



Gitega: The CNDD-FDD party organizes a prayer of thanksgiving

The ruling CNDD-FDD party organized in Gitega on Thursday, January 20, 2022, a three-day inter-faith prayer



of thanksgiving to thank the Lord for all the blessings he has bestowed on Burundi during the past year. The opening ceremonies were marked by songs of praise and sermons. During these ceremonies, the Bagumyabanga were called upon to repent and sanctify themselves so that the will of God would be accomplished.

In his speech for the occasion, the Secretary General of the CNDD-FDD Honorable Réverien Ndikuriyo congratulated the members of the ruling party on the support of the programs of the Government. He took this opportunity to ask the political leaders present in the inter-faith prayer to examine their conscience to see if they are really role models in the society and if they are true servants of the people they are called to lead. On this occasion, Honorable Réverien Ndikuriyo invited “Bagumyabanga the”

activists to care about doing good so that God's will is accomplished.

In her sermon, Reverend Denise Bucumi recalls that political and administrative leaders have been chosen to serve as role models and to teach others to live a life that honors their Creator. And to call on the activists of the ruling party to lead an irreproachable life. She recalled at the same time that only integrity and propriety will allow the “Bagumyabanga” of the CNDD-FDD to confuse their enemies. Referring to the Holy Scriptures of Jeremiah 1:9-10, Prime Minister Alain Guillaume Bunyoni meanwhile reminded the “Bagumyabanga” that God who saved them is unique and that they should not go near other gods. He recommended that they never consult diviners or enchanterers.

It was an opportunity for the Prime

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Minister to urge the audience to destroy the altars of Satan that they have erected in their hearts and to plant good seeds so that Burundi becomes a land of honest and upright people.

Speaking, the President of the Republic HE Evariste Ndayishimiye announced that this three-day prayer will allow the militants of his party to uproot resentment. An opportunity to invite them together to ask God to forgive their sins and sanctify them.

Through the holy scriptures taken from the book of Ezekiel 34, the Head of State HE Evariste Ndayishimiye pointed out to the "Bagumyabanga" what the Lord God hates and asked the audience to meditate on this word

before inviting them to praise the Lord.

In addition to the presence of the Head of State, his Spouse and the Secretary General of the CNDD-FDD party, the ceremonies were also enhanced by the presence of the Vice-President of the Republic of Burundi, the Prime Minister, the two Presidents of Offices of the lower chamber and the upper chamber of Parliament, the Burundian Ombudsman and other senior executives from this party as well as guests from other political parties.

(www.rtnb.bi)

President Ndayishimiye urges political actors to promote ideologies that help strengthen social cohesion and the well-being of the population



In an opening mass of the prayer of thanksgiving organized by the CNDD-FDD party, the Head of State and President of the Council of Elders of the CNDD FDD HE Evariste Ndayishimiye called, on January 20, the political actors to respect the ideologies of their respective parties but which contribute to the promotion of the well-being of citizens.

The Number One Burundian, who was accompanied by the First Lady and surrounded by several high authorities of the country during this mass celebrated at the Parish of Saint Francis of Assisi in Magarama in the Province of Gitega, particularly addressed the leaders: "It's time for change for you leaders. You must now show

yourselves worthy of the trust that the population places in you by fighting all forms of injustice and division. Let those who get involved in politics do so, but in the interest of the population".

His Excellency the President of the Republic, after giving thanks to God for his mercy which enabled Burundi to overcome its painful past and for his protection during this period of the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic and, then urged his compatriots to reject idleness in order to walk together towards the development of the country.

The Archbishop of Gitega in his homily echoed the same idea, encouraging members of the ruling party to serve as role

models through their investment in socio-economic development work. Bishop Simon Ntamwana called on them to be fair to all.

"As the CNDD-FDD party has put God first, you are called to serve the people in all impartiality and without oppressing anyone, even those who do not adhere to the ideology of your party", emphasized Archbishop Ntamwana.

The prayer of thanksgiving for the end of the year 2022 organized by the CNDD-FDD party has been held since Thursday in the political capital of Gitega and will last 3 days.

(www.presidence.gov.bi)

President Ndayishimiye recalls that safeguarding culture is a duty incumbent on all Burundians

During his descent on January 19 to the sacred drums sanctuary in Gishora in Giheta Commune of Gitega Province, the Head of State His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye joined his fellow drummers in an unprecedented cultural number, a gesture that he posed to remind that the safeguard of culture is a duty incumbent on all Burundians.

Former drummer from a young age in his native town of Giheta, the President of the Republic who was accompanied by the First Lady, Her Excellency Angeline Ndayubaha Ndayishimiye and her son did not hesitate to put on drummer uniforms to play the drum in order to enhance this cultural heritage and this further cultivates the feeling of patriotism in the young and future generations.

The Presidential Family who visited the sanctuary of the sacred drums at the end of the Government holidays was able to recharge their batteries in the history of Burundi. Indeed, this historic site served as the Royal Palace and place of refuge for King Mwezi

Gisabo for 8 months when he was trying to resist the German invasion in 1903. The Presidential Couple took the time to admire the traditional tools and the attics which served as a hiding place for one of the great monarchs that Burundi has known and who reigned from 1820 to 1908. In addition, the sacred drums sanctuary of Gishora

houses the 2 sacred drums (Ruciteme and Murimirwa) 119 years old which were made from the skins of 2 cows that King Mwezi Gisabo had granted to old Nyabidaha as a gesture of thanks for providing him with a hiding place.

The two drums were played once during the night in December, we learned from Oscar NSHIMIRIMANA, guardian and guide of this sanctuary.

(www.presidence.gov.bi)



National Assembly: Adoption of the bill on the Rail Transport Code in Burundi

During the plenary session of this Wednesday, January 19, 2022, the National Assembly adopted the Bill on the Rail Transport Code in Burundi presented by the Minister in charge of transport Mrs. Marie Chantal Nijimbere

According to the Minister in charge of Transport, Mrs. Marie Chantal Nijimbere, the PND 2018-2027 provides for the development of transport infrastructure to open up and connect Burundi to neighboring countries by rail. To achieve this objective, Burundi must put in place a legal, institutional and operational framework for rail transport.

She recalled that Burundi, Tanzania and the DRC



have made commitments to build the UVINZA-MUSONGATI-GITEGA-BUJUMBURA-UVIRA-KINDU railway line which will connect the three countries.

EAC countries have recognized the need to streamline the development of railway transport and harmonize

transport operations along the main corridors, through the East African Railway Master Plan). It is therefore, according to Minister Marie Chantal Nijimbere, essential and urgent that Burundi adopts a legal, institutional and operational framework in perfect harmony with the national and regional imperatives of rail transport.

The Minister in charge of transport Mrs. Marie Chantal Nijimbere explained to the deputies the interest of rail transport for Burundi: companies interested in the exploitation of mining deposits come up against challenges related to the transport of these mining products to international markets. He added that the interest in rail transport also comes from the comparative

advantages of this mode of transport compared to the road.

The Minister said that the advantages of rail transport are: capacity to transport mass industrial and agricultural products, low cost, high security and safety of goods, longer life of rail infrastructure, etc.

The Deputies recommended to the Government to provide for the revision of the law on compensation so that in the implementation of the railway project the populations who will be displaced receive substantial compensation. After discussions, the Bill on the rail transport code in Burundi was adopted by 107/107 of the votes, or one hundred percent.

(www.rtnb.bi)

Burundi present in the 20th ordinary session of the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of Central African States



At the invitation of HE Mr. Denis SASSOU N'GUESSO, the President of the Republic of Congo, the Head of State, Current President of the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), the 20th ordinary session of the Conference of Heads of State and Government was held on January 19, 2022.

The President of the Republic of Burundi HE Evariste Ndayishimiye was represented in this session by HE Albert Shingiro, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation.

According to the final communiqué made public at the end of this session, the conference analyzed various points, in particular that concerning safety and security in Central Africa, the conference noted that the se-

curity situation in the Community space remains generally stable despite the difficulties resulting from the persistence of acts of piracy in the Gulf of Guinea as well as the challenges facing the region, in particular those relating to terrorism and violent extremism, the persistence of armed groups, the illegal circulation of weapons and the illicit exploitation of natural resources.

Regarding the establishment of the Regional Logistics Depot, the Conference endorsed the candidacy of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea to host the ECCAS Regional Logistics Depot.

With regard to the meeting of Heads of enquiring services on the fight against mercenaries in Central Africa, the Conference instructed the Commission to work towards holding this meeting during the first half of 2022 by extending it to all the national services concerned with this question.

The conference also analyzed the establishment of the Committee of Elders of Central Africa 19. The Conference took note of the provisions taken by the Council of Ministers relating to the modalities for the establishment of the Committee of Elders of Central Africa. For that, the Conference instructed the President of the Commission to speed up the operationalization of this important COPAX instrument

According to this communiqué, the Conference adopted, on the proposal of the Council of Ministers, the following decisions: Decision No. 001/CEEAC/CCEGIXI/22 adopting the Priority Action Plan (PAP)

of the year 2022 of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and Decision No. 002/CEEACICCEG/XX/22 adopting the Declaration on the involvement of women in prevention, mediation and consolidation processes of peace in Central Africa.

During this 20th session, the Republic of Burundi received support for its candidacies for the positions of member of Human Rights Council of the United Nations for the period 2024-2026, Non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council for the period 2026-2027 and the President of the 84th regular session of the United Nations General Assembly in 2029.

The Conference expressed its gratitude to His Excellency Mr. Denis SASSOU-N'GUESSO, President of the Republic of Congo, Current President of ECCAS, for his remarkable record as well as for the achievements made throughout his mandate as Presidency of the Conference of Heads of State and Government of ECCAS, his leadership and his constant commitment to the success of the regional integration process in Central Africa.

The Conference welcomed the passing between the outgoing President and the new President in Office, His Excellency Mr. Félix Antoine TSHISEKEDI TSHILOMBO, President of the Democratic Republic of Congo, within the deadlines prescribed by the revised

ECCAS Treaty.

Note that in closing, the Conference decided to hold its 21st ordinary session in July 2022 in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo.

On the sidelines of the 20th ordinary session of the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of Central African States, HE Albert Shingiro met various personalities including HE Denis Christel Sassou Nguesso, Minister of International Cooperation and Promotion of public-private partnerships, Mr. Gilberto P. VERISSIMO, President of the ECCAS Commission and Mr Jean Claude Gakoso, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Congo.



(Rédaction-MAECD)

The Ministry of Public Service, Labor and Employment demonstrates achievements



The Minister of Public Service, Labor and Employment Dr. Thaddée Ndikumana proceeded on Tuesday, January 18, 2022 in Bujumbura, to the presentation of the major half-yearly achievements of his Ministry, during the fiscal year 2021-2022.

In his presentation, Minister Dr. Thaddée Ndikumana indicated that the achievements are divided into three main parts, namely: Public Administration, Labor and Employment as well as social dialogue.

In the area of public administration, at least 25 meetings with Heads of institutions were organised.

And within the framework of the administrative reform, an Internet platform "Isôko" was created and launched to facilitate the population to access the necessary information on the administrative procedures without however going to the offices of the various services. In this sector of administrative reform, Minister Dr. Thaddée Ndikumana said that he had visited the provincial one-stop shops and the branches of the public service in the provinces of Cibitoke, Gitega and Mwaro.

With the aim of improving performance in public administration, Minister Dr. Thaddée Ndikumana indicat-

ed that at least 182 public administration executives and 74 women have been strengthened respectively in the strategic management of human resources, the management of programs and projects, leadership for good governance and advocacy for gender mainstreaming in public services. 154 elected officials and local administrative officials participated in capacity building seminars in order to prepare for the establishment of the municipal civil service.

To compensate for the shortage of health personnel, the Ministry in charge of Employment, at the request of the Ministry having Public Health in its attributions, organized a recruitment competition for 224 managers and agents from the healthcare sector.

With the aim of controlling the payroll, at least 1,853 undeserving civil servants were suspended and the counts were carried out with an amount of more than 296 million francs bu. He added that the files were sent to the special anti-corruption brigade for recovery for the public treasury.

In terms of the fight against corruption and related offences, the Minister Dr. Thaddée Ndikumana pointed out that 1153 diplomas were verified, including 998 authentic diplomas and 155 defrauded. Therefore, an amount of more than 70 million is to be recovered for the public treasury, he said.

In order to better understand the problem of youth employment in Burundi, a national plan for youth employment in Burundi (PANEJ) has been put in place and this strategic document is being published for its dissemination and funding advocacy for its implementation, said Minister Dr. Thaddée Ndikumana.

As part of the monitoring of compliance with labor legislation, 531 raids on companies were carried out, resulting in the regularization of the contributions of

437 companies to the INSS for a workforce of 1,741 regularized workers, more than 10 million francs in social security contributions were regularized and a tax of more than 83 million on the employment of foreign labor recovered.

Regarding the settlement of labor disputes, the Minister in charge of Labor Administration indicated that at least 275 conciliation sessions were organized and led to the settlement of 133 individual labor disputes. At a time when the Covid-19 pandemic remains a reality in the workplace, with the support of the International Labor Office, 5 awareness-raising workshops on the revitalization and establishment of hygiene, health and safety committees in work were organized.

And in the field of social dialogue, a forum of the general meetings of social dialogue was organized under the high patronage of the Head of State, according to the Minister. This forum saw the participation of more than 230 people. The National Social Dialogue Committee also closed the mediation of the conflict between the management, the workers and employers of Vigiles Burundians and began mediations between workers and employers of OHP, Ngagara Grain Milling Burundi companies and analyzed the referral of the winners of the the ENS. The latter ask for the administrative and academic consideration of their diplomas.

This committee also organized a training workshop for business leaders and union officials in the security sector on the role of social dialogue in the management of labor disputes. 60 people have been trained, underlined the Minister in charge of the Public Service, Labor and Employment Dr. Thaddée Ndikumana.

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The Minister in charge of Health satisfied with the achievements of her Ministry during the 1st quarter of 2021-2022

The Minister of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS Dr Sylvie Nzeyimana met on Tuesday, January 18, 2020 in Gitega in a retreat with the executives of the Ministry, the Heads of the various programs, the provincial medical directors, Heads of districts and the medical directors of hospitals. Objective: jointly assess the half-yearly achievements (from July to December 2021) and set the outlook for the 2nd Semester. At the end of this retreat, the Minister of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS said

she was satisfied with the achievements during the past semester, which are estimated at more than 80%. The activities that the Ministry in charge of Public Health was able to carry out during the 1st Semester are, among others, the improvement of the health of mothers and children, the fight against communicable and non-communicable diseases, the strengthening of the fight against HIV/AIDS in a multisectoral approach, the strengthening of actions to fight against malnutrition, the increase in demand for health care, the strengthening of the health system and the sustaina-

bility of performance-based and associated financing free healthcare, control of population growth, management of health emergencies including Covid -19.

Among the major achievements of the Ministry of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS are also



free health care for children under 5, pregnant women and women who are giving birth as well as state pensioners, the campaign to fight against the covid-19 pandemic called "NDAKIRA, SINANDURA KAN-



DI SINANDUKIZA CORONAVIRUS", initiated by the President of the Republic, the Malnutrition Campaign 0 for children under 5, led by the First Lady of the country, etc.

Nevertheless, it emerged from this retreat that some hospitals and health centers face certain challenges relating to insufficient staff to fully fulfill their missions of meeting the needs of the population.

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Businde: Minister in charge of Agriculture harvests seed potatoes

The Minister of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock Dr. Deo Guide Rurema harvested on Wednesday, January 19, 2022 the seed potatoes in his fields located on Businde hill in Gahombo commune in Kayanza province. Dr. Deo Guide Rurema harvested 3 seed varieties namely Victoria Ndinamagara and Kirundo over an area of 9 ha.

The Minister Dr. Deo Guide Rurema said that the production of seed potatoes has been good, the harvest being estimated at more than 150 tons with a profit of 85 and 100 million Burundian francs.

The Minister in charge of Agriculture and Livestock Dr Déo Guide Rurema indicated that about 350 people work in his agro-pastoral activities. The surrounding population of Businde is delighted with the minister's activities which allow them to have jobs and the means to support their families.

Dr Déo Guide Rurema says he is satisfied to contribute, through his agro-pastoral activities, to putting into practice the vision of the Head of State "Let



every mouth have food and every pocket money" The Minister in charge of Agriculture announces that he is experimenting with the cultivation of millet, a very expensive cereal on the international market and which can also replace finger millet. Dr Déo Guide Rurema also claims that he is trying the soybean seeds received from the Head of State HE Evariste Ndayishimiye.

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Gitega: young people determined to contribute to the development of the country



A sweet potato flour processing factory will soon see the light of day in Burundi. According to the President of the Youth Cooperative for the Fight against Unemployment (COJCC), Mr. Nizeza Day, this Cooperative intends to install this processing unit in Gitega in a month. This declaration was made on Wednesday January 19, 2022 at Bitare in Bugendana Commune in the province of Gitega, when the members of this cooperative were manuring and weeding an 8ha sweet potato field.

Mr. Nizeza Day who is at the head of this cooperative revealed on this occasion that this cooperative has started its extensive sweet potato cultivation work in Giheta commune where it has large areas. For him, this sweet potato flour will be used for making infant porridge, cookies, bread and doughnuts for making infant porridge, biscuits, bread and donuts.

He took this opportunity to reassure the farmers of the Giheta Commune to whom this cooperative gave cuttings of this variety of sweet potato and who are worried about the flow market for their productions. "Our factory will be able to buy all the production and will be able to keep it for at least 3 years," said Nizeza

Day.

The members of this cooperative, who are essentially children of political leaders natives of Gitega province, explained that agriculture is the engine of development and called on other young people to love their homeland and to invest in the socio-economic development of Burundi.

The president of COJCC, Nizeza Day is asking the land administration to extend this sweet potato crop and to erect units for processing this product into other food products.

In the name of the disappointed natives of Gitega, honorable Christophe Nduwayo, deputy at EALA, affirms that it is the beginning of industrialization and that it is to be encouraged. For him, the initiative of these young people is a credit to the country because Burundi will now be able to extend the list of its export products. He invites Burundian economic operators to invest in such initiatives to take advantage of the EAC market which continues to grow. Mr. Christophe Nduwayo also calls on other young people in the country to be inspired by this initiative and to take advantage of the experience of the COJCC cooperative to create their own businesses in order to diversify export products and thus contribute to the development of the country.

(www.rtnb.bi)

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