



## The President of the Democratic Republic of Congo visits Burundi



**F**rom may 21 to 23, 2022, the President of the Democratic Republic of Congo His Excellency Mr. Félix-Antoine TSHISEKEDI TSHILOMBO, accompanied by his Spouse and a strong high-level delegation, paid an official visit to Bujumbura, Burundi to the invitation of his counterpart, His Excellency Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE, President of the Republic of Burundi. He was welcomed at Melchior NDADAYE International Airport by His Excellency Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation of the Republic of Burundi as well as other senior officials of the Government of Burundi.

This visit is part of the strengthening of the excellent relations of friendship, brotherhood and cooperation existing between the Republic of Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

During this visit, the two Heads of State had fruitful face-to-face exchanges and extensive talks on issues of common interest at the bilateral, regional and international levels during which ways and means to strengthen, reinforce and to further diversify the historical ties

of friendship and cooperation through win-win partnerships.

The two Heads of State once again underlined the importance of carrying out as soon as possible the bilateral projects of great importance for our respective peoples, in particular the construction of bridges for vehicles and for pedestrians between the southern provinces -Kivu (DRC) and Cibitoke (Burundi) on the Rusizi/ Ruzizi river; farming in the Rusizi/ Ruzizi plain through win-win partnerships; the rehabilitation and electrification of the Uvira-Bukavu-Goma road to facilitate the mobility of goods and people as well as the cross-border market at the common border to facilitate trade between the two countries.(MFADC)

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## The Uvinza-Gitega-Bujumbura-Kindu railway (Burundi, DRC, Tanzania)



countries to fight in particular against all forms of organized cross-border crime. At the international

Within the framework of sub-regional cooperation, concerning trade, in addition to the going-on implementation of the Agreements signed, the two Heads of State underlined the interest of accelerating mobilization within the tripartite framework (Burundi, DRC, Tanzania) adequate funding for the construction of the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) Uvinza-Gitega-Bujumbura-Kindu which is of paramount importance for the movement of people and goods between our two countries as well as the sub-regional integration. With regard to areas of peace and security, the two Heads of State reaffirmed the commitment of the Nairobi summit of April 21, 2022 on the situation in the region to eradicate armed groups and other terrorist groups and to strengthen the security on the common borders and on Lake Tanganyika. They highlighted the need to strengthen joint patrols and operations between the defense and security forces of the two

level, the two Heads of State reiterated their firm attachment to multilateralism based on the rule of international law applicable to all States regardless of their size, geographical location or level of development, as well as to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, in particular those relating to respect for sovereignty, political independence, non-interference, the territorial integrity of States as well as the sovereign equality of States in the concert of Nations. They also stressed the importance for the international community to resolve international conflicts by peaceful means through dialogue, cooperation and good offices. (MFADC)

## Descent on the ground of President Félix-Antoine TSHISEKEDI TSHILOMBO



**D**uring the time he was in Burundi, His Excellency Mr. Félix-Antoine TSHISEKEDI TSHILOMBO, President of the Democratic Republic of Congo,

visited the FOMI (Organo-Mineral Industries Fertilizers) factory in Bujumbura; the Agronomic and Zootechnical Research Institute of Gitega (IRAZ); the site

where the new Presidential Palace is being erected in Gitega, the political capital, on equity financing; the farms of Bugendana and Buringa as well as a modern rice field in Bujumbura.

After noting the deplorable state of certain integrating projects of the Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries (CEPGL), in particular the Institute for Agronomic and Zootechnical Research (IRAZ), the two Heads of State discussed the future of this organization and its Specialized Institutions and have expressed the wish to revitalize this regional framework which is struggling to recover after several years of immobility (MFADC)

## Burundian troops for peacekeeping in Somalia



The two Heads of State rightly hailed the major role played by the African Union Transition Mission in Somalia (AMTIS) in the fight against the terrorist group Shebab and condemned in the strongest terms the terrorist attack perpetrated by the Al Shebab on May 3, 2022 against the peacekeepers of AMTIS in Somalia and paid a deserved tribute to those who fell on the field of honor. It should be noted that the ATMIS (African Transition Mission in Somalia) has replaced AMISOM (African Mission in Somalia), present for fifteen years with the main mandate of the fight against the Shebab, by a force responsible for preparing Somalia to assume its responsibilities on its own in security by the end of 2023. AMISOM has changed its name to become ATMIS with a more political mandate and will be responsible for preparing the departure of African Union forces in Somalia.

The ATMIS also aims to help Somalia stabilize its institutions and raise the level of its armed and security forces.

The two Heads of State also welcomed the rich

natural and human resources and agreed to cooperate more in the capitalization of youth and the rational exploitation of natural resources beneficial to the peoples of the two countries.

The Congolese Head of State, Mr. Félix-Antoine TSHISEKEDI TSHILOMBO, went to Gitega to collect his thoughts and laid a wreath at the mausoleum of the late Pierre NKURUNZIZA, Former President of the Republic of Burundi.

At the end of his visit to Burundi, His Excellency Mr. Félix-Antoine TSHISEKEDI TSHILOMBO, President of the Democratic Republic of Congo, expressed his deep thanks to his brother, His Excellency Mr. Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE, to the government and to the people of Burundi for the welcome warmth and legendary hospitality extended to him and his delegation. He finally invited his Burundian counterpart, His Excellency Mr. Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE, to pay a friendly visit to the Democratic Republic of Congo. The invitation was accepted on a date to be agreed between the two parties through diplomatic channels. (MFADC)

## President NDAYISHIMIYE welcomes the peace process initiated in the DRC and the regional openness efforts



During a press conference held on Monday 23, 2022 at Melchior Ndadaye International Airport, the Head of State, His Excellency Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE, who accompanied his counterpart from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) after an official visit by 3 days in Burundi, congratulated his brother from Burundi for his efforts to establish peace in his country and to promote regional integration.

"We encourage Our Brother for the peace process, for the process of openness with the countries of the region and especially for the negotiations started with the rebels to restore peace in eastern Congo", he underlined. after having thanked him for this visit which, according to him, testifies his commitment and his love towards the Burundian people.

President NDAYISHIMIYE further stated that Burundi and the DRC enjoy good historical relations of friendship and cooperation, expressing his satisfaction that these relations have been cemented since 2021.

Given the crisis that Burundi has gone through and its experience in the peace process and reconciliation, His Excellency NDAYISHIMIYE promised his Congolese counterpart that Burundi will spare no effort to support the brotherly Congolese

people.

"As Pan-Africanists, it is time for African leaders to start strengthening South-South cooperation", launched President NDAYISHIMIYE, calling on African leaders to join forces for the stabilization and development of the continent in general and that of particular countries.

Before flying to Kinshasa, the President

of the Democratic Republic of Congo, His Excellency Antoine Tshisekedi Tshilombo, for his part, reiterated his appreciation for the warm welcome given to him with his delegation. He also expressed his desire to bring the two peoples closer together and further develop relations between Burundi and the DRC.

"I'm not afraid to say it, what is being done in Burundi deserves to be looked at and to be encouraged", insisted the Congolese Head of State before congratulating his counterpart from Burundi for the progress made in his country in terms of development after Burundi was unjustly placed under sanctions, he said.

It should be noted that before closing his official visit which allowed him to inquire about the various projects underway in Burundi, the Congolese Number One in the company of His Burundian Counterpart and the distinguished First Ladies, visited the "Life Way", a modern livestock farm with a production capacity of 2500 liters of milk per day as well as the "FOMI" factory with a manufacturing capacity of 150 miles of organo-mineral fertilizers per year, both operating in the Province of Bubanza.

([www.presidency.gov.bi](http://www.presidency.gov.bi))

## The President of the Senate calls on the leaders of SOSUMO to innovation and creativity



**T**he President of the Burundian Senate, the Right Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera, visited the Société Sucrière de Moso (SOSUMO) in Bukemba commune of Rutana province on wednesday, may 25, 2022.

The Right Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera first met the leaders of SOSUMO before taking a guided tour inside this company.

As indicated by the Director General of SOSUMO, the factory was established in Burundi in 1988. He announced that this company is now experiencing operational challenges due to worn equipment.

He said that it is now difficult for SOSUMO to meet

the population's demand for sugar. The Director General of SOSUMO announced a project to extend, modernize and renew sugar cane varieties, with a view to increasing sugar production. And to ask the President of the Senate to support SOSUMO in this project.

The President of the Senate, the Right Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera, meanwhile, said that his move to SOSUMO was motivated by complaints from the population about the shortage of sugar observed in the country. It was a question for the President of the Senate as representative of the people, to inquire about the situation and the state of operation of this public company of production and marketing of sugar.

The President of the Senate the Right Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera congratulated the leaders of SOSUMO for the project to renew this company. He asked them to strengthen the research and development department, promote innovation and creativity in order to meet the needs of the population in sugar. ([www.rtnb.bi](http://www.rtnb.bi))

## The 1st Lady of the DRC assists women suffering from obstetric fistula



In her three-day official mission to Burundi, the First Lady of the DRC H.E Denise Nyakeru Tchisekedi in the company of the First Lady of Burundi and Founder of the Fondation Bonne Action Umugiraneza Her Excellency Angéline Ndayishimiye, made a trip to the provinces on Sunday May 22, 2022 from Gitega.

The visit began at the Urumuri center in Gitega, which supports women

suffering from obstetric fistula.

After visiting the premises of the building of the Urumuri center in Gitega built by the Fondation Bonne Action Umugiraneza, the First Lady of the DRC gave women suffering from obstetric fistula food and non-food assistance consisting of beans, rice, flour corn, clothes for babies and adults, laundry soaps, powdered milk, etc.

The First Lady of the DRC in the company of the First Lady of Burundi also attended the regional hospital of Gitega, a family who recently gave birth to triplets.

First Lady Angeline Ndayishimiye thanked DRC First Lady Denise Nyakeru Tchisekedi for the visit she had just made to the Urumuri center in Gitega.

And to clarify that it is a sign that proves the importance that the 1st Lady of the DRC attaches to the good health of women so that they can contribute to the development of the country.

As for HE Denise Nyakeru Tchisekedi, she encouraged and wished women suffering from obstetric

fistula a good recovery.

It is a curable disease when treated as soon as possible, she reassured. After the visit to the Urumuri center of the regional hospital of Gitega, the two first ladies visited the headquarters of the Fondation Bonne Action

Umugiraneza which is located in Kibimba in Giheta commune of Gitega province as well as the Clinic of this Foundation directed by the First Lady of the country His Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye. ([www.rtnb.bi](http://www.rtnb.bi))

### The Apostolic Nuncio to Burundi makes a courtesy visit to the Senate



**T**he President of the Burundian Senate the Right Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera received on tuesday, may 24, 2022 in audience in his office in Gitega, the Apostolic Nuncio in Burundi, Bishop Dieudonné Datonou.

At the end of the audience, the Apostolic Nuncio in Burundi Mgr Dieudonné Datonou indicated that their discussions focused on the role of the Burundian Senate in national reconciliation, a mission shared with the Catholic Church through the Episcopal Commission for Justice and Peace.

According to Monsignor Dieudonné Datonou, they also discussed the dynamics of development between the Holy See and Burundi. Monsignor Dieudonné Datonou, pointed out that it was a courtesy visit because he is new in his mission to represent the Holy See in Burundi. He also carried a message from His Holiness Pope Francis to the President of the Senate Emmanuel Sinzohagera and wished him every success in his duties of leading the upper house of parliament, he announced. ([www.rtnb.bi](http://www.rtnb.bi))

### The Permanent Secretary in the Ministry in charge of Foreign Affairs grants an audience to the Deputy Head of Division at the Development and Cooperation Department in Bern, Switzerland



**A**s part of strengthening and maintaining cooperation relations between Burundi and Switzerland, the Permanent

Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation Mr. Ferdinand Bashikako received in audience, on may 20, 2022, the Head of Division Deputy at the Development and Cooperation Department in Bern, Switzerland Ms. Séverine Donnet-Descartes. These personalities discussed the relations of friendship and cooperation between these two countries.

During the conversation, Mrs. Séverine Donnet-Descartes indicated that Switzerland is delighted with the relations it maintains with Burundi. For this, she said that Switzerland is still committed to accompanying and supporting Burundi at the end of its development. She did not fail to ask if there

would be any reforms in Burundi that relate to development.

In turn, Mr. Ferdinand Bashikako indicated that Burundi is also satisfied with the relations it maintains with Switzerland. He recalled that Switzerland has always been at the side of Burundi during the hard times that Burundi has gone through.

Regarding the reforms in Burundi, the Permanent Secretary said that the Government of Burundi now has a concern to find projects for women and young people.

For this, the Head of State, His Excellence Evariste

NDAYISHIMIYE has initiated a framework for the supervision of young people with a bank for them and another for women. Ms. Séverine Donnet-Descartes encouraged the Government of Burundi for its initiatives in favor of its population, especially women and young people.

It should be noted that cooperation between these two countries dates back a long time and that the main sectors of intervention of Switzerland in Burundi are: justice, decentralization, education, health and the consolidation of peace.(MFADC

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## Opening of the work of the workshop on “Youth for Peace” organized by the EASF



On Tuesday, May 24, 2022, the Assistant to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, Mr. Sylidie MANIREREKANA opened the work of the Workshop on "Youth for Peace" organized by the Standby Force of the East Africa region, EASF in acronyms, at the premises of the Best Outlook Hotel, at KIRIRI.

In his speech, Brigadier General Osman Mohamed Abbas, who represented the Director of EASF, thanked the Republic of Burundi for graciously accepting this youth seminar and took this opportunity to welcome all participants in general.

According to Brigadier General Osman Mohamed Abbas, the main objectives of this workshop are: to meaningfully involve youth and civil society organizations in the "Youth Peace Seminar" as a means of fostering understanding, collaboration, security and peace; advocate for the domestication of the Continental Framework for Youth Peace and Security CFYPS; initiate the development of a National Action Plan (NAP) on youth, peace and security issues;

and increase the number of trees planted in EASF member states,

thereby contributing to environmental protection and reducing the carbon footprint in the region.

In his speech, Mr. Sylidie MANIREREKANA, Assistant to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation stated that the Government of Burundi recognizes the leading role played by young people in maintaining peace and security. This can be seen through the efforts made by the Government of Burundi in order to give priority to the inclusion of young people in the promotion of peace and security, as well as the strengthening of the capacities of young people, thanks to various initiatives, in particular the creation of the bank for young people and the training of young people in entrepreneurship, in order to enable them to fully play their role in the development of the country.

He also pointed out that 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 without however always relying on outside the continent. The Assistant to the Minister

of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, Mr. Sylidie MANIREREKANA, further added that these young people, agents of peace and actors 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 their elders would have failed.

Thus, the training that young people will benefit from will be a good opportunity to

better understand the challenges that haunt their future and acquire the necessary skills to develop national action plans on youth, peace and security issues. He recommended that EASF Member States create a healthy climate, making it possible to respond to the needs of young people, to encourage their participation, to amplify their voice and to support their actions so that they actively contribute to the consolidation of peace in the region and in the world. (MFADC)

### Audience granted to the team of investors of France



They also reported that they have a plan to install economic sites in the four corners of Burundi and to pre-

**O**n may 20, 2022, the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation Mr. Ferdinand Bashikako received in audience a team from France consisting of Mr. Thierry MARCHISET and Mr. Lionel GERBAUD, guided by the Ambassador of Burundi in Paris HE Ernest NIYOKINDI.

In their comments, Mr. Thierry MARCHISET and Mr. Lionel GERBAUD indicated that they wish to bring to Burundi a project which consists of installing cold rooms right next to Lake Tanganyika which are used to store foodstuffs in order to contribute to economic development of Burundi.

sent vehicles that will facilitate the rotation of food products from one site to another so that the Burundi population can access the varied food products.

The Permanent Secretary greatly welcomed this project. He also testified that Burundi, under the leadership of His Excellency Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE, opened the doors for any investor provided that the project benefits all sides. He greatly encouraged this team because, according to him, this project is very interesting and important for Burundians Mr. Ferdinand BASHIKAKO asked them to contact the Ministry of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock in Burundi to present this project (MFADC)



## Burundi: Closing of the States General of Burundian Culture



The Minister in charge of Culture Ambassador Ezechiel Nibigira proceeded on Wednesday, May 25, 2022 in the province of Gitega to the closing of the activities of the states general of Burundian culture.

As the Minister indicated in his speech for the occasion, the States General of Burundian Culture are organized with the aim of promoting and safeguarding Burundian culture.

During the closing of the States General of Burundian Culture, the experts had the opportunity to present the conclusions of the meeting which opened these States General which was held in Bujumbura on May 18 to 21, 2022 on what needs to be done to improve the culture sector in Burundi. These experts in the field of culture have expressed the establishment of a cultural center which will house everything related to Burundian art and culture, a learning and development center related to all sectors of the art and culture.

The participants in these states general of Burundian

culture also made their contributions on what should be done to promote Burundian culture. The Minister in charge of Culture Ambassador Ezekiel Nibigira said that all the recommendations will be collected in a manual which will be sent to the Government to decide what to do next. He also specified that culture is essential, that it must be safeguarded insofar as it constitutes the identity of the Burundian people.

The Minister in charge of culture in his attributions also indicated that the Rundi academy must be strengthened by granting it financial means and specifications so that it can succeed in its mission. According to the Minister, the proper functioning of this Rundi academy will enable the youth and the population in general to appropriate Burundian culture. Took part in the closing session of the general works of Burundian culture, drummers, musicians, writers and actors of plays, cultural groups and artists. ([www.rtnb.bi](http://www.rtnb.bi))

## Participation in the 41st Ministerial Conference of Francophonie (CMF)



**H**is Excellency Ernest NIYOKINDI, Ambassador of Burundi in Paris, and Mr. Guy-Michel MFATIYE Delegate for Francophonie at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation participated in the 41st Ministerial Conference of Francophonie (CMF) which was held virtually on May 23, 2022 in Djerba under the Presidency of H.E. Mr. Othman Jerandi Minister of Foreign Affairs, Migration and Tunisians Abroad.

The purpose of this extraordinary session was to determine the specific modalities for the election of the next Secretary General during the 18th Summit of Francophonie in Djerba, scheduled for November 19 and 20, 2022.

While studying the specific procedures for the election of the next Secretary General, the 41st session of the Ministerial Conference of Francophonie decided by consensus to adopt the proposal of the legal department of the International Organization of Francophonie which con-

sisted in implementation of an exceptional procedure reducing the deadlines provided for in the single rules of procedure for the next applications. The following schedule has been proposed:

- May 23, 2022: opening of the call for applications for the post of Secretary General of Francophonie;
- August 23, 2022: closing of applications;
- October 6, 2022: hearing of the candidates during an extraordinary session of the CMF;
- November 20, 2022: election of the Secretary General at the Djerba Summit.

Note that the 40th Session of the CMF took place on March 16, 2022 in Djerba. (MFADC)

## The Burundian Diaspora takes measures to revitalize its functioning



On may 07, 2022, in a press release made public, the representatives of the Diaspora took measures after a meeting they held based on the projects drawn up by the commission in charge of the elaboration of the projects which will be made in our country, Burundi.

These measures that have been taken are as follows:

1. The representatives of the Country Organizations (OPS) asked those who are designated to prepare the general assembly to be attentive so that all the decisions taken are discussed well before and agreed by everyone, for the good of the Diaspora Burundian and that of our native country, Burundi.
2. The commission in charge of developing the projects is asked to make this action plan solid, so that these projects are presented during the week of the Diaspora.
  3. The representatives of the Country Organizations supported the commission responsible for preparing the meeting with the Burundians of ISHWI as part of preparing for the trip to the native country (Burundi) in august 2022, and the work planned during this period of the visit prepared by the women's rights commission.
  4. The representatives of the Country Or-

ganizations have agreed that each country will give a contribution during a period from may 29 to july 15, 2022, and this contribution will help during the Diaspora week 2022.

5. The representatives of the Country Organizations agreed that

the representatives of the Burundian Diaspora will contribute during the period of the Diaspora: 300 US dollars for those of the administrative and executive committee, and 150 US dollars for those who are elected in the various commissions and representatives of Country Organizations.

6. The commission preparing the meeting of the population of ISHWI during the week of the Diaspora has been asked to announce as soon as possible how this contribution will be given and used in a transparent manner.

7. The representatives of the Country Organizations were asked to come together with those who do not share the same opinions so that all Burundians living in these different countries contribute to building our country, Burundi and consolidating peace.

(Source: Communiqué signed and made public by the President of Diaspora M.Eric NIRAGIRA.)

## The Representation of the Burundian Diaspora living in Uganda is mobilizing to participate in the Diaspora Week



On May 15, 2022, the Representation of the Burundian diaspora living in Uganda mobilized to sensitize all Burundians exercising their functions in Uganda to participate in the week of the diaspora edition 2022, scheduled for July 2022.

It was also an opportunity to present the major achievements of the past year 2021 and to explain the various projects to be carried out for the year 2022-2023.

The Representation of the Burundian Diaspora took this opportunity to congratulate and thank some members of the Burundian Diaspora who gave themselves body and soul to support the work of the Burundian Diaspora in Uganda. The Ambassador of the Republic of Burundi in Kampala, Uganda, His Excellency Ambassador Epiphane KABUSHEMEYE NTAMWANA, was also rewarded for having deployed his efforts to support the Burundian Diaspora in Uganda. (Writing-DFATD)

**Ministry of Foreign Affairs and  
Development Cooperation  
Department of Communication**

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