



The 2020 electoral process was a success according to the CENI



ment, as well as the good collaboration which characterized all the actors in the process.

"Out of 97 billion Burundian francs collected as contributions to the elections, 29 billion remained", said Dr.

Before the President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye and the Parliament, the Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI in acronym) presented, this Thursday at the Kigobe Convention Center, the general report on the 2020 electoral process.

"The electoral process went on in a peaceful socio-political environment. All the electoral actors were characterized by a spirit of understanding and the funding was secure", said the President of the CENI, Dr Pierre Claver Kazihise, very happy to see that the process took place on time in accordance with the agreed timetable. .

The CENI welcomes the commitment of the Burundian people and their Govern-

Pierre Claver Kazihise while expressing the wish to set up these days a representation of the CENI in each commune to be able to reduce the expenses of the upcoming electoral process.

The President of the CENI said he had learned lessons from this latest process with regard to the electoral law available on time, close electoral education and the necessary funds.

It should be noted that the CENI asked the competent authorities to resolve the problem of co-opting parliamentarians from the Twa ethnic group, because this raises misunderstandings.

(Source: www.presidence.gov.bi)

In this edition:	page
The 2020 electoral process was a success according to the CENI	1
Ethiopia and Burundi move to strengthen ties	2
Bujumbura: natives called to get involved in development activities in their municipalities	2
The Senators unanimously adopt the bill on the chemical management code	3
Adoption of the bill revising the environmental code of the Republic of Burundi	5
Minister H.E Ambassador Albert Shingiro hails Egypt's support to Burundi at regional, international levels	6
Recognition mission of the Assistant of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation	5
MEDIA RELEASE NO 13 CONSECUTIVE TO THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2021	10

Ethiopia and Burundi move to strengthen ties



Ethiopia's President H.E Sahle-Work Zewde ended a two-day working tour of Burundi last week as the two countries move to improve their relations.

Speaking on arrival at the Melchior Ndadaye International Airport, she said; "We felt something has been missing in our relations and even with this high level of delegation, none of us has visited this beautiful country before. So am I extremely honoured to be the first."

She was met by her counterpart H.E President Evariste Ndayishimiye. During her tour in Bujumbura, the Ethiopian President visited manufacturing companies, before holding a closed-door meeting with H.E President Ndayishimiye.

The two Heads of State later released a joint communique, asking concerned sector Cabinet ministries to put

in place a strategy that would revitalise their cooperation, through working sessions and the joint permanent commission between Burundi and Ethiopia to be convened.

About the Support to regional organisations

"The two Heads of State stressed the need to strengthen continental, regional and sub-regional organisations in the promotion and consolidation of peace, security, stability and sustainable development", reads part of the communique.

Ethiopia and Burundi are among countries contributing troops to the African Union Mission in Somalia (Amisom), and are under the Inter-governmental partnership of the Nile Basin Initiative.

H.E President Zewde is the first to visit Burundi since H.E President Ndayishimiye was elected last year.

For the past almost eight months in office, President Ndayishimiye's government has prioritised mending and strengthening of diplomatic ties and relations with neighbouring countries and the international community.

(Source: www.theeastafican.co.ke , edited by MFADC-Newsroom)

Bujumbura: natives called to get involved in development activities in their municipalities



The President of the Senate, the Right Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera joined on Monday, Fe-

bruary 15, 2021 with members of the Sangwe cooperative from Nyarushanga Hill, Mugongo-Manga commune in Bujumbura Province in the potato harvesting activities in a field which extends over 1 hectare.

After the harvest, the Senate President the Right Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera provided advice to the members of the Sangwe cooperative at Nyarushanga and to the population of this locality. He first of all welcomed the work already carried out by this cooperative and encouraged them by urging them to start seed multiplication projects so that this cooperative is exemplary among other cooperatives in the country in general and in the Mugongo-Manga Commune in particular.

Concerning the contribution of natives to the development of their native municipalities, the President of the Senate called on natives to lend a hand to the development activities of their respective municipalities. He nevertheless deplors the behavior of certain natives who do not contribute to the development of their families and who only concentrate on their activities in certain urban areas.



With regard to the consolidation of peace and security, the Right Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera invited the population in its diversity and the local administrators to safeguard the peace and security that reign in the Mugongo-Manga commune, source of stability and integrated development.

He further advised the people to elect good notables because, he said, the traditional institution of hill notables will help resolve conflicts at the level of these smaller administrative entities. From a health point of view, the Right Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera



invited the population of Mugongo-Manga to continue the strict implementation of the barrier measures against the Covid19 pandemic.

At the end of these activities, members of the Sangwe Cooperative of Nyarushanga hill offered gifts to the President of the Senate, the Right Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

The Senators unanimously adopt the bill on the chemical management code



The Senators of Burundi unanimously adopted on Tuesday, February 16, the bill on the Chemicals Management Code, which mainly aims to protect human health and the environment against the dangers of chemicals.

This bill analyzed in the plenary session of Senators at the Gitega hemicycle was presented by the Minis-

ter of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock, Dr Déo Guide Rurema under the leadership of the President of the Senate of Burundi, the Right Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera.

In his presentation, the Minister in charge of the Environment underlined the importance of this bill which is part of the implementation of the national environmental policy against pollution caused by chemicals. He also indicated that Burundi uses various chemicals to meet the multiple needs of socio-economic development in different sectors of national life.

Among the chemicals used concerned by this bill, Minister Dr Déo Guide Rurema notably cited; fuels such as gasoline, diesel, petroleum used in the transportation and energy sectors and oils such as engines, transformers, paints in construction, carpentry and the

arts, inks, solvents, salt and varnishes.

The Minister in charge of the Environment indicated that only drugs used in the public health sector and pesticides for agricultural use have specific legislation covering all stages of the life cycle of chemicals such as manufacturing, import, export, re-export, transport, storage, marketing, use and disposal.

However, obsolete chemicals, chemical waste, and chemical packaging are sometimes destroyed or disposed of without proper safety measures. This presents risks of contamination and pollution of water, soil and the atmosphere. Also, few protection initiatives for the handlers and users of chemicals are planned to limit or avoid the negative impacts of these products on their health such as poisoning, burns, illnesses. He thus underlined the ultimate need for this law which would allow the regulation of the use of chemicals and consequently the prevention of its harmful effects on human health and the environment.



Among the questions asked by the Senators we would mention in particular the measures envisaged by the Ministry in charge of the Environment to prevent or fight against the risks associated with obsolete chemicals or chemicals managed in an anarchic manner and not yet destroyed in certain institutions such as the University of Burundi, Burundi Mines Authority and in some schools in the country. Minister Rurema replied that in secondary schools in the country, the inventory of these obsolete chemicals has been made and the collection of all these products has taken place and are provisionally stored at the Technical School of Bubanza. Once the law is enacted, an inventory in other institutions will conti-

nue. For the moment, a storage and destruction center for these obsolete chemicals has been built in Bubanza, he said.

The Senators also asked for the mechanisms planned to prevent, fight or mitigate the dangers of pollution of human health and the environment caused by the operating industries in our country, citing in particular BRARUDI, Afritextile, oil mills, factories manufacturing cement, paints, etc.

The Minister in charge of the Environment replied that the Government is equally concerned about preventing or eliminating the risks caused by chemicals. He thus signified that after the promulgation of this law, the priority action will be the study of the inventory of chemicals in various sectors as well as the implementation of the law.

After the exchange on the amendments of form and substance, the Senators unanimously adopted the bill on the code of management of chemicals.

(Source: www.abpinfos.com)

Adoption of the bill revising the environmental code of the Republic of Burundi



The Deputies met on Wednesday February 17, 2021 in plenary session, at the Kigobe hemicycle, to analyze and adopt the bill revising the environmental code of the Republic of Burundi.

After the explanatory memorandum and the analysis of the related report drawn up by the National Assembly committee responsible for Education, Youth, Sports and Leisure, Culture and Communication, the Deputies adopted unanimously with 117 votes cast including 10 proxies.

In his explanatory memorandum, the Minister of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock, Dr Déo Guide Rurema, indicated that it is necessary to update this code to make it better suited to the environmental requirements news, as they emerge from major international conventions on the subject. Also, he added, it is necessary to make this code better suited to the orientations of recently developed policies and strategies in the area of the environment, such as the policy on climate change, the water policy, and the national strategy on disaster risk management, to name but a few.

Minister Rurema pointed out that this code, which dates from 2000, deserves to be reviewed because, he explained, it showed certain shortcomings in the face of emerging environmental problems. In addition, he stressed, the current code has shortcomings, among others, the non-internalization of regional and international conventions on the environment already

ratified by Burundi, the lack of financing mechanism for the environment, the lack of accountability of municipalities in the fight against environmental degradation, and the failure to take into account the policy / strategy documents developed after 2000. In this bill, the environment is defined as being all the physical, chemical and biological elements, as well as social, economic and cultural factors whose interactions influence the environment, living organisms and human activities, while conditioning human well-being.

The Representatives of the population, for this purpose, put to the Minister who has the Environment in his attributions questions going in the direction of the protection of the environment.

The President of the National Assembly, the Right Honorable Daniel Gélase Ndirakobuca, proposed that there be the drafting of the bill relating to the emission of greenhouse gases because, he specified, some countries are victims.

The Minister Rurema said that the impacts linked to the emission of greenhouse gases concern all countries of the world because, he said, they share the same ozone layer. He promised that there will be the consultation of certain related conventions which will help the African authorities in charge of the environment to be unanimous on this issue.

The second Vice-President of the National Assembly, Honorable Abel Gashatsi, who returned to respect for protected areas, wanted to know what the Government of Burundi has done regarding the sensitization of the population on permanent housing, given that only three months remain for the implementation of the related law.

The Ministry in charge of the Environment will draw up the list of green spaces in Burundi, reassured Minister Rurema, noting that the Government of Burundi has spared no effort to sensitize the population to the practices of permanent stabilization before the law relating thereto comes into force.

(Source: www.abpinfos.com)

Minister H.E Ambassador Albert Shingiro hails Egypt's support to Burundi at regional, international levels



Burundian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation H.E Albert Shingiro on Thursday expressed appreciation to the Egyptian support to his country in various regional and international frameworks, in a phone call with his Egyptian counterpart.

According to the Egyptian Foreign Ministry spokesman, H.E Ambassador Shingiro said such support by the Egyptian state reflects the deep historic relations between the two countries.

H.E Ambassador Shingiro also hailed the high le-

vel of cooperation between Egypt and Burundi in various fields.

The two Ministers H.E Sameh Shoukry and H.E Shingiro reviewed, during the phone call, the bilateral relations ties that exist between the two countries and discussed the Egyptian support to Burundi in various fields, especially capacity building of Burundian Executives.

The phone call also discussed means of boosting these bilateral ties and plans to hold a joint committee during the coming period.

Egypt last year delivered aid of medical supplies to Burundi, in an effort to support the African country's medical sector amid the coronavirus crisis.

Late in 2020, Egypt's Minister of Water Resources Mr. Mohamed Abdel Aati said training courses were organized to train African Executives on the management and use of underground water. Many trainees took part in those courses, including burundians.

(Source : www.egypttoday.com edited by MFADC-Newsroom)

Governors must play their role in promoting peace and development in their provinces



The Minister of Home Affairs, Community Development and Public Security, CPC Gervais Ndirakobuca met on Tuesday February 16, 2021 at the King's hotel conference the Governors of the provinces of Burundi, their Chiefs of staff and their Advisers.

On this occasion, Minister Ndirakobuca reminded the Governors of the provinces of their three main missions, in particular to administer the province in accordance with the laws and regulations in force,

to ensure public order and tranquility, and to generally ensure the safety of the people and goods. They must also ensure the implementation of Government programs and take, within the framework of their competence, any measure likely to promote peace and development in the province.

On the social level, Minister Ndirakobuca called on the Advisers to the Governors to monitor the application of national policies, particularly in matters of assistance, the resettlement and reintegration of returnees and refugees, the protection of human rights, and in health and education.

Speaking of agriculture, he said the growing season had seen good harvests and called on them to help people manage production well and encourage the spirit of sharing with those who don't have. The other advice to provincial Governors is to continue planting trees on the hills

and maintaining the valleys for more harvest. He also invited them to control revenues by collecting taxes in order to support the economy of Burundi. Minister Ndirakobuca asked them to continue checking so that traders who have set up their kiosks near the gutters remove them until March 1, 2021 so that the gutters are clean and avoid damage caused by bush fires.

He recalled that the provincial Governor and the Chief of staff are ex officio members of the provincial council respectively as President and Vice-president of the council. The Adviser in charge of social and cultural affairs is responsible in particular for the promotion and coordination of social, cultural and sporting activities in the province, Minister Ndirakobuca said.

(Source: www.abpinfos.com)

Continuing education contributes to improving the quality of teaching



The Ministry of National Education and Scientific Research in collaboration with Burundi Strengthening Mathematic and Science in Education (SMASE) with the technical and financial support of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) organized on Wednesday, February 17 2021, an exchange workshop on improving the quality of teaching, mathematics and science learning to face the challenges of the Burundian education system.

This 3-day workshop, for mathematics and science teachers from the City of Bujumbura, falls within the framework of the development and adoption of the National strategic framework for the fight against poverty, education and training, which constitute priority axes.

This is also part of the sector plan for the development of education and training which guides the Ministry of National Education.

According to the President of Burundi SMASE Mr. Hilaire Barasharitse, the Government of Burundi through the Ministry of National Education and scientific research is making commendable efforts to improve the quality of education through multiple

major decisions.

If gaps persist, they are due to certain factors such as the attitude of certain teachers, the insufficiency or non-use of available material resources, the plethora in the classes, the quality of the monitoring of activities by the hierarchy, the insufficiency skills for some, in terms of content and use of traditional methods.

According to Mr. Hilaire Barasharitse, traditional methods not only do not allow the participatory development of the pupil, but it also makes him lose the desire to learn science and mathematics.

To get by, Burundi has decided to use methodological approaches that put the learner at the center of learning, using already existing human resources, through in-service and continuing training, which is advocated by the SMASE-AFRICA association and suddenly by SMASE-Burundi.

During the workshop, participants will learn about the ASEI / PDSI approach where everything is centered around the learner i.e. the activities are planned and executed by the students themselves, the technique less costly and yet effective to carry out on-the-job training.

This workshop will allow participants to reflect on ways and means to improve the teaching of mathematics and science in the Burundian education system and to manufacture teaching material from objects collected in the surrounding environment.

Mr. Hilaire Barasharitse quoting Archimedes: "Show me where the fulcrum is, I will raise the world", said that the combination of strategies, the experience of each other, will serve as a basis to raise the level students in particular in mathematics and science.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

Recognition mission of the Assistant of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation



were funded by the European Union, namely: the Rubimba-Buraza water supply in Buraza commune; Community Storage Shed in Makebuko commune; meeting with the Abatangamuco in Makebuko commune; the installation of solar panels in Rutana - Kinzanza (SESMA: operator Burundi s.a which

will manage the installations within the framework of the Public Private Partnership) and the production of patchouli for the manufacture of essential oils in Nyanza-Lac and the installation of solar panels in Rutana - Kinzanza (SESMA: operator Burundi sa who will manage the installations within the framework of the Public Private Partnership) and the production of patchouli for manufacture of essential oils in Buheka and Kazirabageni in Makamba Province.

(Source: MFADC-Newsroom)

On February 11 to 12, 2021, a Burundian delegation led by the Assistant of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, Mr. Ferdinand BASHIKAKO, carried out jointly with a delegation from the European Union led by Mr. Jean Marie BIBARA, Project manager, a recognition mission in the country (Gitega, Rutana and Makamba) on certain villages to see the achievements of the population whose projects

Towards the transfer of skills in the management of severe trauma to the Prince Régent Charles Hospital (HPRC)



The coordination of the Medico-Surgical Center of Médecin Sans Frontières (MSF) located in Kigobe carried out on Monday February 15, 2021, a working visit to the Prince Régent

Charles Hospital (HPRC) to see the progress of the rehabilitation works of the premises concerned by the transfer of skills in the management of severe trauma cases which were provided at l'Arche de Kigobe by Médecin Sans Frontières.

According to Dr Hippolyte MBOMA coordinator of Arche de Kigobe, MSF (Médecin Sans Frontières) is an emergency medical humanitarian organization that provides relief to population whose health is threatened by conflicts, disasters, epidemics or without access to medical care.

Médecin Sans Frontières has been present in Burundi

since 1992 with support to the health authorities in the fight against malaria and epidemics, to Dr Hippolyte MBOMA, coordinator of Arche de Kigobe.

According to Dr Hippolyte, since 2015, MSF teams have managed the private medical and surgical center in Bujumbura, l'Arche de Kigobe, where its teams have cared for nearly 70,000 patients for simple, moderate and serious trauma, simple wounds, deep, bone fractures etc ...

Dr Hippolyte added that the start of the Kigobe medico-surgical project was due to emergency needs following the situation the country was going through to take care of the victims of the violence of 2015 as urgent cases of severe trauma.

Still according to Dr Hippolyte MBOMA, among the cases of severe trauma currently received, 90% result from road traffic accidents which do not fall within the definition of the project from which MSF must withdraw in order to cede coverage to other health structures public care.

Since 2019, the transfer of skills has already been operational in 4 public structures 2 Health Centers, 2 District Hospitals having benefited from training for care providers, support in drugs, equipment and free care and in 2020, the transfer of moderate cases has already been done at the Kamenge University Hospital Center, Dr Hippolyte reminded us.

Dr Hippolyte revealed that the motivation for choosing the Prince Régent Charles Hospital for the transfer of skills in the management of severe trauma cases is that this public structure is well established, very accessible and has a great capacity for hospitalization, MSF is confident that the sustainability of the achievements of the project and the continuity of patient care will be a reality at this public structure.

According to the skills transfer schedule from the Kigobe medico-surgical center. As of February 28, new admissions to the Arche of Kigobe emergency department will end, patients hospitalized before the date will benefit from follow-up until discharge.

Since March 1, admissions of moderate and severe trauma to the HPRC began with the support of MSF teams in the surgical departments. From March 1 to December 31, MSF will support the HPRC in providing free treatment for moderate and severe trauma supported by training, donations of drugs, equipment, logistical and financial support.

According to the medical director of the HPRC, this transfer process is the realization of a memorandum of understanding signed between MSF and the HPRC via the Ministry of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS, currently they are in the phase rehabilitation of buildings according to the circuit of severe trauma patients. In the rehabilitation phase of the premises, the operating room, the hospitalization surgery department have already been completed and work is underway in the emergency room, minor surgery, the laundry room and the sterilization with an equipment of 60 beds which will be occupied by those severe trauma patients.

According to Dr Nimpaye Oscar, Doctor and Director of the HPRC, preparations are progressing normally, will follow the training of care providers in the management of severe trauma. He reassures the population that the deadline will come, the HPRC and providers being ready to welcome patients who have suffered from severe trauma because, he says, it is the daily work only capacity building provided by MSF will help them.

Dr Oscar Nimpaye recalled that after the ten months of MSF subsidy, moderate and severe trauma care will pay off but that within ten months of MSF subsidy, some patients will benefit from free care according to criteria pre-established by MSF.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

1

REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI

PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC
Secretariat-General of the State**MEDIA RELEASE NO 13 CONSECUTIVE TO THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2021**

A Cabinet Meeting was held in Bujumbura on Wednesday 17th of February 2021, under the chairmanship of His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, President of the Republic of Burundi.

After the presentation of the agenda, His Excellency the President of the Republic invited the Prime Minister to present the summary of the observations resulting from the preparatory meeting of the Council of Ministers chaired by the Prime Minister on Friday 12 February 2021 , and which was devoted to the analysis of the same items on the agenda.

After restitution of the Prime Minister to the President of the Republic, the following files were analyzed:

- 1. Bill on the Code of Investments in Burundi**, presented by the Services of the Presidency of the Republic.

During the Government Retreat held in Bukirasazi in April 2017, one of the recommendations was the revision of the legal framework on tax and customs incentives.

It is in this context that the project revising the Investment Code was drawn up and debated in July 2017 during a retreat intended for representatives of public institutions involved in the granting and management of tax incentives and customs.

This Bill thus contains much enrichment compared to the text in force.

Compared to the existing ones, the following innovations should be highlighted:

- The change of the name of the Investment Promotion Agency which became the Burundi Development Agency
- Strengthening the role of the Burundi Development Agency as it now becomes the sole interlocutor and the sole facilitator of investment activities
- The very purpose of the law has been changed by adding investment facilitation and export promotion
- The granting of advantages to a specific category of investors, in this case young people, women and the diaspora
- The definition of the investment sectors and the minimum eligible investment amount
- Strengthening and clarifying the monitoring and evaluation framework for exempt assets, in particular by granting the benefits according to the stages of the investment
- Transparency and clarification of the benefits to which investors are entitled
- Investor obligations
- The specification of the penalties in the event of failure to comply with the obligations contained in this Code
- The provision of remedies for any investor who feels aggrieved by a decision taken by the Agency

During the debate by members of the Government, the following observations among others emerged:

3

- There may be interference with other legal frameworks which grant advantages (Cooperatives, Free Zone, Special Economic Zone, etc.)
- There are overlaps between the missions of the Agency and those of certain ministries, particularly those in charge of Trade, Finance and Foreign Affairs
- The agency grants benefits, actually tracks them to make sure they were used for the purpose for which they were granted. The "export" component should not fall under the competence of the Agency because there are other structures that are responsible for it
- For the minimum investment required, it must be expressed in US \$ for foreigners and in Burundian Francs for Burundians

At the end of the discussions, the project was adopted taking into account these observations in its finalization

2. Draft decree establishing, steering and coordinating the Economic Empowerment Program for Young Graduates, presented by the Services of the Presidency of the Republic

Burundi, like most African countries, is characterized by dizzying population growth with over 60% of the youth. Thus, it faces a worrying situation between the demand for and the supply of employment. The unemployment rate is very high.

The establishment of training-employment programs, professional retraining, the creation of development micro-projects, are solutions to this problem.

This Program has among other objectives to improve the living conditions of young unemployed people so that they contribute to the development of Burundi.

It puts youth at the heart of development in order to make them autonomous by fighting against unemployment. It reinforces the patriotism and empowerment of young people in development actions.

This program will be implemented in all the municipalities of the country.

It aims to create at least 200,000 jobs for young graduates through cooperatives and existing businesses, and 550,000 indirect jobs for unschooled unemployed young people (gravel, bricks, sands, tree planting, etc.).

After discussion and debate, the project was adopted through grooming by a team appointed for this purpose, with the recommendation that, in the implementation of this program, all municipalities be treated fairly. The title of the text should also be corrected because the Program concerns all unemployed young people in general and young graduates in particular.

3. Draft decree revising decree n ° 100/068 of April 13, 2019 on the creation, organization, missions and functioning of the Multisectoral Platform for Food Security and Nutrition in Burundi, presented by the Prime Minister's Services

The Multisectoral Food Security and Nutrition Platform was set up by decree n ° 100/068 of April 13, 2019.

With the restructuring of the Government by Decree No. 100/007 of June 28, 2020, there have been changes at the institutional level and this structure, which was under the supervision of the 2nd Vice-Presidency of the Republic, has come under the supervision of the Prime Minister.

It is therefore essential to adjust the texts relating to the Multisectoral Platform for Food Security and Nutrition, in accordance with the new structure of the Government.

After discussion and debate, the project was adopted after having undergone some corrections.

4. Draft decree revising Decree No. 100/06 of January 9, 2013 creating a Geomatics Centralization Office, presented by the Prime Minister's Services

The main mission of the Geomatics Centralization Office is to coordinate all activities aimed at creating a national spatial data infrastructure in Burundi, to consolidate and organize the exchange and dissemination of geographic information between all partners, producers and users at national, regional and international levels.

Due to its transversal nature, it had been placed under the supervision of the 2nd Vice-Presidency of the Republic.

But with the new structure of the Government by decree n ° 100/007 of June 28, 2020, it came under the supervision of the Prime Minister.

It is thus necessary to adapt the text which organizes the Geomatics Centralization Office to the new context.

After the analysis, the project was adopted after having undergone some alterations.

5. Draft decree on the missions, organization and functioning of the National School of Administration (ENA), presented by the Minister of Public Service, Labor and Employment.

Since its creation in 2007, the Ecole Normale d'Administration (ENA) has been mandated to provide training in relation to the needs of the Burundian public administration, to promote applied research in key areas related to the functioning of the administration, and provide advisory support to public and Para public administrations.

Little by little, the ENA has changed by adding diploma training to the on-the-job training that it was originally called upon to provide.

Currently, the ENA needs to be reformed to be part of the new line of economic development reforms and the fight against poverty contained in the National Development Plan which, in some of its pillars, aims to develop human capital.

Thus, the missions of the ENA must be redesigned. The abolition of diploma training should allow the ENA to focus on activities related to the development of executives and civil servants, coaching and advisory support in certain areas of expertise, support public policies of the State and to ensure the quality assurance of all the training offered to the executives and agents of the State, in order to contribute to the improvement of the performance of the Burundian public administration.

This is the purpose of this draft decree.

After discussion and debate, the project was adopted with, among other recommendations, to elevate the Directorate of ENA into a Directorate-General supported by Directorates, and to set the period of support for students in diploma training at three years.

It was also recommended to consider, after the end of the transitional period of support for graduate students, the merger of ENA and ISGE.

6. Draft decree on the missions, organization and functioning of the Higher Institute of Business Management (ISGE), presented by the Minister of Public Service, Labor and Employment

From its creation, the Higher Institute of Business Management had the following missions:

- Ensure the specialization and development of executives exercising management functions in public and private companies and other organizations
- Retrain, through seminars and specialized conferences, the staff responsible for the management of public and private companies and other organizations
- Organize and distribute, for the benefit of said companies and with the help of various publications, documentation in the field of management.

This triple mission is the one that the Government wishes to strengthen for ISGE in order to leave the diploma training component to the universities and institutes with this academic mission.

This draft decree adjusts the missions of the ISGE according to this orientation and reframes its supervision which now falls to the Ministry of the Civil Service and Employment.

After discussion and debate, the project was adopted with, among other recommendations, to clean up the text by removing everything related to diploma training because the mission of the ISGE is the improvement in business management, and to ensure that ISGE strengthens the practical component in the modules it offers.

It was also recommended to elevate the ISGE Directorate to a General Directorate.

7. Draft decree regulating the management of poles, presented by the Minister of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock

The poles are used for various services including the construction of houses, fences, scaffolding, etc.

The quantities of poles used are increasing day by day. This causes the forest cover to decrease. The main consequences are timber scarcity, forest degradation, loss of diversity, soil erosion, land degradation, increased air pollution, etc.

To ensure the sustainable management of forest resources and mitigate the negative impact of the misuse of these resources, it is important to lay down rules governing the management of the use of forest products, starting with poles which are currently the most in demand.

This is the purpose of this draft decree.

After discussion and debate, the Council of Ministers noted that the implementation of such regulations requires prerequisites.

It recommended first evaluating the preventive measures that have already been taken in this context and, if necessary, strengthening them.

He further recommended considering measures that encourage the use of other wood substitutes such as metal scaffolding, gas, etc., by granting facilities to those who want to import them.

The Minister in charge of the Interior and that in charge of the Environment should also sensitize the various provincial and municipal officials under their orders on the importance and interest of the good management of afforestation.

**8. Note on the state of operationalization of the main mission of CAMEBU:
Monopoly in the importation of drugs for the whole country, presented
by the Minister of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS**

The main mission entrusted to CAMEBU by the Government is "to ensure a good supply of essential generic drugs, medical devices, products and laboratory materials necessary for the proper functioning of public and private health facilities and pharmacies"

It is to meet this mission that the Government Retreat held in Gitega in December 2018 recommended the extension of CAMEBU's coverage of national health product needs, by centralizing the needs of both public and private health facilities.

Before 2018, CAMEBU's needs satisfaction rate was 15%.

With direct consultation with manufacturers, the satisfaction rate increased from 15% to 40% in 2020.

With the BADEA funds, the satisfaction rate has risen to only 60%.

To ensure drug coverage of 100% of national needs, CAMEBU needs a fund of 34,627,600,000 FBU intended to:

- The purchase of drugs and other health products
- Construction of storage spaces in Bujumbura, Gitega and Ngozi
- Acquisition of means of transporting medicines

The note requests the intervention of the Government from the authorized institutions of the State so that CAMEBU can benefit from this financing in the

form of credit at the preferential rate, which it will reimburse within a period that may later allow it financial autonomy (at least 15 years)

During the discussions and the debate, the members of the Government made the following observations:

- CAMEBU needs to be supported so that the public and private sectors can source the drugs and other health products in the quantities they need
- As a first step, CAMEBU should focus efforts on the public sector so that it imports drugs in sufficient quantity and at prices that encourage private individuals to purchase them
- CAMEBU must be the gateway for all drugs entering the country, including those imported by the private sector, to ensure that they meet the required standards
- It is necessary to carry out an audit on the functioning of CAMEBU
- CAMEBU should not limit itself to the import of generic drugs only. Imports must extend to specialties.

The Council ultimately called for the review of the legal framework of CAMEBU so that it can properly fulfill its role.

9. Any Other Business

The Council of Ministers expressed its satisfaction for the results achieved by the Ministry in charge of the Interior during the test week in the collection of municipal taxes, as well as by the work done by the Ministry in charge of Trade with regard to concerns the fight against speculation in the marketing of BUCECO cement.

The Council of Ministers is also pleased that the measures taken to prevent and fight against the coronavirus have yielded very satisfactory results in view of the statistics which show that contaminations have decreased significantly in recent weeks.

The Council nevertheless urged the population to continue to apply the measures that have been taken in the fight against this pandemic.

Done at Bujumbura, February 18th, 2021

**Prosper NTAHORWAMIYE
Secretary-General and Spokesman.-**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation

Department of Communication

www.mae.gov.bi

Twitter: [@MAEBurundi](https://twitter.com/MAEBurundi)