

REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI



Ministry of Foreign Affairs and
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The President of the Republic of Burundi sent a message of condolence to the Tanzanian people due to the death of the Tanzanian President John Pombe Magufuli



for the support of the brother people of Tanzania. The President of the Republic of Burundi H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye paid tribute to the late President John Pombe Magufuli in his message to the Burundian Nation on Thursday March 18, 2021, and

Due to the death of the President of the Republic of Tanzania, HE John Pombe Magufuli, on Wednesday March 17, 2021, the Head of State of Burundi sent a message of condolence

declared 7 days of national mourning. Note that the flags will also be at half-mast until the funeral.

(Source: MFADC-Newsroom)

The members of the Government meet in the Council of Ministers



the Bill establishing the general state budget for the 2021/2022 fiscal year.

First, the Minister of Finance, Budget and Economic Planning presented the Bill fixing the general State budget of the State for Fiscal Year 2021/2022. Second, the Minister responsible for Trade presented the draft strategy document for the implementation of trade policy for the period 2021-2025. Regarding the third point, the Minister in charge of Human Rights and Gender present-

The Council of Ministers was held on Wednesday March 17, 2021 in Bujumbura under the chairmanship of the Head of State H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye. Six items were on the agenda, including

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ed the draft decree on the creation, structure, missions, organization and functioning of Provincial Directorates for Family Development.

In fourth position, the Council of Ministers analyzed the Draft Decree on the missions, organization and functioning of the General Inspectorate of Public Service, Labor and Employment. The fifth point concerned the Draft decree revoking the iron-titanium-vanadium exploration permit on the Mukanda perimeter in favor of the company CVMR Energy Metals Burundi surl.

Finally, the last point analyzed by the Council concerned the Project approving public private partnership contracts between the Republic of Burundi and the company Songa Energy (Mulembwe and Ruvyironza). The session was closed by the various.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

The Head of State inaugurates public interest infrastructure in Gitega



The Head of State HE Evariste Ndayishimiye in the company of the First Lady HE Angéline Ndayishimiye proceeded on Saturday March 13, 2021, to the inauguration of several school, health and accommodation infrastructures in the municipalities of Giheta and Bugendana of Gitega province.

The President of the Republic began by inaugurating the Hotel Restaurant Bar “Mwibanga” belonging to a native of Giheta commune in Gitega province, Mr. Fiacre Ntakarutimana, on Bubu hill. This hotel has 10 accommodation rooms and 2 meeting rooms.

He then inaugurated the Fundamental School of Busangana in Bugendana commune of the province of Gitega,

a school with 6 classrooms, an administrative block, a school canteen and adequate latrines, all built with the support of UNICEF. The President of the Republic H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye also inaugurated the Pierre Nkurunziza Technical High School named Pierre NKURUNZIZA which includes 16 classrooms, an administrative block and a meeting room with a capacity of around 200 people, in Bugendana commune.

.In her welcome address, the Administrator of the Municipality of Bugendana, Mrs. Béatrice Bukuru, expressed the wish that this school would be a University in the future,

given that the students complete the basic schools each year in the municipality of Bugendana.

During the inauguration ceremonies of the Pierre Nkurunziza Technical School, the Minister of National Education and Scientific Research Mr. Gaspard Banyankimbona indicated that the presence of the Head of State sufficiently shows his attachment to education children of the country because for him, knowledge is the source of sustainable development. The Minister of National Education and Scientific Research asked the Head of State to provide the Ministry in charge of education with a sufficient budget to equip schools with teaching materials, laboratory equipment and desks in order to provide quality education and allow a healthy life for children.

Minister Banyankimbona also asked the Administrators to safeguard this dearly acquired building, to provide each year in the municipal annual budget, funds allocated to invest in education.

In his speech, the President of the Republic HE Evariste Ndayishimiye recalled that building a school is a great investment for sustainable development, it is in this perspective that he praised the efforts made by the population of Bugendana with the support of the government. The President of the Republic H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye thanked all the people who contributed to the construction of this building. He called on other Communes in the country to follow Bugendana's example. And to urge young people to get down to technical lessons for the self-creation of employment, through the setting up of agrifood processing plants.

H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye also called on young

unemployed graduates to come together in cooperatives to set up projects that promote job creation. He called on state officials to save money for job creation to ensure their social protection at retirement age.

The President of the Republic also called on the population and natives working in other provinces to equip as soon as possible this technical school so that it opens its doors at the beginning of the next school year.

As a thank you for the multifaceted support provided by the President of the Republic, the natives of Bugendana offered him two heifers and a calf. Individuals who have invested heavily in the construction of the Lycée Technique Pierre Nkurunziza in Bugendana have been awarded certificates of merit, including a certificate of honor awarded posthumously to the late President Pierre Nkurunziza.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

The Presidential Couple joins the Christians of Munanira Parish for Sunday Mass



The President of the Republic, HE Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE, accompanied by the First Lady of the Country, Her Excellency Angeline NDAYISHIMIYE, joined the Christians of the parish of Saint-Michel de Munanira of the Archdiocese of Bujumbura, for the Eucharistic celebration of this March 14, 2021, the fourth Sunday of Lent.

In his homily, the Parish Priest of the Parish Munanira Déo NITUNGA was based on the Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Saint John, chapter 3,14-21 where we talk about God's love for the world until to

give his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. He invited Christians to repent in this period of Lent, so that they can inherit the kingdom of God.

In his speech of greeting to Christians, the Father of the Nation, His Excellency Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE said that this period of Lent should be for the Burundians an opportunity to turn to God who continues to protect Burundi. He called on the Burundians to experience love, unity and mercy.

The Head of State also called on the Burundians to avoid all forms of hypocrisy in all areas of the country's life, but rather to love work while avoiding any form of laziness which is the enemy of development. He pointed out that where there is laziness, there is also any form of malfeasance including the theft of public property, embezzlement, corruption, etc., which constitutes a major handicap to the development of our country.

(Source: www.presidence.gov.bi)

The First Lady of Burundi granted aid to the Obstetric Fistula Treatment Center and to the patients hospitalized there



The First Lady of Burundi and Legal Representative of the "Good Action Umugiraneza" foundation, HE Madam Angéline Ndayishimiye, made a visit on March 18, 2021 to the Obstetric Fistula Treatment Center (CTFO) of Gitega with the objective of to take into account the progress of the extension activities of the said center and to grant aid both to the center and to the patients hospitalized there.

From this aid estimated at 140 million Burundian francs, the CTFO benefited, among other things, from operating tables for obstetric fistulas, computer tools and drugs.

As for the women bedridden there, they received sugar, clothing and hygiene equipment, toothpaste, a television set, etc. In her circumstantial address, HE Angéline Ndayishimiye indicated that the aid in question is presented as a response to the problems of the said center as they were submitted to her on August 14, 2020, on the occasion of the official launch of the awareness campaign against obstetric fistulas. "We preferred to bring these donations in this month of March because it is internationally dedicated to women and we wanted to show our compassion towards the patients and bring them joy", argued, H.E Madam Angéline Ndayishimiye.

She took the opportunity to provide advice to each

other. To girls who marry before the legal age, she recommended to do battle with this practice, arguing that they are the privileged target of obstetric fistulas because of their still immature body. For the women, she asked them to do antenatal consultations so that they could receive advice from health providers.

HE Madame Angéline Ndayishimiye took issue with men who would stigmatize their wives suffering from obstetric fistulas, explaining that the woman becomes a victim of it while the man was a partner in the conception of pregnancy whose complications at birth lead to said fistulas.

The First Lady of Burundi, H.E Madam Angéline Ndayishimiye, addressing the beneficiaries of the aid reminded the men, that the promise made before God and the State is to share good and evil with their wives. We must then respect the word given, she pointed out.

Faced with the insufficiency of doctors treating obstetric fistulas, H.E Madame Angéline Ndayishimiye promised that together with the Ministry of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS and the UNFPA, this problem will be solved.

Previously, the Representative of the Country Director of UNFPA, the Minister in charge of Public Health and the Governor of Gitega province had converged, in their speeches, with words that praise the compassion of the First Lady of Burundi towards women in difficult situations. As for the person in charge of the CTFO, he reported that the works of the extension site of the said center are progressing to his satisfaction. In addition, he clarified that the staff at his disposal will spare no effort to work in the interests of the patients.

(Source: ABPinfos-N°12220)

The Senate Speaker makes a descent to Rumonge province



The Senate Speaker the Right Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera carried out on Wednesday March 17, 2021, a working descent to Gitaza in Muhuta commune and in Bugarama commune of Rumonge province. He brought together the Administrators, the local elected officials, the members of the defense and security forces, the natives of this commune, the heads of decentralized services and the Representatives of religious denominations. The objective was to discuss the life of these two municipalities and their role in the development of these administrative entities.

In her intervention, the Administrator of Muhuta Mrs. Domitille Nizigama raised the challenges facing her commune, in particular the isolation of the commune and the lack of benches and teachers, which leads to school failure.

In Bugarama commune, the communal administrator Mr. Charles Karorero asked for assistance in favor of the victims of the torrential rains which swept away residential houses, school roofs and damaged fields of crops last week.

In his welcoming remarks, the Governor of Rumonge Province, Consolateur Nitunga, informed the public about the programs that his province has in perspective and that it is about to implement.

These include the restructuring of the supervision of activities related to education so that this province can be at least among the top ten in the ranking of academic achievements, the servicing of the Birimba and Munege sites, the construction of " a cross-border market on Lake Tanganyika, the construction of a juice production plant, the construction of a modern parking lot, the development of a shipyard etc.

In terms of education, the Governor of Rumonge called on all stakeholders in the education sector to work diligently to meet the challenges observed in this sector.

In Muhuta commune as in Magara commune, the Senate Speaker clarified that school failure in this region is linked to the galloping demography and asked the population of Rumonge to limit births to allow the Government to properly plan development programs that can be carried out.

To achieve birth control, the Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament asked the population of the two municipalities to renounce polygamy. He took this opportunity to recommend to the administrative authorities of the two administrative entities to combat this practice which handicaps the development of families and which constitutes a source of insecurity in households.

He urged the population of Muhuta and Bugarama to take the issue of children's education in hand so that the province no longer ranks behind in the ranking of school results.

The Right Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera also urged the natives of Muhuta commune and those of Bugarama commune working elsewhere, to make descents on their native hills to lend a hand to their fellow citizens in development programs. At the suggestion of an INSS executive in Rumonge province, the President of the Senate urged the inhabitants of Muhuta and those of Bugarama to consider saving to ensure the social security of their

families during retirement days.

On the occasion of his visit to the communes of Muhuta and Bugarama, the President of the Senate reminded the Chefs de Collines of their specifications and urged them to behave like good fathers of families. He called on local elected officials to align the population on the fight against poverty and take the lead in the execution of development programs, to ensure the well-being of the population.

In order to fight against unemployment, the Senate Speaker invited natives and local elected representatives of Muhuta and Bugarama municipalities to supervise young people in cooperatives and support them in the development of bankable projects to be submitted to the Youth Bank for financing. .

The Senate Speaker also recommended to the wom-

en of the two communes to mobilize themselves to also draw up development projects that they will submit for financing to the Bank of Women in implementation.

Finally, the People's Representatives asked the Senate Speaker to plead in favor of the people who have moved from their landholdings following the construction work of the Rutumo dam and the next rehabilitation of the RN3 so that the compensation costs be revised upwards.

For them, a thousand of Burundian francs per m2 is no longer enough. On this subject, the President of the Senate promised that this question will be discussed in plenary in the presence of the Minister in charge of Finance.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

The 2nd Vice-President of the National Assembly urges the population to maintain the RN1 in Muramvya



The 2nd Vice-President of the National Assembly Honorable Abel Gashatsi joined, on Saturday March 13, 2021, the inhabitants of Bukeye commune, in Muramvya province, in the work of cleaning the gutters on both sides of the national road N ° 1 (RN1). The cured gutters already existed, only they were blocked by landslides from the embankments, and the runoff water not channeled which destroy the road.

Honorable Abel Gashatsi, a native of Muramvya prov-

ince, congratulated and encouraged the administrator of Bukeye commune for organizing this activity which aims to protect the road. The 2nd Vice-President of the National Assembly also praised the massive participation of the local population in this work. According to Honorable Abel Gashatsi, the RN1 is a very important infrastructure for the country. It is a gift from God that the population in general and the inhabitants of Bukeye Township in particular must protect.

Deputy Abel Gashatsi, elected in Muramvya constituency, also urged the residents of Bukeye commune to protect the RN1 against any destructive action, but also by planting trees along this national road to stabilize the embankments. It was also an opportunity for the 2nd Vice-President of the National Assembly to remind the population to respect the government measure relating to the ban on construction too close to the road.

The Second Vice-President of the National Assem-

bly sensitized the population on the advantages of working in associations, cooperatives, or by bringing together the land to cultivate the same crop together. This is a practice that has the advantage of facilitating

agricultural supervision, and without inconvenience, insofar as everyone harvests what they plant in their own plot.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

Open days at the National Office in charge of Pensions as part of the celebration of its 10 years of existence



The National Office for Pensions and Professional Risks of Civil Servants, Magistrates and Law Enforcement Agents (ONPR) organized, from March 15 to 19, 2021, a week dedicated to Open Days as part of the celebration of its 10 years of existence.

The Minister of National Solidarity, Social Affairs, Human Rights and Gender, Mrs. Imelde Sabushimike, who opened the ceremonies for these days, indicated that the ONPR expects visits from the public, affiliates and beneficiaries who will visit its fora to inquire about the work of this institution. This will be a sign of their special interest in social benefits, now and in the future, served in social security institutions in general and within the ONPR in particular.

The Minister Madame Imelde Sabushimike, on this occasion, winked at the officials in secondment position, the Governors of the Provinces and their Councilors, the municipal administrators and any other person concerned to monitor their contributions for their future pensions in order to avoid any inconvenience linked to their future pensions.

The Director General of the ONPR, Mr. Jean Marie Niyokindi, said that these Open Days are organized

with the intention of sharing and familiarizing the public in general and the partners of the ONPR in particular with its daily services. According to him, these days will offer an opportunity to appropriate appropriate responses to the various grievances that haunt them, especially those related to pensions, either old age, disability, survivor and occupational risks, as well as the prospects for future relating thereto.

He did not fail to point out that innovations are manifested in the new social protection code, including the calculation of pensions on the basis of gross wages and not on basic wages as was done before. He also added that the funeral expenses which were granted by the Civil Service will be granted by the ONPR.

The Director General of the ONPR also specified certain challenges which persist and which must be overcome. He cited the payment of benefits to beneficiaries who have not contributed since the start of their career, the contribution classes which do not allow affiliates to contribute a lot of points, certain institutions which do not contribute for their employees by forgetting that the latter will have problems at the end of their careers, false declarations on work and commuting accidents, non-declaration relating to cases of death of beneficiaries and cases of remarriage, and others. It should be noted that the ONPR is an administrative establishment which started its activities on April 26, 2010.

(Source: [ABPInfos-N°12214](#))

Children of a certain age will be caught up with the polio vaccine



The Ministry of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS, through its Extended Vaccination Program, organized on Monday March 15, 2021, a media workshop in Bujumbura to discuss with media professionals on the organization of the campaign polio vaccine catch-up to end polio.

The Assistant to the Minister of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS, Mr. Onesphore Nzigirabarya who opened this workshop, stressed that this campaign is a campaign to catch up with children who have not been able to have this vaccine, because of a shortage the world experienced between June 2016 and March 2018.

As for the Director of the vaccination program, Dr Olivier Nijimbere, he indicated that this campaign will last three days, that is to say, from March 17 to 19, 2021. The children who will be caught are those who were born in the period of June 2016 and June 2018, they are between 3 years old and 4 years 9 months old. They represent 675,969 children.

Dr Olivier Nijimbere, Director of the vaccination program, then underlined that the media play an essential role in sensitizing the population to respond massively to this campaign. Indeed, this media workshop is an opportunity to invite media professionals to take part in the process leading to the success of this campaign, by keeping all layers of the community informed, he said.

The vaccination program Director then closed the media workshop by stressing that the vaccines will be administered in all health centers and other places that the administration and district heads will choose.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

About forty public bins installed in places of large concentrations in Mukaza commune



In order to ensure the cleanliness of the city of Bujumbura in Mukaza commune, the administration of Mukaza commune carried out last week the second wave of installation of forty public bins in places of great concentration, including twenty bins in downtown, ten garbage cans at the avenue de santé and the ten garbage cans at the avenue of printing, told the ABP the Administrator of Mukaza commune, Mr. Rénovat Sindayihebura during an interview.

He recalled that these bins are not intended to receive household waste but rather the packaging or the remains of the consumption of passers-by adding that the municipal administration has seen fit to set up public bins on all public roads that cross this municipality to find a lasting solution to the problem of unsanitary conditions. He added that the municipal admin-

istration is still planning the installation of another fifty public bins next week.

Mr. Sindayihebura urged the urban population of his commune to further support this project to have all the

necessary bins at the level of this commune, and took this opportunity to sensitize the population to use them properly.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

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REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI



PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC Secretariat-General of the State

MEDIA RELEASE NO 15 CONSECUTIVE TO THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17 MARCH 2021

A Cabinet Meeting was held in Bujumbura on Wednesday 17th of March 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 March 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 items were analyzed:

- 1. Bill fixing the overall state budget for Fiscal Year 2021/2022**, presented by the Minister of Finance, Budget and Economic Planning.

This finance bill was prepared on the basis of spending priorities sent by the various ministries and institutions.

It is prepared in the context of continued prudent fiscal policy and prioritization in the management of the state budget. The objective is to achieve a growth rate of 3.6% in 2021/2022.

It also operates in an international environment characterized by a recession in the economy in all corners of the world due in particular to the consequences of the covid -19 pandemic.

On the macroeconomic level, this project is being prepared when the Government is in its third year of implementation of the National Development Plan and is working to place particular emphasis on the structural transformation of the Burundian economy for strong and sustainable growth, creating decent jobs for all, primarily by financing growth-promoting sectors.

In correlation with the National Development Plan, the Government is working to focus its intervention on the main priorities contained in this project, in particular:

- Support for development projects for hill cooperatives.
- The implementation of a fair wage policy in the public sector.
- Availing a road maintenance fund.
- Continuation of the national organic-mineral fertilizers subsidy program.
- Continuation of the construction of administrative buildings.
- Subsidy and production of selected seeds.
- Recruitment of teaching and health personnel.

In order to increase revenues, important measures are planned to ensure that the set target is met. Thus, the OBR will continue or undertake the following actions:

- The expansion of the tax base.
- The fight against fraud and tax evasion through electronic tracking of goods from borders to customs clearance offices and the installation of scanners to secure them.
- Strengthening the collection of arrears.

- Control of exemptions, etc ...

For Fiscal Year 2021/2022, the overall resources of the General State Budget are estimated at BIF 1,557.5 billion against BIF 1,422.81 billion in 2020/2021; an increase of 9.5%.

As for charges, they go from BIF 1,576.03 billion in 2020/2021 to BIF 1,708.4 billion in 2021/2022; i.e. an increase of 8.4%.

The overall deficit amounts to 150.9 billion BIF in 2021/2022 against 153.2 billion BIF in 2020/2021, a decrease of 1.5%.

After analysis, the project was adopted with, among other recommendations:

- To integrate, in collaboration with the sectoral ministries, the items that have been omitted or forgotten.
- Correct the project by transferring the budget lines to the ministries where the activities will be carried out.
- Ensure that the allocated budget is used to achieve the objectives set and provide added value.
- Avoid budget overruns as well as implementation delays.
- To institute a road charge for vehicles.
- Introduce a tax on electronic transactions.
- Avoid wasting State resources by using the means at its disposal where possible (example: some houses rented while there are houses belonging to the State).
- Limit domestic debt as much as possible and at best start to clear it.

2. Draft strategy document for the implementation of trade policy over the period 2021-2025, presented by the Minister of Trade, Transport, Industry and Tourism

Burundi's trade policy was formulated in 2015 but it was never followed by the production of a strategy for its implementation.

This strategy document under analysis constitutes a roadmap that describes how the Government's commitment will materialize, and presents a mapping of interventions, deadlines and responsible institutions.

It aims to improve business performance and the investment climate.

This strategy constitutes a reference document for all interventions in the trade sector and for all actors and partners over the period 2021-2025.

It is based on eight orientations which are as follows:

- Maintain good business ethics and protect consumers and producers.
- Monitor the supply of essential strategic products.
- Invest in improving the trade balance.
- Strengthen organizational and institutional capacities to assess quality standards.
- Promote trade in services and electronic commerce.
- Promote and strengthen the business and investment climate.
- Strengthen the trade opening partnership.
- Develop transport and communication partnerships.

The overall budget required for the implementation of this policy is estimated at US \$ 14,450,000.

After analysis, the Council of Ministers adopted this strategy with, among other recommendations, to express the necessary budget in Burundian francs and to

show the part of the financing which goes to the State and that which goes to other partners.

3. Draft decree on the creation, structure, missions, organization and functioning of the Provincial Directorates of Family and Social Development, presented by the Minister of National Solidarity, Social Affairs, Human Rights and Gender

Known under the name of “Family and Community Development Centers”, these structures have undergone, over the last decades, major changes on the institutional and structural levels which have not allowed them to function in a stable manner.

However, experience has shown that the success of the ministry's programs and activities largely depends on the work of these centers.

The current analysis of the functioning of these centers shows that their field of competence remains limited, due to insufficient material, human and financial resources as well as their weak accountability.

Considered as promoters of community initiatives and called upon to constantly ensure the promotion of community and social development, it is necessary that the missions, role and responsibilities of these centers be redefined to make them more effective.

It is within this framework that decree n ° 100/084 of October 12, 2020 on the missions, organization and functioning of the Ministry of National Solidarity, Social Affairs, Human Rights and Gender has set up these centers into Provincial Directorates of Family and Social Development as decentralized

structures of the Ministry. This project determines their organization and functioning.

At the end of the debate, the Council of Ministers noted that the project needed to be reworked in particular to comply with the organization chart of the Ministry and above all to ensure that the Communal Directorate referred to in the text was provided for. It will also be necessary to ensure that the text has no budgetary impact.

The reworked project will be brought back to the Council of Ministers within two weeks.

4. Draft decree on the missions, organization and functioning of the General Inspectorate of Public Service, Labor and Employment, presented by the Minister of Public Service, Labor and Employment

This project is proposed in application of decree n ° 100/060 of April 24, 2020 laying down the general framework of the specifications of the general ministerial inspections and internal control services of the Burundian public administration in terms of governance monitoring which specifies that each administrative entity must have an internal control system.

In addition, decree n ° 100/083 of 12 October 2020 on the missions, organization and functioning of the Ministry of the Public Service, Labor and Employment provided for the establishment of the General Inspection of the Public Service, of Labor and Employment. This project complies with these two texts by setting up this structure.

After discussion and debate, the project was adopted with some retouching.

5. Draft decree revoking the iron-titanium-vanadium exploration permit on the Mukanda perimeter in favor of the company CVMR Energy Metals Burundi surl, presented by the Minister of Hydraulics, Energy and Mines

The perimeter of Mukanda was granted to the company CVMR by decree n ° 100/219 of November 24, 2017 to carry out research there.

The agreement signed between the Government of Burundi and this company concerned the execution by this company of a complete research program with a view to establishing the existence of exploitable iron-titanium-vanadium deposits in this perimeter with an area of 144 km².

The term of the three-year research permit granted to this company has expired.

However, it was found that this company did not respect the clauses of the agreement it signed.

In addition, this company has shown no interest in applying for the renewal of its license and it has no known address or contact person in Burundi.

It is under these conditions that this project proposes the revocation of the iron-titanium-vanadium exploration permit on the Mukanda perimeter in favor of the company CVMR Récy Metals Burundi surl.

After the analysis, the project was adopted with some tweaking.

6. Draft Public-Private Partnership contracts between the Republic of Burundi and the company Songa Energy for the development of two hydroelectric power stations on the Murembwe and Ruvyironza rivers, presented by the Minister of Hydraulics, Energy and Mines.

In Burundi, improving energy supply and access remains one of the Government's priorities.

The participation of the private sector in the development of the energy sector is a means to substantially and sustainably improve access to electricity by the Burundian population.

It is within this framework that the company Songa Energy Burundi signed with the Ministry of Hydraulics, Energy and Mines on 8/17/2015 a Memorandum of Understanding for the realization of energy production studies on the Murembwe and Ruvyironza rivers, with a power of 9 Mw and 1.65 Mw respectively.

The Council of Ministers had analyzed this file and found that it required a technical reanalysis to ensure that the assembly was done well and that the contribution of the State as capital was correctly valued.

These included:

- Reanalyze contract terms.
- Review whether the rate per Kw / h is appropriate in relation to the use of the country's natural resources forming part of the State's heritage, in this case water, state land, etc. ...
- Provide for depreciation related to wear and tear of infrastructure and accounting depreciation during the entire operating time of the plant, etc.

The analysis of this file focused on the responses to these prerequisites.

After analyzing the responses to the concerns that had been expressed, the Council of Ministers found them satisfactory and adopted the project, the promoter having agreed in particular to provide an amount of US \$ 4,738,569 as

a sinking fund for these infrastructures during the duration of twenty-five years of operation.

Done at Bujumbura, March 18th, 2021

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

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation

Department of Communication

www.mae.gov.bi

Twitter: @MAEBurundi