



Towards the sustainability of the continental dialogue on Youth, Peace and Security



On tuesday, april 26, 2022, the day after the continental dialogue and the 1080th meeting of the Peace and Security Council, the President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE received in audience the Young African Ambassadors for Peace, including the Special Representative of the AU Ms. Chido Cleopatra Mpemba for Youth in order to strengthen the reflection on Youth, Peace and Security in Africa.

Ms. Neema Chusi of the PSC (Peace and Security Council) Secretariat warmly thanked the President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE for the warm welcome they received and especially for the lessons learned from Burundi's rich experience in the coaching, support and inclusion of young people. Indeed, she indicated that the many initiatives of the Government of Burundi in favor of young people could serve as models for other Member States because they serve as a bulwark against the resurgence and the

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participation of young people in conflicts.

It is in this framework that she expressed the wish of the Peace and Security Council and the office of the African Union Special Representative for Youth, to make Burundi the permanent organizer of future sessions of the continental dialogue on Youth, Peace and Security; a wish to which President Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE strongly adhered.

His Excellency Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE appreciated

the inspiring work that has been done by these young Ambassadors within the African Union to sensitize States on the imperative of including young people in development projects. With regard to Burundi, he indicated that the Government has made the political participation of young people a priority and that this is already having an undeniable socio-economic impact. (www.presidency.gov.bi)

President Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE is acclaimed Champion of the Youth, Peace and Security Agenda of the African Union thanks to his efforts in the inclusion of young people



Burundi, in its capacity as the head of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union for the month of april 2022, has just hosted the work of a first three-day continental dialogue on youth, peace and security organized in hybrid mode from Bujumbura, and in which dozens of African nationalities were represented. The closing of these meetings, enhanced by the presence of the President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE, coincided on Monday, april 25, 2022 with the holding of the 1080th meeting of the Peace and Security Council during which the Head of State of Burundi was acclaimed Champion of the Youth, Peace and Security Agenda thanks to its exceptional action in favor of young people in accordance with the Sustainable Development Goals.

Indeed, during this continental dialogue which took

place in the presence of the Delegates of the African Union, thousands of young Burundians and the young Ambassadors for peace within the African Union, the exchanges of experiences and good local practices in the supervision and inclusion of young people have made it possible to recognize that entrepreneurship and patriotism are real ramparts against the unhealthy instrumentalization of young people in conflicts and crises.

In this regard, His Excellency Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE, President Friend of young people, reaffirmed that Burundi has chosen its war, that of the fight against poverty with young people in the front line because "there is no peace without development": "As leaders and decision-makers, we must match words with deeds by giving space and means to young Africans to contribute to building a peaceful and prosperous Africa."

As reminded by the Burundian Minister in charge of Foreign Affairs and the Minister in charge of Youth, the commitment of the Burundian Government is thus reflected in the establishment of several support and inclusion mechanisms, in particular the Youth Bank, the Youth Empowerment Program, regular moralizing sessions, the promotion of cooperative groups, the promotion of trades, the Women's Bank, etc.

In his capacity as Guest of Honour, His Excellency Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE took part in the 1080th meeting of the Peace and Security Council also held in hybrid mode on Youth, Peace and Security, to which Representatives of Member States were invited as well as HE Parfait Onanga Onyanga, UN Special Representative in the AU, who insisted on the need to make more efforts for the political participation of young people on the African continent: "Young people no longer want to be objects of discussion, they want to be at the discussion table and co-actors of their destiny".

The Special Representative of the Secretary General of

the United Nations also appreciated the extraordinary work done by President Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE and personally approved the wish of young Africans to appoint him Promoter of the Youth, Peace and Security Agenda; which would make Bujumbura the capital of African Youth.

In his speech during this meeting of the PSC, President Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE welcomed the involvement of African youth in the reflection on issues related to peace, security and development,

which are interdependent and intrinsically linked. The Head of State did not fail to congratulate the Peace and Security Council on its tireless efforts, on behalf of all Member States of the African Union, in preventing, managing and resolving crises and conflicts. which often mourn Africa and prevent it from developing peacefully.

Note that the 1080th meeting of the PSC adopted the Bujumbura Declaration on Youth, Peace and Security. (www.presidency.gov.bi)

Canonical taking possession of the Archdiocese of Gitega by Mgr. Bonaventure Nahimana



The Burundian Head of State with his Spouse took part on Saturday, april 23, 2022 in the ceremonies of canonical possession of the Archdiocese of Gitega by Bishop Bonaventure Nahimana.

The canonical ceremonies also saw the participation of the Conference of Catholic and Anglican Bishops of Burundi, the Apostolic Nuncio in Burundi, four Bishops from the United Republic of Tanzania, a Bishop from Rwanda, Cameroon, several senior government officials and diplomatic representatives.

After the acceptance of the renunciation of His Excellency Mgr. Simon Ntamwana to the pastoral charge of the Archdiocese of Gitega for reasons of age limit, Pope Francis had appointed HE Mgr. Bonaventure Nahimana, new Archbishop of Gitega.

His Excellency Msgr. Bonaventure Nahimana, new Archbishop of the Metropolitan Archdiocese of

Gitega has been Bishop of Rutana since 2009, born in June 30, 1959 in Bihororo in the Parish of Giheta, Archdiocese of Gitega, he was ordained a priest on August 10, 1986 in Giheta.

In his speech, the President of the Republic first congratulated the Archbishop emeritus Mgr Simon Ntamwana for having fulfilled his role as a good Shepherd very well until his renunciation of the charge of this mission.

For President NDAYISHIMIYE, it is not a goodbye for HE Mgr Simon Ntamwana, it is rather "the beginning of development activities" because, according to the Burundian Number One, the Archbishop Emeritus of Gitega is still able to bring his stone to the building of our country, and offered him a gift of a heifer for having well accomplished his priestly and episcopal mission.

The President of Burundi then congratulated the new Archbishop of the Metropolitan Archdiocese of Gitega HE Mgr. Bonaventure Nahimana on the trust that Pope Francis placed in him and wished him full success in this noble task of the Good Shepherd and asked to stay close to these compatriots at a time when Burundi is gradually recovering.

His Excellency Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE reassured Archbishop Bonaventure on the respect of the Burundian population towards their good Shepherd. "I witness his love because we are from the same parish and the same diocese" revealed the Head of State.

The presidential couple offered a congratulatory gift to the new Archbishop, as a sign of welcome and encouragement during his episcopate in the Metropolitan Archdiocese of Gitega

His Excellency Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE closed his

speech by inviting the Conference of Catholic Bishops of Burundi to always approach him to advise or report possible shortcomings in one or other government action.

In his speech for the occasion, His Excellency Bishop Simon Ntamwana gave thanks to God for having completed this mission safe and sound, thanking His Holiness Pope Francis who accepted his resignation from the pastoral charge of the Archdiocese of Gitega and entrusted to the Lord his successor and his mission.

The Pontifical Representative in Burundi Mgr. Dieu-donné Datonou, first thanked HE Bishop Simon Ntamwana for the service provided during 48 years of priesthood, including more than 33 of episcopate. He also congratulated and entrusted to the Lord the

new Archbishop as well as his mission for the benefit of the ecclesiastical district of Gitega.

Finally, after his first homily as Archbishop of the Metropolitan Archdiocese of Gitega, His Excellency Mgr. Bonaventure Nahimana expressed his great joy and his mission "I come as your servant to share the mission entrusted on us, that of announcing the good news in Jesus Christ". said the 7th Archbishop of Gitega, thanking his predecessor Mgr Ntamwana, whom he considers his Parent. "I will always need your advice, Monsignor, because it was You who laid your hands on my head during my episcopal consecration in the Diocese of Rutana, 13 years ago already. He reminded. (www.presidency.gov.bi)

The President of the Republic of Burundi enhances with his presence the meeting of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, in the presence of young people



On Monday, April 25, 2022, the President of the Republic of Burundi His Excellency Mr. Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE held a meeting of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, for young people.

In his speech, the President of the Republic of Burundi indicated that young people are a living force that Africa needs so that its sons and daughters live peacefully, without any worry and in a well-being. His Excellency Mr. Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE also said that young people have talents and strengths

which, united, will propel all African people towards a prosperous Africa, based on inclusive growth and sustainable development, an integrated Africa, a state of law, good governance, respectful of human rights; an Africa endowed with a strong cultural identity and whose place in the concert of nations is appreciated properly.

For this, the Head of State said that the future of Africa is in the hands of its youth. However, this youth must be given the means to achieve the prospects to which it aspires. This was therefore the reason of holding this continental dialogue on youth,

peace and security, which was organized in collaboration with the meeting of the Peace and Security Council that Burundi has the honor of chairing during this month of April. And that is why President Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE invited these friends, these young ambassadors of the African Union for peace, to share thoughts on issues related to peace, security and development, elements that are interdependent and intrinsically linked. Without peace and security development is impossible while sustainable development is anchored in peace and security.

The President took this opportunity to congratulate the Peace and Security Council of the African Union. This Council, in close collaboration with the Chairman of the Commission and the Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security, make tireless efforts, on a daily basis, on behalf of all the member States of the continental organization, by preventing, managing and by resolving the crises and conflicts that beset Africa and prevent it from developing. They constantly face multifaceted challenges, both endogenous, exogenous and transnational causes that provoke crises and violent conflicts.

Armed conflict, terrorism, violent extremism and unconstitutional changes of governments hamper development prospects across the continent and pose a threat to the sustainability of development gains.

President Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE addressed the Youth of Africa, wherever they are, in Africa or outside Africa. He reminded them that in addition to being easy prey for manipulation in armed conflicts and in the socio-political disputes that are tearing Africa apart, they are also the first victims. He appealed to their awareness and urged them to actively participate in the prevention, management and resolution of crises and conflicts, alongside the Peace and Security Council of the African Union. It is the full will of the continental organization which, meeting in Banjul, Gambia, during the 7th ordinary session of the Conference of Heads of State, adopted the African Youth Charter which recognizes, in article 17, the important role of youth in promoting peace and security in Africa.

The President also recalled that the strength, intelligence and talents of young Africans, put to the benefit of Africa, constitute significant human capital for

the achievement of Agenda 2063, particularly aspirations 4 and 6, to a peaceful and secure Africa powered by its young sons and daughters as well as Goal 16 of the United Nations Agenda 2030: "Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, ensure access for all to justice and establish effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels".

To conclude his remarks, the President urged the members of the Peace and Security Council to further strengthen African youth to make them sufficiently capable of actively contributing to peace, security and sustainable and inclusive development in Africa, in particular through the liaison of the African Union Agenda 2063 and United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250, for a structurally and economically transformed Africa. And that can only happen by reversing the shameful trend of seeing desperate African young people indulging in narcotics and excessive alcohol consumption, and, worse, fueling the hotbeds of tension on the continent.

It should be noted that young Africans in general are satisfied with the place assigned to them with regard to peace, security and the sustainable and inclusive development of Africa. To deepen the reflection on them, the Young African Ambassadors for the Peace and Security Council of the African Union expressed their wish that Burundi be the permanent organizer of future sessions of the continental dialogue on Youth, Peace and Security. (www.presidency.gov.bi)

IFAD welcomes the commitment of the Burundian Head of State in promoting the agro-pastoral sector



Thursday, april 28, 2022, during an audience granted to a delegation from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the Director of the Eastern and Southern Africa Division paid tribute to the Head of State His Excellence Evariste NDAY-ISHIMIYE for his commitment development staff in the agro-pastoral sector in Burundi.

"We are lucky to work with a Head of State who has a very clear vision on how to achieve his objectives because not all Presidents are involved in agriculture," said Mrs. Sara MBago-Bhunu before adding that this commitment of the Highest Authority facilitates the mission of IFAD in the planning and implementation of agricultural projects.

After expressing his satisfaction with the progress of the agricultural sector thanks to the mobilization of all sections of the population, the

President of the Republic presented the programs and priorities of the Government of Burundi in order to fight against poverty and achieve sustainable development.

"Despite the impacts of COVID-19, the population is at work. Now we even exploit the areas that were not exploited. However, we are facing challenges related to the conservation of production, in particular the lack of sales markets", suggested the Burundian Number One who then mentioned the strategies that are being implemented to also develop livestock farming in Burundi.

His Excellency President NDAY-ISHIMIYE also insisted on the imperative for Burundi's technical and financial partners to work in close collaboration with the Government in order to properly guide interventions and thus adjust to Government priorities.

"We have suffered losses in the past due to the lack of coordination. We must now have a joint action plan in order to achieve balanced development," he said.

During this interview, the IFAD delegation took this opportunity to present in turn the projects and programs of this financial institution at the regional level in general and in Burundi in particular.

This delegation spoke, among other things, about the PRODER project, the financing agreement of which is estimated at 53 Million US Dollars and which will be implemented for 7 years.

The Rural Entrepreneurship Development Program, PRODER in acronym, aims to reduce poverty and improve nutrition and food security in rural communities, we learned.

The Head of State positively appreciated this initiative "which supports the implementation of Government policy to develop the entrepreneurial sector, especially through the mobilization of young people. (www.presidency.gov.bi)

The First Lady receives the AU Youth Ambassadors for Peace



The First Lady of Burundi HE Mrs. Angeline NDAYISHIMIYE received in audience the Young African Union Ambassadors for Peace, who had come to Burundi as part of the continental dialogue on the Youth, Peace and Security Agenda. These young people wanted to receive more information on the actions carried out by the office of the first lady through the Office of the first

lady for development in Burundi (OPDD) and the Fondation Bonne Action Umuguraneza. They were particularly interested in the program to fight against malnutrition and the school canteen program. They appreciated all these actions carried out but also those which are carried out within the framework of the supervision of youth. These young people encouraged the First Lady to continue to work towards the development of the country and the empowerment of young people.

They hoped that in the near future they could return to Burundi to discuss and learn more about the two programs of school canteens and the fight against malnutrition. For her part, the First Lady of Burundi Her Excellency Mrs. Angeline Ndayishimiye invited these young AU Ambassadors for peace to contribute by supporting the ongoing efforts in the supervision of Burundian youth, because it is a full youth talent, but which requires supervision, according to the OPDD Spokesperson. (www.rtnb.bi)

The Senate adopts the new law governing the FDNB



The Senators met in a plenary session in the hemicycle of Gitega on Monday, April 26, 2022 to analyze the bill amending the organic law on the mission, organization, composition, instruction, conditions of service and functioning of the Force of National Defense of Burundi. The session was moderated by the Right Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera, President of the Senate. In his statement of reasons, the guest of the senate, the Minister in charge of Defense Alain Tribert Mu-

tabazi said that this draft organic law is drawn up so that the title of "Commander in Chief" mentioned in the Constitution of 07/ 06/2018 (art.111) replaces that of "Supreme Commander" which appeared in the old text of the fundamental law.

This bill will also allow the FDNB to be a major player in supporting the development and patriotic supervision of the country's daughters and sons, in addition to its sovereign mission of ensuring territorial defense, independence and the Sovereignty of Burundi, added the Minister in charge of National Defense.

It is also proposed in this bill that at the end of their career, soldiers can transfer to the Reserve and Support Force for the Development of the country (FRAD) to benefit from a salary for a period not exceeding 2 years.

And to deal with terrorism, the Minister in charge of National Defense indicated that the FDNB has proposed the creation of a Special Operations Unit (UOS) and the establishment of an Office responsi-

ble for the prevention of epidemics and pandemics for the benefit of its members. After all these explanations provided by the

Minister in charge of Defense, this bill was unanimously adopted by the senators. (www.rtnb.bi)

The Minister in charge of Foreign Affairs opens the 1080th meeting of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union



On april 25, 2022, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO proceeded to the official opening of the 1080th meeting of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union held in Bujumbura, under the high patronage of the President of Burundi HE Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE.

In his address, Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO said that the organization of the 1080th meeting of the PSC in Burundi, following the Continental Dialogue on Youth, Peace and Security under the central theme "Youth, let us unite our talents and our strength for peace, security and sustainable and inclusive development in Africa" confirms Africa's determination and common commitment to work in unison for peace, security and sustainable development of the African continent.

This occasion offers Burundi the opportunity to measure the importance of its role in front of this African youth who observes and hopes to find with Africa the path that can lead it to a

better future. This youth, agent of peace and actor of development, must be seriously prepared to be able to take over in the responsible management of national, regional, continental and global governance and do better where Africa has failed.

The Minister indicated that this meeting was therefore held to continue the diligent work of making Africa a continent free from conflict, terrorism and violent extremism through the prevention, management and resolution of conflict. through uniquely African solutions adapted to African principles, values and cultures.

Notwithstanding the significant progress already recorded, the Minister

recalled that it is clear that Africa continues to face many challenges likely, if we are not careful, to annihilate the efforts already made on the road to peace and development.

According to Minister Albert SHINGIRO, the first fundamental challenge for African nations at this time is the fight against terrorism, which in recent years has become the main concern not only for the African continent, but also for the whole world. Many African countries, from north to south, from east to west through the center have suffered from it and still suffer from it today, with enormous costs in human lives and material means.

It is in this context that Burundi has made military and police contingents available to the United Nations and the African Union to help restore and maintain peace and security, particularly in Somalia and in the Central African Republic. Burundi's substantial contribution to the fight against terrorism and to peacekeeping operations in Africa and elsewhere in the world is a positive return to the international community, which stood by Burundi's side when Burundi was going through hard times.

From its experience, Burundi knows that peace and security are priceless, like life, freedom, honor, dignity and the intrinsic values in which we all believe. For the Minister, these values and principles are sacred and absolute and should not be subject to any compromise in time of peace as in time of war. It is on the basis of these principles and values that Burundi reacts proactively through its intervention in countries where these values are really threatened by endogenous and exogenous negative forces, which sometimes operate by proxy to jeopardize peace and development on the African continent. Burundi will naturally continue to support the fight against terrorism and various forms of threats to global security through international missions to restore and consolidate peace in Africa and around the world.

However, it should be remembered that the best way to fight against terrorism and violent extremism the long term is to seriously tackle the root causes of these phenomena, namely poverty, exclusion, poor

governance, chronic dependency foreign aid, the illicit trafficking of natural resources, youth unemployment as well as the democratic and educational deficit.

Ambassador Albert Shingiro also indicated that apart from education, mentoring and empowering young Africans in order to transform them into agents of peace and actors of development remains crucial. This could be achieved by, for example, implementing the Youth, Peace and Security Agenda, through taking into account the skills, talents and strength of young people for the realization of the African Union's Agenda 2063 and the United Nations 2030 Agenda to which Burundi has freely adhered.

It should be noted that after the removal of the sanctions that had been taken against Burundi by the African Union following the turbulence of 2015, Burundi was elected a member of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union and President of this Commission for the month of april 2022. (MFADC)

The Permanent Secretary receives in audience the Ambassador of Zimbabwe to Burundi



On monday, april 25, 2022, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation Mr. Ferdinand BASHIKAKO received in audience Her Excellency Mrs. Charity Manyeruke, Ambassador of Zimbabwe in Burundi with residence in Kigali.

Mrs. Charity Manyeruke said that her country wants to strengthen economic cooperation with Burundi in the fields of information and communication technology (ICT), agriculture, trade and infrastructure. Ms. Charity also reported that Zimbabwe welcomed the good news of the removal of sanctions that had been

taken against Burundi by its partners, including the United States of America and the European Union.

The Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation said that Burundi is delighted with the excellent relations of friendship and cooperation that exist with Zimbabwe that is why the idea of economic cooperation in these areas is welcome to Burundi given that the year 2022 is dedicated to agriculture.

The two personalities also hoped that Burundi and Zimbabwe and even Africa in general could work together for development and for the strengthening of peace and security, good governance and the fight against terrorism within the continent and abroad.

He ended his remarks by thanking Zimbabwe for the positive assessment of the decisions to lift the sanctions taken against Burundi by its partners. He expressed the wish to see all the countries of Africa working in unison for mutual support and to find together solutions adapted to African problems.

It should be noted that diplomatic relations between Burundi and Zimbabwe date back a long time and are in good shape. (MFADC)

The Minister in charge of Foreign Affairs receives in audience the new Representative of UN Women in Burundi



The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation H.E Ambassador Albert Shingiro received in audience, the new Representative of UN Women in Burundi, on April 26, 2022, Mrs. Clara Mah ANYANGWE who came to present her letters of

appointment to this position in Burundi. The Minister congratulated her and wished her a good luck in her new role. He also recalled that the Government of Burundi is satisfied with the activities of UN Women in Burundi. Therefore, the Government of Burundi makes every possible effort to ensure that Burundian women are a pillar of development. Therefore, it is currently placed at the center of development in general and at the center of nutrition in particular.

In turn, Mrs. Clara Mah ANYANGWE thanked the Government of Burundi for

its support in achieving the objectives of UN Women. So, she welcomed the place given to Burundian women in the economic development of the country. It should be noted that Mrs. Clara Mah ANYANGWE has replaced Mrs. Jennet Kem who has completed her term. (MFADC)

The Government of Burundi signs a financing agreement with IFAD



The Minister in charge of Finance Mr. Domitien Ndiwokubwayo affixed his signature with the Regional Director of IFAD for the Southern and Eastern Africa region Sara Mbago Bhunu, on a financing agreement for the new development program of the would maintain rural (PRODER), april 28, 2022.

This agreement signed between the Government of Burundi and IFAD consists of a grant of

42,950,000 US dollars and a concessional loan of 10,700,000 US dollars, i.e. a total of 53,700,000 US dollars.

The project targeted by this financing aims to contribute to poverty reduction, improving nutrition and food security in rural communities, as indicated by the Minister in charge of finance, Mr. Domitien Ndiwokubwayo.

The development objective pursued is to promote youth entrepreneurship in an equitable and inclusive manner as well as an environment conducive to the development of agro-pastoral enterprises and to strengthening the resilience of the most vulnerable rural populations.

In addition to the 10 provinces where IFAD operates, namely Bubanza, Cibitoke, Muramvya, Rutana, Ruyigi, Karusi, Kayanza, Ngozi, Gitega and Muyinga, it will also intervene in two other Makamba and Bururi Provinces in order to continue capitalizing on the approach IFAD program in Burundi, which will make it

possible to reach a total of 85,000,000 households.

Despite IFAD's various interventions, challenges abound with regard to the needs of the agriculture, food security and youth entrepreneurship sectors. The Minister in charge of Finance calls on various stakeholders in these sectors to mobilize more resources to support the Government's efforts to fully support the resilience of value chains and poverty

reduction approaches.

The IFAD Regional Director for the Southern and Eastern Africa region Mrs. Sara Mbago Bhunu was received in audience by the Minister in charge of Agriculture and Livestock Déo Guide Rurema and said that with this signing of the financing agreement, a lot of work will be carried out for the well-being of the country. (www.rtnb.bi)

Municipalities now involved in the program budget process



In order to lay the right foundations for public finance management, a new results-based budgeting reform called "Program Budget" will be introduced from the start of the 2022-2023 budget year in all state structures in Burundi. This reform was announced in a program budget planning workshop organized in Gitega on Monday, April 25, 2022 by the Ministry in charge of community development in collaboration with that in charge of finance and the Budget.

The work of this workshop was opened by the Minister of the Interior, Community Development and Public Security CPC Gervais NDIRAKOBUCA. This workshop saw the participation of the Governors of provinces, the advisers of the Governors in charge of development, the advisers to the Governors in charge of finance and the provincial branches of the plan, the municipal administrators and the presidents of the municipal councils, the advisers of the municipal administrators in charge of development, municipal accountants as well as the presidents of the finance commissions within the municipal councils.

On this occasion, the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry in charge of Finance and Budget, Mrs. Christine NIRAGIRA indicated that the municipalities are now engaged in the program budget pro-

cess and that it is now planned to use a single outline for the development and execution of the results-oriented annual program budget in all state structures, instead of the usual format, called "budget-means" format.

For the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry in charge of Finance Mrs. Christine NIRAGIRA, this reform will make the task of monitoring and evaluating the execution of activities and projects more effective and efficient, and will thus allow municipalities to have an early view of the needs cash flow and to be able to prepare for it.

According to him, the Minister in charge of Community Development CPC Gervais Ndirakobuca indicated that the objective of this workshop was to teach participants the methodology of transcribing the content of the municipal community development plan and the annual investment plan in tools leading to budgeting under the new format, i.e. filling in the new format according to the work plan and the 2022-2023 annual budget at municipal level.

Finally, the Minister in charge of Community Development suggested that the purpose of this workshop was to produce the budget document for each of the 119 municipalities in the country for the 2022-2023 financial year in an identical format, indicating the results of the achievements. quarterly plans as well as the provisional budgets for each of the four quarters of the budget year.

It should be noted that even Burundi's development partners are called upon to follow the same program budget scheme. This reform provides that each financial partner will have to discuss with the supported entity to set a clear annual program of activities, which highlights the results to be achieved and the budget allocated to these activities. (www.rtnb.bi)

Towards the improvement of women's participation in decision-making bodies in rural areas



The other

The Collective of Women's Associations and NGOs of Burundi (CAFOB) organized on Tuesday, april 26, 2022 a workshop to present the results of the study on the participation of women in decision-making bodies and the perceptual change in terms of gender equality after the 2020 elections.

CAFOB conducted a study on a project entitled: "Promotion of food sovereignty and the participation of women in rural Burundi, phase 2". The overall objective of this project is to improve the socio-economic conditions of families and the empowerment of women in rural Burundi as indicated by the CAFOB program manager, Kanyamuneza Madonne.

The areas of intervention of this project are 7 communes of the 5 provinces of the country which are Ndava, Mutimbuzi, Mugina Nyanzlake, Kayogoro, Giheta and Mabayi. These studies on women's participation, changes and perceptions of gender equality after the 2020 elections show that Mabayi commune is the first with a rate of 47.8 followed by Kayogoro.

manifestation of the impact of the real participation of women in local decision-making places is the case of women who are re-elected several times.

Even if there is an evolution in the participation of women in certain localities in decision-making, the study carried out by Maître Alphonsine Bigirimana found that many challenges still persist. Among other things, the negative attitude of husbands and the macho prejudices of men in general, the lack of time for women, and poverty, women do not support each other, etc.

The consultant pointed out that among the factors that promote the participation of women in decision-making bodies include a legal framework that provides for a quota of representation of women, the support of husbands, the exemplary nature of women leaders, etc. (www.rtnb.bi)

**Ministry of Foreign Affairs and
Development Cooperation**

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