



Under the patronage of the Head of State, Burundi celebrates the World Teachers' Day in Muyinga province.



On Thursday November 2nd, 2023, the President of the Republic, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye attended the ceremonies organized at the Umuco stadium of Muyinga province (North East of country), marking the 29th anniversary of World Teachers' Day. The day was celebrated under the main theme: "The Teachers we need for the education we want", coinciding with the theme chosen at national level: "Teachers-educators, let's commit ourselves to the education of our children, so that they put forward the values of Ubuntu and work, sources of sustainable development". The President of the Coalition of the Teachers' Unions for National Solidarity and the Defense of Socio-professional Rights "COSESONA", Mr. Victor Ndabaniwe, began by thanking the Burundian Head of State

for that eloquent gesture of joining forces with Burundi's teachers. He then reported on the situation in his sector, while suggesting the solutions to the various problems raised.

He called for a forum to be organized that would include the Ministers responsible for the national education, justice, finance, human rights, the civil service and public infrastructure, with the aim of moving that sector forward towards the vision of an Emerging Burundi in 2040 and Developed in 2060.

According to the latter, the conclusions of that framework would lead to the adjustment of curricula in the interests of the nation.

The Minister of National Education and Scientific Research, Dr. François Havyarimana, did not deny the existence of the challenges taken up by the Teachers' Representative, but he stressed that the efforts made by the Government were remarkable, especially with regard to the teaching materials, the replacement of retired teachers, the organization of academic years, etc.

He took the opportunity to congratulate the teachers who helped the country to come first in a contest that brought together 14 countries within the framework of CONFEMEN.

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In his speech, the President of the Republic, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, pointed out that the challenges facing Burundi's education system were rooted in the crisis that Burundi had experienced.

"Teachers must collaborate with parents to ensure a quality education for their children, based on an awakened conscience and the humility of those being educated", President Ndayishimiye urged them, while mentioning that disciplinary measures must be applied in the event of non-compliance with the rules.

"Many public servants are unaware that they have signed a contract of adhesion with the State and that they must properly discharge their duty to educate for the nation", said Burundi's Number One, after demon-

strating that Teachers play an important role in the quality of education.

The Burundian Head of State did not fail to encourage the appointment of school headmasters capable of serving as role models for their subordinates, rather than taking ethnic or partisan considerations into account.

Speaking of companies with special statuses, the President of the Republic confirmed that he had set up a commission to analyse each case because, he said, we had noted that the unblocking of their professional careers had been remarkably flawed. He added that for these and other teachers who have not yet been regularised, their entitlements will be calculated retroactively, i.e. from July 2023. **(Presidency)**

President Ndayishimiye and businessmen share a common vision for Burundi



On Friday 03 November 2023, the President of the Republic, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, met with the Burundi's traders and entrepreneurs in Muyinga (North East) with the aim of gaining a common understanding of the country's economic situation.

The Representative of the CFCIB Chamber of Com-

merce, the Honourable Olivier Suguru, began by briefing him on the situation and the difficulties encountered by businessmen, particularly with regard to the laws governing the sector, before expressing his team's wish to set up a permanent framework for the dialogue between the public and private sectors.

"You won't be able to work illegally anywhere else in the world. On the contrary, we encourage the private sector as the engine of economic growth and job creation", said President Ndayishimiye, calling on them to free themselves from corruption in order to lead the country towards a sustainable development.

The meeting, which lasted 8 hours, was a forum for exchanges, where the tourism, agriculture and livestock sectors, ICTs and the lack of foreign currency were mainly targeted.

The Head of State promised that a framework for the dialogue would be put in place, while the traders and entrepreneurs showed their willingness to change things, in order to avoid an unfair competition and bring in foreign currency for the public purse. **(Presidency)**

The Head of State launches the Peace Torch, 17th Edition in Muyinga

The President of the Republic, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, in the company of his wife, the President of the Senate, the Prime Minister, the Secretary General of the CNDD FDD party, other senior dignitaries and the Intwararumuri team, launched the 17th edition of the Flambeau de la Paix in Muyinga province under the theme "In our solidarity, let's aim for an Emerging Burundi in 2040".

A vigil was organised for the occasion at the Umuco stadium in Muyinga, with the participation of the actors, choristers and the famous singer Mr. Sylvestre CIZA, whose songs have been famous since 1983.

"The journey of the 17th Edition of the Peace Torch is different from the others in that it will travel through all the communes of Burundi, with a particular message of aiming for an Emerging Burundi in 2040", said the Presi-

dent of the Republic.

"We are lighting the torch to begin a long journey that will lead us to development", said the Number One, reminding us that to go very far, you have to take care of your mount.

"I ask the population to listen to the Intwararumuri team and the leaders who have already understood their role in awakening the conscience that is still asleep to move towards the Vision of an Emerging

Burundi in 2040", said Burundi's Number One and the leader of the country's development.

The Peace Torch was lit for the first time in Burundi in 2006, and was promoted to the status of national heritage in 2020.

Before concluding his speech, President Ndayishimiye blessed the team in the mighty name of God, wishing them every success on their long journey. **(Presidency)**

President Ndayishimiye is determined to combat fraud



The President of the Republic, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, has called on Burundians to support him in his campaign against fraud. That was said at the security assessment meeting held on Tuesday 31 October 2023 at Bugarama in Muramvya province.

"We must carry out the anti-fraud campaign begun on 15 September 2023 in synergy, to bring in foreign currency into the public treasury," said Presi-

dent Ndayishimiye.

"We must succeed in dismantling the mafia networks that are sabotaging the country's economy in order to turn the country's economy around", hammered Burundi's Number One, who is more determined than ever to combat fraud, a handicap to the smooth running of the national economy.

The Burundian Head of State congratulated the senior executives of the quadrilogy for their commitment to consolidating peace and security, and putting in place mechanisms for good governance.

He went on to promise that, with the support of the defense and security forces, the judiciary and the administration, he would win the great and complex battle against fraud.

President Ndayishimiye also recommended that the quadrilogy work in synergy and promote communication in order to find the adequate solutions to the other potential challenges likely to disrupt the peace of mind and development of the population.

"Mobilise, we need to see the presence of state authority in every province", he concluded. **(Presidency)**

The President of the French Republic meets the High Authorities of the quadrilogy



The President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellence Evariste Ndayishimiye, held a security and social assessment meeting

on Tuesday 31 October 2023 at Bugarama in the province of Muramvya, for officials from the territorial administration, the justice sector and public security.

The President of the Republic, Evariste Ndayishimiye, invited the quadrilogy to work in synergy to combat the bad habits of certain officials, in particular fraud, economic embezzlement, bad governance and interference in judgments.

The President of the Republic, Evariste Ndayishimiye, reminded that two months ago he launched a merciless battle against fraudsters and gangs seeking to

destabilise the Burundian economy. In the same vein, he warned any authority that might be complicit in that organised crime to sabotage the national economy.

Anyone caught in corruption will face the full rigour of the law," warned President Ndayishimiye, adding that no one is above the law in a state governed by the rule of law, and that illicit enrichment leads to delusions of grandeur.

He pointed out that fraudulent exports and imports cause the country to lose foreign currency that should contribute to its development. The fraud currently operating in the country is an organised crime that can bankrupt honest traders, he added.

In order to eradicate fraud and economic crime, President Ndayishimiye recommends that Burundians denounce all the traders who commit fraud. He asked the defense and security forces to track down all the fraudsters and people who channel the foreign currency

from tourism to the black market instead of exchanging it in commercial banks, with a view to increasing the amount of foreign currency entering the country.

In the area of justice, President Evariste Ndayishimiye called on the members of the courts and tribunals to be independent in their judgments, to collaborate and consult each other while maintaining professional secrecy.

He called on the local administrators to ensure the good governance for the well-being of the population. He also invited Burundians in general and the country's leaders in particular to raise awareness of family planning, in view of the galloping population growth currently taking place in Burundi.

To the high command of the army and the police, the Head of State recommended working with the subordinates to create a climate of understanding and security. (RTNB)

The Prime Minister presents the main actions of the Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWPB) 2023-2024



As part of the monitoring of the Government action in accordance with Article 168 paragraph 4 of the Constitution of the Republic of Burundi, the Prime Minister, Lieutenant General of Police Gervais Ndirakobuca, presented the main actions of the Government's Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWBP) for the 2023-2024 financial year to the two Houses of Parliament meeting in Congress on Monday 30 October 2023.

For the 2023-2024 financial year, Burundi has broken with the "average budget" mode to adopt the "programme budget", which is implemented by the Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWBP) to continue the

process of sustainable development, in line with Burundi's policies, strategies, visions and National Development Plan 2018-2027.

The main actions of the PTBA in line with the NDP 2018-2027 at political level include ensuring national governance, infrastructure construction, the viability of local territorial authorities, local development (villagisation, electrification of certain centres), the drafting of a report on the Burundian economy, the extension of the transmitters of the Burundi National Radio and Television to address the problems of grey areas, and the digitisation of public finances, among others.

In terms of the economy, the PTBA's main actions will include the increasing production in the agri-breeding sector, subsidising agricultural inputs, improving and rehabilitating marshlands, purchasing fertilisers for tea and coffee, planting oil palms and phytosanitary products, rehabilitating certain infrastructures, ensuring the mobility of people and goods by rehabilitating the roads, etc.

On the social front, the PTBA's main actions include the issue of street children, who will be re-educated and resettled in their original homes, and many others.

The MPs wanted to know what progress had been made on institutional reform to bring the budget into line with the programme. The Prime Minister, Lieutenant General of Police Gervais Ndirakobuca, replied that the State budget is made up of three main parts, namely the legal

framework, the budgets of the constitutional institutions and the Ministries, and the annexes made up of the budgets of personalised institutions and hospitals.

The Government's action plan, which includes flagship and strategic actions, will be the subject of half-yearly reports and will be reinforced by quarterly performance and budget execution reports in ac-

cordance with the organic law on public finance. The institutions that manage the associated budgets also have related PTBAs.

The Prime Minister also responded favourably to the request from a good number of MPs to come and discuss all areas of national life with the elected Representatives of the people and make contributions. **(RTNB)**

Parliament in Congress: Visits to see the Government's achievements are imperative

Parliament plans to visit the whole country to see how the Government's action plan is being implemented. This was proposed by the President of the Senate, who chaired the parliamentary congress opened by the President of the National Assembly on Monday 30 October 2023. For the Right Honourable Emmanuel Sinzohagera, the report resulting from these visits will be compared with that presented by the Prime Minister at the appropriate time.

The purpose of the congress: To take note of the main actions of the Government's work plan and annual budget for the 2023-2024 financial year. Under Article 168 of the Constitution of the Republic of Burundi, the Prime Minister must present the report on the implementation of the Government's programme every six months. However, the deadline has not yet arrived. Parliament was therefore content to take note.

That anticipation did, however, arouse some concerns among parliamentarians, who wanted to know whether the related work to rehabilitate the Rumonge-Gitaza section of the RN3 was still in

progress.

For the Prime Minister, the priority is to build the road. If the budget proves excessive, the related work will be sorted according to the size of the surplus. Otherwise," regretted Lieutenant General of Police Gervais Ndirakobuca, "we can't decide in advance what type of ancillary works will be carried out. And to forbid parliamentarians from disclosing in advance that such related work will be carried out. Nothing could be done. "The new administrative division has called that regional planning into question", said the Prime Minister.

In order to achieve Vision 2040, which is to make Burundi an emerging country, a change of mentality is needed, concluded the plenary session, which condemned the project managers for extending the duration of projects for sectarian interests, to the detriment of the national interest. Confusion must also be cleared up over the meaning of development aid. The central term is "development", whereas the most Burundians insist on the morpheme "aid". Aid implies a personal effort on the part of the recipient. **(General Assembly)**

Solemn closing of the ordinary parliamentary session of August 2023



Vice-President in his speech at the formal closure of the August 2023 ordinary parliamentary session, on behalf of the President of the National Assembly, the Right Honourable Gélase Daniel Ndabirabe, who was on a working mission abroad. The Honourable Sabine Ntakarutimana also welcomed Burundi's election as a member of the Human Rights Council (HRC) for the period 2024-2026. Although that election is recognition

The National Assembly congratulates the Government for having initiated the new territorial division of the country, which has been reduced from 18 to 5 provinces. That was stated on Tuesday 31 October 2023 by the First

the Vice-President in his speech at the formal closure of the August 2023 ordinary parliamentary session, on behalf of the President of the National Assembly, the Right Honourable Gélase Daniel Ndabirabe, who was on a working mission abroad. The Honourable Sabine Ntakarutimana also welcomed Burundi's election as a member of the Human Rights Council (HRC) for the period 2024-2026. Although that election is recognition

of Burundi's commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights, she nevertheless deplored the cases of corruption and injustice that persist in the country.

The event was attended by guests from a wide range of backgrounds. The First Vice-President of the National

Assembly thanked them for their presence, which showed their interest in the work of the National Assembly. The Honourable Sabine Ntakarutimana also complimented the MPs on the multifaceted work they had done during the session. **(General Assembly)**

Senate: Analysis of the report on the system of ethnic quotas in the Constitution postponed



On Tuesday 31 October 2023, the Burundian Senate analysed the report of the special commission charged with assessing whether the system of ethnic quotas in the executive, legislative and judicial branches should be repealed or extended, as stipulated in article 289 of the Constitution of the Republic of Burundi. In the absence of a consensus, the senators postponed the analysis of this report until the December session.

The report states that there were differences of opinion during the popular consultations. For example, some of the people's Representatives said that the ethnic quota system should be abolished so that the most competent people could be given the various posts.

According to the report, other population Representatives said that ethnic quotas should be maintained in the Constitution of the Republic of Burundi because they contributed to social cohesion, while others felt that the Twa ethnic group had not been taken into account by the Constitution.

The Senate of Burundi then proceeded to the formal closure of the ordinary session of August 2023, which is the first of the three sessions provided for by the Constitution of the Republic of Burundi.

On that occasion, the President of the Senate, the Right Honourable Emmanuel Sinzohagera, stated that during that August session, the Senate analysed six bills out of the 7 sent by the Government, in addition to approving the names of candidates appointed to the posts of Provincial Governors and Ambassadors.

In addition to those activities carried out by the Senate, the Right Honourable Emmanuel Sinzohagera detailed other activities of the Parliament meeting in congress in Bujumbura in which the Burundian Senate took part, in particular to monitor the activity reports of the country's various institutions.

The President of the Senate also indicated that in the area of monitoring government action, the Senate had put oral questions to six members of the Government to answer questions relating to the concerns of the population.

The Senators also noted an observation to the effect that the Constitution of the Republic of Burundi risks being revised because two Senators per province will no longer be enough to represent the Burundian people with the new administrative division that reduces the number of provinces to 5.

For all those reasons, the Burundian Senate has postponed the analysis of this report until early December, to allow time to formulate sustained recommendations to the country's highest authority.

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ment to answer the questions relating to the concerns of the population.

After the close of the August ordinary session, the President of the Burundian Senate received in audience the new Ambassador of the United Republic of Tanzania to Burundi, His Excellency Gelasius

Gaspar Byakanwa, who had come to make contact and thank him for having supported the candidacy of the President of the Tanzanian Parliament, who was elected President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union during the 147th Assembly held in Angola last week. **(Senate)**

Burundi celebrates the international mental health day



On Tuesday 31 October 2023, Mr. Isidore Ntiharirizwa, Assistant to the Minister for Public Health and the Fight against AIDS, joined the people of Rumonge province for the festivities marking International Mental Health Day, which is celebrated every year on 10 October. That year's theme is "mental health is a universal right".

The good mental health is the foundation of a sustainable life for every human being. If a person experiences mental health problems, those close to them, and even those around them, also face a number of problems. To that end, Mr. Isidore Ntiharirizwa, Assistant to the Minister, pointed out that everyone needs to contribute to their own mental health and that of their neighbours, while trying to live together peacefully. He called on the population to fight against poverty, because, he said, poverty is also one of the causes of mental health problems.

Mr. Isidore Ntiharirizwa called on those who have relatives with mental health problems to take them to the hospital for treatment. The Ministry of Public Health has set up departments in hospitals to treat people with the similar problems. **(RTNB)**

Holding of the coordination meeting for the Development of Standard Operating Procedures on the ethical recruitment process in Burundi



dures on the ethical recruitment process in Burundi from November 2 to 3, 2023, in the political capital of Gitega in order to deliberate together and adopt an advisory committee for that process. It was a multi-sectoral meeting made up of participants who came from the different Institutions involved in the

Committed to the process of sustainable socio-economic development, Burundi is in the process of regulating the labor migration movements through a legal framework with the destination countries with the aim of making them more secure and coordinated. It is with that in mind that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation held a coordination meeting for the Development of Standard Operating Proce-

ethical recruitment process in Burundi.

In her opening speech, the Acting Director General of the General Directorate of Diaspora, Promotion of Migrant Employment and Foreign NGOs and ASBL at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation Madame Domitille Ndiku-



riyo, Director of the Promotion of Migrant Employment, thanked all participants for responding to the invitation to this meeting which allowed the exchange of ideas in order to facilitate the regulation of the ethical recruitment process in Burundi. She also thanked the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the partner of the Government of Burundi which financed that activity and which continues to support the Government throughout the labor migration process.

The Director General a.i. indicated that in Burundi, the monitoring of internal recruitment is often neglected, and that that of external recruitment has not yet been reinforced. She finds it essential to strengthen the existing directives with regard to enforcement and monitoring mechanisms, including the administrative, legal and regulatory pillars which are essential to the implementation of the effective recruitment practices and that for the adequate protection of the workers' rights.

Mrs. Domitille Ndikuriyo therefore told the participants that that was an opportunity offered to them to set up a coordination mechanism to regulate the recruitment process of the migrant workers, whether internal the movements or external movements. She added that the advisory committee that would be set up during the meeting would allow the consultant to develop a consistent document with the reality and context of Burundi in labor migration. She also added that it is that same committee that will be responsible in coordinating and monitoring the entire process, through the regular coordination meetings.

In her special remarks, the Coordinator of Migration Management at the International Organization of the Migrants Madame Mireille Mugisha was delighted to have once again organized a coordination meeting intended to set up a collaboration mechanism on the recruitment of the migrant workers notably through the establishment of the standard operating procedures on ethical recruitment.

She supported the Acting Director by briefly speaking about the management of the meeting, saying that it goes straight in the direction of making the IOM's contribution to improving the conditions of labor migration, by following a well-defined framework to guide the Gov-

ernment and Private Recruitment Agencies as well as other players in the field.

After the opening words, the presentations from the Acting Director General and the Migration Management Coordinator followed.

In their presentations, the Acting Director General of the General Directorate of Diaspora, Promotion of Migrant Employment and Foreign NGOs and ASBLs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation Madame Domitille Ndikuriyo, and the Coordinator of Migration Management at the International Organization of Migrants Madame Mireille Mugisha spoke on the general overview and the situation of migrants and the challenges already encountered: the Government of Burundi does not yet have statistics of job seekers and has not yet identified and assessed the existing capacities and their training needs; lack of electronic platform for collecting and managing labor migration data and lack of national labor migration policy.

The second day of November 3, 2023 was characterized by the works in groups and the discussion on that work. After sharing the group's work, the proposal and validation by the monitoring committee closed the meeting's activities.

Before closing the meeting, some recommendations were raised during the meeting: Deeply build the capacity of candidates for recruitment by recruitment agencies before they leave for work; strengthen the capacities of staff responsible for processing files from Public Recruitment Agencies; facilitate the rapid processing of files from Public Recruitment Agencies; set up a special window for choosing workers' travel documents; designation of agents to monitor the files of migrant workers; updating and adoption of the national labor migration policy; communicate the official list of relay agents (ARB) to the PJ and the MAECD for proper regulation; and raising awareness among the population on recruitment at the municipal level, specifying their duties and commitment in the event of unfounded return.

The participants, especially the Representatives of the Recruitment Agencies, were satisfied with the outcome of the meeting and committed to fighting against any kind of fraud in their work of recruiting workers. **(MFADC)**

Minister of Justice warns against the corrupt magistrates

On Friday 03 November 2023, the Director General of the Judiciary at the Ministry of Justice, Mr Paul Ndizigiye, met with the mag-

istrates and judicial officers of the courts and tribunals operating in Gitega, the country's political capital, at a meeting to promote good conduct and exchange views.

The Director of the Judiciary said he had two messages for the magistrates and judicial officers from the Minister of Justice.

The first message was to encourage and commend the work of the Magistrates, who have distinguished themselves in the fight against fraud in the country. The second message from the Minister

of Justice to members of the judiciary was to discourage those who do not wish to break with the practice of corruption.

According to his special envoy, Maître Paul Ndizigiye, the Minister of Justice is asking them to change their behaviour and the public to denounce these ill-intentioned magistrates.

He pointed out that since 2022, more than 40 magistrates and judicial officers have been prosecuted for the corruption and misappropriation of seized assets.

During the discussions, the Magistrates expressed their views, some of them referring to the globalist



speeches that lump together Magistrates of integrity and bad Magistrates. They said that such discourse does not encourage magistrates of integrity. In response, the Director General of the Judiciary, Paul Ndizigiye, advised magistrates of integrity to dissociate

themselves from those Magistrates who do not want to break with those corrupt practices by always denouncing them in order to bring them to justice.

Concerning the treatment of judicial Staff, which is still low, the Director General of the Judiciary reminded that the President of the Republic, at the opening of the judicial year, mentioned in his speech that he was going to do everything possible to improve the working conditions of Magistrates. Maître Paul Ndizigiye called on them to be patient and to continue to work hard so as not to disappoint the President of the Republic, so that he can take action in that direction. **(RTNB)**

Children with congenital malformations selected for surgery abroad



On Monday 30 October 2023, the Umugiraneza Polyclinic in Kibimba, set up by the Bonne Action Umugiraneza Foundation, and received a visit from a team of specialist doctors from the Ugandan NGO Emergency.

The Coordinator of the Bonne Action Umugiraneza

Foundation, Mr. Aimable Sindayikengera, explained that the purpose of the visit by this team of specialist doctors from the Italian NGO Emergency was to identify children under the age of 15 with congenital malformations requiring surgery abroad.

Mr. Aimable Sindayikengera, coordinator of the Fondation Bonne Action Umugiraneza, said that the patients identified would be transferred to Uganda. The travel costs will be borne by the Emergency Medicine association, and the children will be accompanied by a parent or family member **(RTNB)**.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation

Department of Communication

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