus in order to know their serological status and thus be able to act accordingly.

In addition, she asked to combine efforts to fight against this disease, to vaccinate newborns as part of prevention and finally to mobilize funds so that drugs and screening tests are accessible to everyone.

Note that the hepatitis B screening campaign was organized by the Organization of African First Ladies for Development, OPDAD-Burundi, in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health and WHO and will last 3 days. (www.presidence.gov.bi)

Ruyigi: farmers invited to register their properties in communal land offices



The President of the National Assembly, the Right Honorable Daniel Gélase Ndabirabe, gathered in the capital of Ruyigi province on Monday, July 26, 2021, representatives of cooperative societies from this same province. The objective of this meeting was to discuss with them the responsibilities of cooperative societies in the development of the country.

In this meeting, the President of the National Assembly explained to the heads of the cooperative societies of Ruyigi that given that 85% of the population live from agriculture and livestock, the Government of Burundi considers agriculture and livestock as a pillar of development. The Right Honorable Daniel Gélase Ndabirabe took this opportunity to invite the entire Burundian population, without distinction, to join these cooperative societies to raise living standards and develop the country. For the President of the National Assembly, even the reluctant should be forcibly recruited because, according to him, no one should be left behind in development.

It was an opportunity for the President of the National Assembly to explain to the heads of cooperative societies in Ruyigi province what the state expects from them. He made them understand, in fact, that these cooperative societies are places of multiplication of wealth and that they have a duty to produce a lot for local consumption and for export in order to have foreign currency and ensure the economic growth of the country. The President of the National Assembly also explained to the heads of the Ruyigi Cooperative Societies that it is these cooperative societies that must implement the communal community development plans. The President of the National Assembly also

pointed out to them that the Government of Burundi expects cooperative societies to produce strong production, which can finance the public debt and the budget deficit and make Burundi an emerging country.

The Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament took this opportunity to invite representatives of cooperative societies to work hand in hand with the Provincial Bureau of Agriculture and Livestock (BPEAE) and the administration, which are responsible for "ensure close supervision of these cooperative societies, in order to achieve the Government's objectives.

He added that the Government of Burundi is ready to finance, in addition to the "Sangwe" cooperative societies, the activities of all other cooperative societies, provided that they register and undertake to work regularly. He also explained that according to the Government's vision, the cooperative societies must produce in such a way as to contribute in the payment of the public debt and to finance the budget deficit which will have to tend towards zero in 2027.

The Right Honorable Daniel Gélase Ndabirabe encouraged the agro-pastoralists of Ruyigi to register their land holdings with the communal land offices and the land title in order to have property titles that will allow them to acquire bank loans to develop. He announced at the same time that all unexploited land properties must be identified and given to cooperative societies or private economic operators for exploitation, while specifying that half of the production will be handed over to the owners of these lands.

The participants in this meeting had the opportunity to express their grievances. Among the concerns of the heads of Cooperative Societies in Ruyigi province are the lack of fertilizers and the lack of selected seeds. They also mentioned the lack of insecticides. In this regard, the President of the National Assembly suggested that the answers to all these concerns will be provided by the supervisors of the cooperative societies on each census hill.

Finally, the Speaker of the National Assembly encouraged members of "Sangwe" cooperative societies to build storage sheds to keep production.

(www.rtnb.bi)

Policy: The leaders of the different socio-professional sectors called to increase agro-pastoral production



The President of the National Assembly, the Right Honorable Gélase Daniel Ndirakobuca, has been mobilizing since Tuesday July 27, in the capital of Muyinga province (North-East of Burundi), those responsible for the various sectors of the life of the province to a change in behavior. He calls on them to do everything to invest heavily in the agro-pastoral sector in order to increase production on the one hand and boost the country's economy on the other. The day of Tuesday was devoted to the interview of the President of the lower house of the Parliament with the leaders of the various state services. In his teachings, the Right Honorable Gélase Daniel Ndirakobuca informed the audience that the Government of Burundi has made the agro-pastoral sector an urgent priority to raise the country's economy in

order to achieve sustainable development. It is in this capacity that he urged the administrators and all the staff in charge of agriculture and livestock to combine their efforts so that this priority of the State is translated into action. He invited everyone, the population, administrators and those in charge of agriculture and livestock, to do everything to ensure that all available land properties are developed. "No property can remain unused in Muyinga province," he warned. Speaking of administrative governance, he asked administrative managers to change their behavior in order to really serve as leaders. "An administrative official must play his role of serving the population," he said. Also, he added, any administrative manager must know the threshold of knowledge of its directed in order to propel them and the latter benefit from the presence of the directed. Finally, an administrative manager must adopt a low profile, be attentive and give real-time answers to the concerns of the population. (www.abpinfos.com)

Bururi: Senate Speaker demands exemplary sanctions against corrupt magistrates



The Senate Speaker the Right Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera paid on Tuesday July 27, 2021, a visit to Bururi province

where he met in Matana commune, representatives of the population, administrators, political and religious leaders of Mugamba and Matana communes to discuss the life of the two municipalities and collect their complaints.

In speech, the Senate Speaker, the Right Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera asked the judiciary working in the Mugamba and Matana communes to work for the good of the population by avoiding the corruption which handicaps the judicial sector. He discouraged the bad behavior of some magistrates who demand bribes from litigants and demanded exemplary sanctions against them.

On this occasion, the Right Honorable Emmanuel Sin-

zohagera welcomed the restoration of security and called on the population of these two municipalities to safeguard peace and security and asked them to cohabit peacefully. And to reduce land disputes, the President of the Senate specified that the Govern-



ment will set up notables hills who will be responsible for reconciling the parties in conflict. He also recommended to the population to build the

hill Chefs' offices to facilitate them to accomplish their task.

The Senate Speaker took this opportunity to urge the population of Mugamba and Matana communes to protect the environment by drawing contour lines to avoid erosion, to fight bush fires and to protect water sources. He did not forget to call on the natives of Bururi to develop their province by building beautiful houses and hospital infrastructures.

The Right Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera asked the people of Mugamba and Matana to take advantage of this peace and security that reign in the country to get down to development work through cooperatives. Speaking to young people, he asked them to draw up development projects and thus create jobs. He reminded them that there is a Youth Investment Bank (BIJE) which grants credits for the execution of projects for young people.

The Senate Speaker subsequently asked the people of Bururi province to avoid ethnic segregation, explaining that the ethnicity affair was intended to manipulate people, to divide them for hidden interests. "The Burundians

are the same", insisted the Speaker of the Burundian Senate. He pointed out that following the ethnic conflicts, the Province of Bururi was very affected by the events of 1972.

The Senate Speaker informed the population of Mugamba and Matana communes that his institution organized reflection conferences on the events of 1972, and invited people to testify in order to know the truth and bring the Burundians to reconcile themselves in a definitive way..

(www.rtnb.bi)

Signature of memoranda of understanding between Burundi and Nigerian



This Friday, July 30, 2021, the work of the 1st session of the permanent joint commission for cooperation between Burundi

and Nigeria continued with the ministerial session. After the Experts' session the two Parties represented by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation

of the Republic of Burundi HE Albert SHINGIRO and the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Nigeria Ambassador Zubairu Dada, signed a memoranda of understanding on political consultation and education.

In his remarks, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, HE Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO

thanked the Nigerian Delegation for having accepted the invitation of the Government of Burundi to come and participate in this session of the mixed commission. He explained that their presence attests to the continuity of the excellent relations of friendship, cooperation and brotherhood that our two countries maintain bilaterally.

He said that during the session, they, among other things, instituted a permanent consultation mechanism between

the two respective Ministries of Foreign Affairs which will allow a regular follow-up of the achievements of this session and will also make it possible to initiate 'other partnership projects in the pipeline. He continued by indicating that they have, moreover, instructed services concerning areas of cooperation between Nigeria and Burundi so that Agreements or Memorandum of Understanding relating to it are revised or initiated in order to submit, as soon as possible, upon signature, by the competent authorities of two countries. HE Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO reassured the

Nigerian side that the Government of the Republic of Burundi will take into consideration the decisions and recommendations they have just taken in order to benefit from the benefits of cooperation between Nigeria and Burundi.

To further strengthen this privileged relationship between the Republic of Nigeria and the Republic of Burundi, HE Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO indicated that they had fruitful exchanges on the following draft Agreements and Memoranda of Understanding and even signed them; the Memorandum of Understanding on the Establishment of bilateral political consultations between the Republic of Burundi



and the Republic of Nigerian and the Memorandum of Understanding in the field of Education. The Minister in charge of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Burundi welcomed the signing of these agreements.

As for Ambassador Zubairu Dada, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Nigeria, he warmly thanked the Government of Burundi for hosting the delegation and for holding this session of the Joint Commission. He said that relations between Burundi

and Nigeria go back a long time. He said it would be mutually beneficial to expand our socio-economic ties so as to improve the well-being of our two countries. He thus indicated that the 2nd session of the permanent joint commission for cooperation between Burundi and Nigeria will be organized in Abuja, Nigeria. (MFADC)

1st Session of the Permanent Joint Commission for Cooperation between Burundi and Nigeria: Work of Experts



This Wednesday, July 28, 2021, at Best Out Look Hotel, the Minister's Assistant of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation Mr. Ferdinand BASHIKAKO launched the work of Burundian and Nigerian experts. This work is part of the 1st session of the Permanent Joint Commission for Cooperation between Burundi and Nigeria which is held in Bujumbura from July 28 to 30, 2021.

In his opening remarks, the Minister's Assistant Mr. Ferdinand BASHIKAKO appreciated the determination of the Governments of Burundi and Nigeria to revitalize cooperation in order to reinforce existing relations and promote the economic and socio-cultural development of the two countries and the two peoples. He said that these excellent relations have materialized through numerous bilateral agreements and memoranda of

understanding which have already been signed between our two countries.

The Minister's Assistant Mr. Ferdinand BASHIKAKO pointed out that this session, which is the first one of



the Joint Commission for Cooperation between Burundi and Nigeria, will undoubtedly help to further

develop relations between the two countries in the political, economic, social and cultural fields. He added that at the technical level, this session should serve as an appropriate framework for the evaluation of the implementation of the agreements that had already been signed in the past, the finalization of new agreements, meetings



between Burundian and Nigerian Businessmen. The Minister's Assistant Mr. Ferdinand BASHIKAKO hinted that the two sides will finally have to set new ambitions to further strengthen relations of friendship

between Burundian and Nigerian Businessmen. The Minister's Assistant Mr. Ferdinand BASHIKAKO hinted that the two sides will finally have to set new ambitions to further strengthen relations of friendship

and cooperation. They will explore the opportunities that arise in health, education, commerce, industry, crafts, tourism, energy, mining, transport, agriculture and livestock, etc...

In his speech, the Head of the Nigerian Delegation Ambassador Salisu Z. Umar thanked the Government of Burundi and said that the holding of this meeting is a sign of strengthening and reinforcing bilateral relations through the commitment of officials from the two countries.

After this opening session, the work continued in groups,

according to different sectors.

This work will be closed with a ministerial session and the signing of memoranda of understanding by the Ministers in charge of Foreign Affairs of Burundi and Nigeria.

(MFADC)

The day dedicated to local solidarity will now be celebrated on July 6, 2021



Three Ministries including the Ministry of Home Affairs, Community Development and Public Security, the Ministry in charge of National Solidarity and the Ministry of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock organized, Thursday July 29 2021 in Gitega, an information and awareness-raising session for members of the national committee and offices of provincial local solidarity committees as well as municipal administrators on the local solidarity day, 2021 edition. The objective of this meeting was to discuss the preparations for this day dedicated to local solidarity. The activities of this meeting were opened by the Minister in charge of Home Affairs CPC Gervais Ndirakobuca.

In his opening remarks, CPC Gervais Ndirakobuca recalled that this day will now be celebrated on August 6, 2021 on the eve of the celebration of the festival dedicated to the municipalities. And this day will be celebrated at the level of all the hills. The administrators are called upon for the success of this local solidarity policy, said the Minister in charge of Home Affairs.

He also informed the administrators that local solidarity will soon be fixed in the criteria for evaluating the performance of municipalities.

The Minister in charge of Home Affairs then granted a



period of one month to the Governors of the provinces and Administrators to sensitize the owners to demolish all the infrastructures built in an anarchic way and which do not respect the required measures along the national roads. .

Regarding the vaccines against Covid-19 that will be provided in Burundi by the World Bank, the Minister of Home Affairs, Community Development and Public Security CPC Gervais Ndirakobuca has informed that he will be vaccinated whoever wants it and that the Government of Burundi is not responsible for side effects due to vaccination. Closing the meeting, the Minister in charge of national solidarity Mrs Imelde Sabushimike asked the administrative staff to sensitize the population to collect food and other non- food items in order to assist the vulnerable, on August 6, 2021 as part of local solidarity via all kinds of press releases through community radios, churches, and public places . (www.rttmb.bi)

Ministère des Affaires Etrangères et de la Coopération au Développement

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