



## President Ndayishimiye went to take part in the 78<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly



On Monday September 18, 2023, the Head of State His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, accompanied by the First Lady Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye, arrived at New York to take part in the work of the 78<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly planned on September 18 to 26, 2023.

Bringing together 173 member countries, the United Nations General Assembly meets in regular Sessions from September to December at New York and at other times as needed to analyze the specific issues that lead to the adoption of resolutions.

For this year, that high-level meeting

has the theme “Restoring the trust and reviving solidarity: accelerating action to achieve the 2030 Agenda and its sustainable development goals in favor of peace, prosperity and progress.” Several Heads of State and Government are expected, including the Burundian President His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye who delivered his speech on Thursday September 21, 2023. On the sidelines of the general debate, a series of high-level meetings and bilateral meetings are planned which mark the start of the work of the 78<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Assembly, according to the provisional timetable established. **(Presidency)**

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## The Burundian President delivered the speech during the 78<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly



In his speech delivered on Thursday September 21, 2023 during the 78<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly held in New York, the Head of State His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye called on the international community to cultivate the trust and solidarity between the States for south-south cooperation.

Welcoming the theme chosen for this year: "Rebuilding the trust and reviving the global solidarity: Accelerating the 2030 agenda and its sustainable development goals towards peace, prosperity, progress and sustainability for all", he stressed It is time to rebuild a peaceful world favorable to progress, by cultivating the trust, mutual understanding and solidarity.

"The international solidarity that we want does not seek to homogenize but rather to be a bridge between the differences and even the divergences, connecting each other through the mutually respectful and beneficial relationships," suggested the Burundian Number One.

He added that the international solidarity should obviously encourage the developed countries to contribute

concretely to the socio-economic development efforts of the least developed countries".

Returning to the case of Burundi, the President of the Republic presented the various reforms taking place in different sectors of national life with a view to making Burundi an Emerging country in 2040 and a Developed country in 2060.

"To win our bet, we put the young people and women at the forefront who are real actors in socio-economic development through the promotion of entrepreneurship, innovation and the spirit of creativity," He indicated. the President of the Republic held also advocated for the better inclusion and effective participation of the young people in United Nations development programs, as Champion of the African Union for the Youth, Peace and Security Agenda,

He deplored that the political and security instability of the countries of the South, especially in Africa, comes from the will of the powers who want to guide the internal policies of developing countries and lamented, condemning at the same time the unconstitutional changes of powers before reiterating his country's firm commitment to the peaceful resolution of the conflicts through dialogue, cooperation, consultation and negotiation.

Praising the professionalism and sacrifice of the troops committed to peace in Somalia, including the Burundian contingent, President Ndayishimiye drew the attention of the international community to the consequences of the hasty closure of the African Union Transitional Mission in Somalia, The African Union Transitional Mission in Somalia (ATMIS), which according to him, risks giving terrorist groups the opportunity to strengthen themselves. **(Presidency)**

## The Head of State had fruitful meetings on the sidelines of the 78<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)



Evariste Ndayishimiye had the fruitful meetings with the

On Monday September 18, 2023, on the sidelines of the 78<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), the Head of State His Excellency

various High Personalities.

The President of the Republic first met the Secretary General of the United Nations, Mr. Antonio Guterres, with whom they discussed the strengthening of the bilateral relations between Burundi and the United Nations.

In an interview given by the Spokesperson of the President of the Republic of Burundi after the audience, Ms.

Rosine Gatoni indicated that it was an opportunity for the Burundian Head of State to present the Vision of Burundi emerging in 2040 and developed in 2060 requesting the support from the United Nations to achieve this vision while suggesting that Burundi already has the potential to achieve it.

During the meeting, the Secretary General of the United Nations congratulated the Burundian Head of State for the reforms undertaken with a view to cleaning up the justice sector and ensuring the socio-economic development of the country and reassured him the support of the United Nations for the achievement of the Vision of Burundi emerging in 2040 and developed in 2060.

“Referring to the issue of peace and security, the Secretary General of the Nations welcomed the efforts of H.E President Ndayishimiye to restore peace in the Democratic Republic of Congo and praised the bravery of the Burundian soldiers deployed in peacekeeping missions in different countries,” continued Ms. Rosine Gatoni, the Spokesperson of the President of the Republic of Burundi.

The Head of State His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye then spoke with his Korean counterpart, His Excellency Yoo Suk Yeol. They discussed about the strengthening of cooperation with Burun-

di, the wish for South Korea is to expand its economic cooperation to the member countries of the East African Community (EAC), the sharing of experience of the promoting cooperation aiming at the common development.

As support for the socio-economic development of Burundi through the health sector, the President of the Republic of South Korea HE Yoo Suk Yeol granted a donation of 20 ambulances for promoting the maternal and child health in Burundi.

During their discussions, the President of South Korea also requested the support of Burundi to support the candidacy of the City of Busan to host the Universal Expo in 2030.

The President of the Republic of Burundi spoke in favor of the request and expressed the hope that a joint commission could be set up to study priority areas for strengthening bilateral relations between Burundi and the South Korea.

Finally, the Burundian Number One met a group of investors belonging to the SpaceX company which provides the satellite launch services into space. He welcomed them to Burundi so that they could bring their expertise, particularly in the provision of a high-speed internet by satellite. **(Presidency)**

### A bilateral meeting between Burundi and Uganda was held on the sidelines of the 78<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)



**O**n wednesday september 20, 2023, the President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste

Ndayishimiye granted an audience to the Vice-President of the Republic of Uganda, Mrs. Jessica Alupo, on the sidelines of the 78<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly which is held in New York, where they discussed the subjects of common interest to the strengthening good fraternal relations between Burundi and Uganda. “This meeting gave both parties an opportunity to mutually appreciate the state of friendship and cooperation between the two countries,” said Ms. Rosine Gatoni, Spokesperson for the President of the Republic.

“The Vice President of Uganda, on behalf of the Ugandan Head of State H.E Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, encouraged and congratulated the Burundian

Head of State for the efforts made as current President of the EAC to restore peace in the DRC and the wisdom he demonstrated in suggesting a peaceful resolution to the conflict in Niger while Burundi assumed the presidency of the African Union (AU) for the month of August,” she said for a follow-up.

The Vice-President of the Republic of Uganda also carried a message from H.E Yoweri K. Museveni inviting his Burundian Counterpart to take part in the Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement scheduled for January and the Summit of the Group of 77<sup>th</sup> China which will also be held in Uganda in the same month of January 2024.

In turn, the Burundian Number One appreciated the invitation, conveying to his Ugandan Counterpart the recognition for the support that Uganda showed to the Burundian people during the period of the civil war. **(Presidency)**

## The Vice President calls on youth to increase their efforts to propel Burundi towards its emergence



**O**n behalf of the Burundian Head of State, the Vice-President of the Republic H.E Ir Prosper BAZOMBANZA enhanced with his presence, on thursday september 21, 2023 at the Cercle Hippique of Bujumbura, the launch of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition of the Young Intellectuals Forum, YouthImpulse, under the theme: “The role of youth in the implementation of the vision Burundi, Emerging Country in 2040 and Developed Country in 2060.”

The Vice-President of the Republic H.E Ir. Prosper BAZOMBANZA indicated that that youth forum, bringing together around a thousand young people from the sub-region, is an opportunity to jointly evaluate the achievements of the Economic Empowerment and Youth Employment Program. (PAEEJ) during the two years of its existence and to see the contribution of the said program to achieving the vision Burundi, emerging country in 2040 and developed country in 2060.

The Representative of the Minister of East African Community Affairs, Youth, Sports and Culture, for his

part, declared that the Economic Empowerment and Youth Employment Program is the initiative of the Burundian Government and aims to solve the problem of youth unemployment. He added that the said program records to its credit: 2184 projects already financed found on all the sectors of the country, 2798 jobs actually created, 4213 potential jobs being created, 9982 young people trained.

The Vice-President H.E Ir. BAZOMBANZA further clarified that the Burundian Government, under the leadership of His Excellency General Major Evariste Ndayishimiye, has already concentrated a lot of efforts in the youth sector by notably setting up the PAEEJ, the Investment Bank for Youth (BIJE) and the Impulse, Guarantee and Support Fund (FIGA) with a view to enabling the financing of development projects initiated by the young people and took the opportunity to encourage them to repay the loans taken out to enable the refinancing of other projects. He also noted that the Government is committed to combating youth unemployment and therefore urged Burundi's partners to support that sector of unparalleled importance, for the country's development.

Before visiting the exhibition stands of the products resulting from the projects initiated by those young people and supported by the Youth Economic Empowerment and Employment Program (PAEEJ), the Vice-President of the Republic thanked the organizers of the said forum and advised the young people looking for employment not to neglect the work and above all to agree to start with a small capital which, over time, could become large. **(Presidency)**

## College of Quaestors: Evaluation visit of the Budgetary and Administrative Management of the National Assembly to the General Secretariat



**I**n accordance with article 54 of the internal regulations of the National Assembly states that:

“The supervision and control of the administrative and financial services are entrusted to a College of three Quaestors on behalf of the National Assembly”.

It is with that in mind that the College of Quaestors car-

ried out a visit to evaluate the budgetary and the administrative management of the National Assembly to the General Secretariat of that prestigious institution, on september 21, 2021.

Indeed, Internal Instruction No. 130/PAN/001 of February 16, 2016 relating to the organization and operation of the College of Quaestors determines the tasks assigned to it, specifies that the Quaestors have the mission of evaluating the effectiveness and efficiency in the management of expenses, procurement, liquidation and payment of the services rendered as well as the management of

the investment budget, that allocated to the missions and coming from cooperation; ensuring the proper management of the payment of the parliamentary allowances and the salaries of the Staff members as well as the logistics (management, maintenance and renewal of the cart, fuel, etc.), identify any irregularities and shortcomings which taint the management administrative and the financial and finally propose the recovery and the perfor-

mance improvement measures.

Ultimately, by exercising supervision and control of administrative and the financial services within the National Assembly, the College of Quaestors ensures their good management and compliance of the procedures and thus plays an essential role in the proper functioning of that legislative institution. **(National Assembly)**

## Parliament meeting in Congress: Presentation of the progress report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission to the Parliament meeting in Congress



the repetitive crises that have erupted since the assassination of the Hero of Independence, Prince Louis Rwagasore. Since then, the dynasty has experienced chicanery, in that case the Batare who are not on the same page

**B**oth the request and the granting of forgiveness are a long-term but essential exercise in the process of effective reconciliation of Burundian society. That is the conclusion drawn by the Parliament meeting in the Congress on Monday september 18, 2023 to follow the presentation of the progress report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (CVR.) The added value is the plunge into the colonial era, of 1896 to 2022, although that report focused on a four-year period, from 2018 to 2022.

According to that report, the Burundian evil which materializes in recurring crises finds its roots in colonization first by Germany (from 1896 to 1916) then by Belgium (from 1916 to 1962). 12 charges including the invasion of the country and crimes against humanity weigh on colonization, the after-effects of which are still gaping. That is evidenced by the seeds of division following the upheaval of society. While the Burundians recognized themselves through the clans, there were the colonizers who established the ethnic system with its corollary of supremacy.

The renegade phenomenon commonly called "kwihutura" also arises from an identity complex such that that clan is also found among the Bahutu and the Batutsi. However, the report recognizes that life was not rosy before the European penetration. Innocent people were sacrificed during the sorgo and sowing festival known as "umuganuro". Certain clans were accused of bringing bad luck.

The report was forced to note that all segments of the Burundian population have been mourned by

as the Bezi. Another tragedy following the murder of Prince Louis Rwagasore was the assassination, on January 14, 1962, of Christian trade unionists and members of the PDC, Christian Democratic Party, in Kamenge, Gasenyi and Gatunguru by the JNR, Jeunesse Nationale Rwagasore. The tear in the social fabric has widened over time. Thus, in 1964, an identity divide opened within the Catholic Church of Burundi with the assassination of Monsignor Gabriel Gihimbare, First Murundi Bishop, and a native of Giheta from the Hutu ethnic group. He succumbed when the Holy See had just recently honored him to succeed Monsignor Jorju.

On January 15, 1965, Prime Minister Pierre Ngendandumwe, a Hutu, was assassinated in the courtyard of the Rondin Clinic while his wife was in childbirth. The same year, the Secretary of State for Police, Antoine Serukwavu bowed to the ruse of the Secretary of State for the Army, Captain Michel Micombero for a pseudo coup d'état which will see the decapitation of Hutu leaders at the head of the National Assembly including Joseph Bamina, Ignace Ndimanya, Émile Bucumi, Paul Mirerekano and Patrice Mayondo. Serukwavu, who found himself alone at the palace at the head of his troops, had to flee from the Micombero regiment who had disguised themselves as saviors. The latter used trickery to convince King Mwambutsa IV to save his life by fleeing abroad. The same was used by Micombero who advised Prince Charles Ndizeye to dethrone his father in 1965. That is what he did. He reigned under the dynastic name of Ntare V. But his reign lasted as long as he was deposed by Captain Michel Micombero in 1966. As a result, he put an end

to the monarchical regime to establish the republic. In 1969, some Hutu were falsely accused of plotting a coup d'état. Under a mock trial, they were hastily murdered.

In 1971, it was the turn of the Tutsi banyaruguru soldiers to be unjustly accused. The Attorney General of the Republic, Mr. Léonard Nduwayo, preferred to submit his resignation instead of accusing the innocent. The latter were acquitted.

The climax of the Hutu massacres was reached in 1972. The 1972 genocide was carefully planned to such an extent that even foreigners were involved, as evidenced by the so-called rebellion called Mai Mulele which allegedly came from Zaire (the current DRC) to sow desolation by massacring the Tutsi population in Rumonge along the Lake Tanganyika. To avenge those disappearances, the regime in place engaged in the systematic elimination of Hutu intellectuals and traders throughout the country.

Germany and Belgium should ask forgiveness from the Burundian people and repair the crimes committed in Burundi without forgetting to compensate the family of Prince Louis Rwagasore.

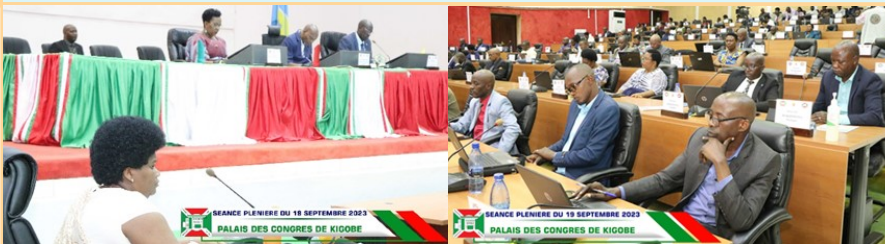
For the parliamentarians who were surprised to find nowhere in the CVR report appear the Uprona party while the Personalities such as Joseph Bamina and Paul Mirerekano were early the activists of that political group, they were told that the 'Uprona, being a single party, was

Regarding the significant involvement of Rwandan refugees in the 1972 genocide, the President of the TRC

explained that the Rwandans whose names appear in the report played an effective role. Some were seen holding either guns or lists of people to be massacred. Still others were driving vehicles with dead bodies on board. Furthermore, the Rwandan Tutsi refugees created a psychosis among the Burundian Tutsi, which would have led the latter to "get ahead of" the Hutus of Burundi so as not to suffer the same fate as the Tutsi of Burundi. During the war, there were losses of human lives and material losses. Reconciliation cannot be effective when the victim has not yet recovered his rights. Therefore, the President of the Senate proposed to bring the law governing the TRC back to the table of Parliament for modification. Indeed, for the Right Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera, the CVR should recover the missions entrusted to the Land and Other Property Commission, National Commission for Land and Other Property (CNTB), which no longer exists.

At the end of this congress, Parliament issued a solemn declaration adopting this report while encouraging the TRC to continue investigating the other events of 1988; 1991; 1993 until 2008. This declaration asks the Government of the Republic of Burundi to carry out a diplomatic campaign based on the results already achieved and invites it to establish a framework for dialogue, to grant the necessary budget for the evacuation of the mound of earth which covers registered mass graves not yet excavated on the Ruvubu site and to officially ask for forgiveness, on behalf of the Burundian nation, from all the families who were bereaved during the crises of the past. **(General Assembly)**

## The medical brain drain in Burundi: A threat to public health



If the phenomenon of the sick prisoners ever reappears, it would be a bitter failure of the gigantic efforts that the Government had channeled into that sector. That bitter observation was discussed on the sidelines of the session of tuesday september 19, 2023 relating to oral questions with debate to the Minister of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS, Dr Sylvie Nzeyimana.

The Court of Auditors, under article 183 of the Constitution of the Republic of Burundi, is responsible for

examining, judging and certifying the accounts of all public services. To that end, that Court submitted to the National Assembly final performance audit reports of the Cibitoke, Muramvya, Muyinga and Rumonge hospitals.

The Committee on Public Accounts and Finance, Economic Affairs and Planning was contacted by the Office of the National Assembly to carry out an analysis.

The commission therefore noted cases of escape from hospitalized patients:

In 2021, from January to June, Muramvya Hospital recorded 189 cases of escape;

From 2021 to 2022, Cibitoke hospital recorded 64 cases of escape;

From 2018 to 2021, cases of escape numbered 269 at Muyinga hospital.

As a reminder, the phenomenon of the sick prisoners caused a lot of ink and saliva to flow in 2004. The day after its victory in the 2005 elections, the CNDD-FFD party took up that challenge. It is in that context that he took the measure of free health care for pregnant women and those giving birth, children under five years old as well as the subsidized pathologies: malaria, HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis.

The brain drain is a phenomenon that worries many people. Doctors, especially the specialists, leave their motherland in full view of everyone in search of a better life. And yet the hospital accounts are full of money. Paradoxically, the bank accounts of medical structures are overflowing with money. That is evidenced by the press which reports the embezzlement of the colossal sums in the hospital. What if those funds were used to interest the Doctors! Wished the Deputies who also proposed the partnership system. Instead of following the training in a workshop all day long, one must directly offer the exchange of experiences. If an authority from the technical Ministry approached a development

partner pointing out the lack of a specialist in any pathology, the effect would be immediate.

Another major challenge concerns the drugs which are becoming increasingly rare. A blur in the trade of those vital products. Generics are the prerogative of MFP (Public Service Mutual) pharmacies. The specialties have become rare currencies.

All those points were analyzed closely in the past legislature, reminded the President of the National Assembly who had to analyze a bill relating to it when the commission he headed was referred to the merits. The crux of all these problems is the lack of monitoring of the laws enacted.

Carried out over a period of four years (2018-2022), the analysis shows that the aspects of performance audit carried out by the Court of Auditors are not the same from one hospital to another, hence the credibility of the investigation remains doubtful.

It should be remembered that numerous recommendations were made by the Deputies to the attention of the Minister in charge of public health, which recommendations were favorably received by that Government emissary. **(General Assembly)**

### The Prime Minister enhances the 2023-2024 back-to-school ceremonies with his presence



**O**n Monday September 18, 2023, Prime Minister Lieutenant General of Police Gervais Ndirakobuca enhanced with his presence the 2023-2024 back-to-school ceremonies. At the national level, the ceremonies took place in the capital of Bukinyana province in Cibitoke province.

The theme of the year invites the parents and the educators to take charge of the education of their children so that they grow up with a spirit of integrity and love of work, sources of sustainable development.

In his speech for the occasion, the Prime Minister returned to that theme by calling on all stakeholders in the education sector to take ownership of it because the Government has included the training of capable, the honest and the responsible leaders among those priorities. And the training of such leaders begins at a young age, in family and at school.

The Government's other priority is an inclusive education. Lieutenant General of Police Gervais Ndirakobuca, Prime Minister called on all parents to send all children to school, without forgetting the girls and the children living with disabilities.

The Prime Minister also called on the Burundians in general and the inhabitants of Bukinyana commune to safeguard and consolidate peace and security because it is a prerequisite for any development activity.

For this school year, the Government assigns the following missions to the Ministry of National Education:

- Mobilize the development partners for the construction of the numerous classrooms

- Equip the schools with educational tools, especially the computers, the equipment for physics, the chemis-

try and biology laboratories,  
 -the electrification of the schools with solar energy,  
 -reform certain teaching programs,  
 - increase the technical training courses, etc.

Referring to the achievements of the Ministry of National Education and Scientific Research, Minister Dr. François Havyarimana informed the public that for the next academic year the University of Burundi is preparing to welcome two promotions at once, the winners of the State exam 2022 and 2023. The Ministry plans to equip each municipality with a computer room so that the young people become familiar with the use of the computer tools and the new communication technologies.

On the occasion of the opening of the 2023-2024 school year in Bukinanyana, the UNICEF Representa-

tive in Burundi France Bégin presented Prime Minister Gervais Ndirakobuca with a vehicle intended for the Ministry of National Education and Scientific Research.

The Prime Minister Lieutenant General Gervais Ndirakobuca and the Minister of National Education Dr. François Havyarimana received 520 desks intended for the Bukinanyana Communal Directorate. These desk benches were offered by UNICEF in collaboration with the Chinese Embassy in Burundi.

But the Prime Minister decided to send a hundred benches to Rutana province.

The opening of the school year in Bukinanyana by the Prime Minister was also marked by the distribution of notebooks to more than 2,330 students from the vulnerable families as well as a meal to students of ECOFO Nyavyamo. (RTNB)

### Lake Tanganyika, a heritage to be protected (C.N)



**A**s part of the week dedicated to the celebration of the environment, the Ministry of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock through the department in charge of the environment organized on Tuesday September 19, 2023, the works cleaning of the Ruvumera drain canal in the Buyenzi zone of Bujumbura Town and the collection of the plastic waste.

The plastic and the solid waste collection work is a part of the celebration of the World Environment Day which will take place on September 22, 2023 in the Ruyigi commune and province and will be coupled with other world days such as those dedicated to the recycling, the forest, water, land, biodiversity, the fight against desertification and drought.

According to the Director General of Environment, Water Resources and Sanitation, Christian Nimubona, those plastics must be eliminated because they are carried by the waste and rainwater towards Lake Tanganyika while that Lake is a heritage of great importance for the country whether for its production but also for its tourist character.

The elimination of the plastics contributes to the resilience to the harmful effects of climate change linked to the global warming, concluded the Director General of the Environment, Water Resources and Sanitation. (RTNB)

### Gitega: The NGO World Vision assists the vulnerable families



**O**n Wednesday September 20, 2023, the Gitega Commune in collaboration with the NGO World Vision distributed the

certified corn seeds and the Fertilizer-Organic-Mineral (FOMI) Totahaza type fertilizers, to the vulnerable families whose children are being monitored by the World Vision in the Mungwa, Mubuga and rural areas of Gitega commune. The quantities of the corn seeds distributed are 10 tonnes and the fertilizers are 10 tonnes 25 kg intended for 2734 households.



In his words for the occasion, the Administrator of Gitega commune Dr Jacques Nduwimana thanked the NGO World Vision which supports this commune in different sectors of development including agriculture, livestock, environment and education.

The Administrator of that commune appreciated the World Vision's support in seeds and fertilizers to the vulnerable families in the Mungwa, Mubuga and rural areas because it comes at the right time. He asked the beneficiaries to prepare well for the growing season A in order to obtain a good harvest.

He also called on the population of Gitega commune in general to take up the development work to the combat poverty.

The Gitega commune Administrator subsequently paid a visit to Ntobwe locality, Mungwa zone to assess the state of the work on a soap processing unit belonging to the IMPACT+ association which brings together the young people who have not had the chance to continue their studies and who are supervised by the NGO World Vision. (RTNB)

# Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation

## Department of Communication

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