

REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI



Ministry of Foreign Affairs and
Development Cooperation

MFADC-MAGAZINE Nr 149 of 29th October 2021

The Burundian Head of State visits United Republic of Tanzania



The Head of State, H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye, accompanied by the First Lady, H.E. Angeline Ndayishimiye began a three-day state visit to the United Republic of Tanzania on October 22, 2021. This visit is part of the strengthening of the historic relations existing

between the two brotherly countries. Upon arrival at Dodoma Airport, the Presidential Couple was warmly welcomed by the Tanzanian Minister in charge of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Liberata Mulamula.

After the passage of the troops in review, the military honors and 21 cannon shots, the two Heads of State, H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye and H.E Samia Suluhu Hassan exchanged face to face, a session which was followed by the enlarged bilateral meeting.

(Source: www.presidence.bi)

Burundi and Tanzania pledge to strengthen bilateral cooperation and the bonds of friendship between the people of Burundi and Tanzania



On Sunday, October 24, 2021, the President of the Republic Her

Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, accompanied by the First Lady of the country Her Excellency Angéline Ndayishimiye, returned home after a three-day State visit to the United Republic of Tanzania, a visit which was part of the strengthening of bilateral cooperation and the fraternal links that unite the peoples of Burundi and Tanzania.

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Upon his arrival at Melchior Ndadaye International Airport, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye was warmly welcomed by the Senior Officials of the State including members of the Government and the High Command of the National Defense Force and Public Security.

In a lively press briefing when he got off the plane, the Head of State indicated that in addition to strengthening bilateral relations between Burundi and Tanzania, the visit also aimed to assess the state of progress in the implementation of various agreements signed between the two countries. As such, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye said that the two countries positively appreciate the state of play of the implementation of these agreements, particularly in the economic, commercial and political fields; and reiterate their firm commitment to strengthening this cooperation.

During this same visit, the Head of State of Burundi also had the opportunity to lay the first stone on the site of the FOMI fertilizer plant built on the industrial site of Nala, a project initiated by a man of Burundian business named Adrien Ntigacika.

The second day of this visit which, according to the Burundian Number One, was crowned with success, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye also went to Zanzibar where he had the opportunity to meet with President

Hussein Ali Mwinyi who welcomes the significant progress made by Burundi in several sectors, particularly political and economic. The President of Zanzibar promises to mobilize local businessmen to come and invest in Burundi.

In Dar-es-Salaam, the economic capital of Tanzania, the Burundian delegation led by the Head of State visited two major projects of common interest for Burundi and Tanzania, including the Dar-es-salam railroad Uvinza-Musongati-Gitega, a route that will greatly facilitate trade and the export of raw materials or other products in our two countries; and the dry Port of Kwala which will facilitate the direct transport of goods to Burundi.

The President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye closed his journey in the United Republic of Tanzania by visiting the Port of Dar-es-Salaam which plays a decisive role for the imports and exports of the sub-region in general, and of Burundi in particular, especially since it constitutes the gateway for goods from European and Asian countries which pass through this axis to reach Burundi.

(Source: www.presidence.bi)

The Head of State leads a moralization session on patriotism, good governance and development in Muramvya



This Thursday, October 28, 2021, the Head of State His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye led, in the capital of Muramvya province, a moralization session on patriotic awakening, good governance and development for natives, administrative, political, religious and other Representatives of different services working in this province.

It is a session that is part of a moralization campaign led by the Head of State in all the provinces of the country and whose objective is to mobilize the entire Burundian population to change mentalities and behaviors and to awaken all citizens to the patriotic spirit and to the sustainable development of their country.

During this session, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye urged the Burundians in general and the population of Muramvya in particular, to avoid the ethnic divisions that the colonizer instilled in the minds of the Burundians and which shook several generations.

Rather, he called them to an evolution of mentalities and to stand up as one man to develop the country, a heritage of their ancestors, above all to avoid any laziness to work assiduously in the development of the natural resources of their country, given that Burundi is full of a lot of natural resources of all kinds favorable to economic

recovery.

In this session, the Father of the Nation also called on all Burundians, particularly the leaders in different sectors to awaken and a patriotic leap in order to promote in Burundi good governance in all sectors, which would bring the country into a new era of progress. "To achieve this, all citizens are called on to be vigilant against any lack of good citizenship and to denounce all cases of corruption, economic embezzlement and other related offenses", he said.

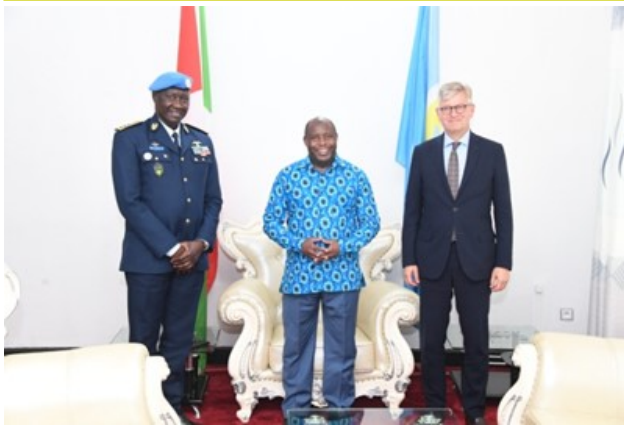
Regarding the Covid-19 pandemic which is shaking the whole world, the Head of State calls on the Burundians to be tested regularly since the testing centers are installed all over the country and that the

test is offered free of charge. He also asked the Burundian population to continue to scrupulously follow the barrier measures taken to prevent themselves from this pandemic.

The President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye closed this session by inviting the entire Burundian population to become more involved in the development of their country and to preserve peace, security, unity and national sovereignty.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

"The commitment and sacrifice of burundian contingents in Peacekeeping Missions are not in vain"



This Tuesday, October 26, 2021, the President of the Republic H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye received in audience the members of a high UN delegation led by Mr. Jean Pierre Lacroix, UN Under Secretary General for Peace Operations was on a two-day working visit to Burundi.

While thanking Mr. Jean Pierre Lacroix for his visit to Burundi which will have offered him the opportunity to inquire about the positive evolution of the security situation which prevails in Burundi, H.E President Evariste Ndayishimiye reiterated to him the gratitude of the Burundian people for the multidimensional support of the United Nations at several historical stages of the country, in particular the role that the UN authorities have played in the return of peace to Burundi.

Indeed, the Head of State H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye indicated that the renormalization and the poli-

tical and security stability have a real impact on the socio-economic development of Burundi: "With the support of the UN Agencies, we are now working to the capitalization of peace by fighting against poverty and youth unemployment".

Welcoming the efforts for dialogue and inclusion made by the Government of Burundi, the UN Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations was delighted that these efforts are also remarkable through the much appreciated action of the Burundian contingents on a peacekeeping mission peace.

In this regard, the United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations Mr. Jean Pierre Lacroix paid tribute to these Men and Women in uniform who have dedicated their lives to the cause of Peace: "Mr. President, sacrifice of Burundi peacekeepers is not in vain".

During this two-day mission to Bujumbura, the UN official spoke with other high-ranking personalities of the country, namely the Prime Minister and the Minister in charge of Foreign Affairs.

(Source: www.presidence.gov.bi)

Officials in education sector called to play a leading role in the country's development



the education sector to always give their contribution in thinking about ways and means to fight poverty forever, in order to achieve sustainable development. "Let us always be creative to develop Burundi, a heritage from our ancestors. Let us avoid any laziness and work assiduously to highlight the natural resources abounding in our dear country", he in-

In a moralization session on Friday, October 29, 2021 in Gitega, the President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye called on those responsible for Burundian education to fully play a leading role in the development of the country.

During this moralization session that he led for executives and officials working in the sector of National Education and Scientific Research, a session that was focused on patriotism, good governance and development of the country, the Minister of National Education and Scientific Research Dr. François Havyarimana thanked the Head of State for his involvement in the education sector. He indicated that activities in this sector are going normally, despite some challenges, including the lack of teachers and school materials in some schools.

Taking the floor, the Burundian Number One recalled that the education sector plays a major role in the development of a country. Nevertheless, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye deplores the fact that he observes today ill-intentioned teachers who maintain unworthy relations with their own educated. He calls on the Ministry in charge of education to mercilessly discourage this kind of irresponsible behavior.

The Head of State also urged those responsible in

sisted.

During this session, the Burundian Number One also called on all those working in this sector to a patriotic leap and the promotion of good governance in the educational field. "Avoid any form of corruption, economic embezzlement or other related offenses, in order to build a new Burundi", he insisted.

After this moralization session, the Father of the Nation His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye handed over computer machines and their accessories to the heads of the decentralized services of the education sector as well as new van vehicles to all the Provincial Directors of Education. He reminded the beneficiaries of these vehicles that they do not belong to them personally, but rather that they are service vehicles, and he recommended that they use them as good head of family.

(Source: www.presidence.gov.bi)

The Italian Government gives the Umugiraneza Foundation a medical kit worth 100,000 dollars



The Italian Government, through its consulate in Burundi, proceeded this Tuesday, October 26, to the delivery of a donation of medical material and equipment worth 100 thousand dollars to the Bonne Action Umugiraneza Foundation in Giheta in the Province of Gitega.

“We know very well the works of the Bonne Action Foundation, especially since there is attention to wo-

men and the vulnerable in the country”, indicated Mrs. Caterina Iametti, Consul of Italy in Burundi who underlined that her Government will spare no effort to support Burundi.

“We are completely ready to support the Foundation and the Government of Burundi given the bilateral relations between our two countries”, she added.

The First Lady and President of the Bonne Action Umugiraneza Foundation expressed her gratitude to the Italian Government for the promise fulfilled: “We thank the Italian Government and its representation in Burundi for this donation which supports Burundi and facilitates the Bonne Action Umugiraneza Foundation in the achievement of its objectives”, revealed Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye.

(www.presidence.gov.bi)

Burundian Prime Minister receives a distinguished personality



The Prime Minister CPG Alain Guillaume Bunyoni received in audience on Tuesday, October 26, 2021, Mr. Jean-Pierre Lacroix, Under Secretary Deputy Secretary General for Peace Operations, Department of Peace Operations at the United Nations on a working visit to Bujumbura since Monday, October 25 2021.

At the end of the audience, OPP1 Moïse Nkurunziza, Spokesperson for the Prime Minister indicated that the UN authority is visiting Burundi to inquire about the stability of the country at a time when the Burundians are enjoying the dividends of peace for get down to development work.

The Prime Minister CPG Alain Guillaume Bunyoni told him that the Government of Burundi is grateful for the multifaceted support from the United Nations for the restoration of peace, which is why Burundi is always ready to contribute to the maintenance of peace in countries in difficulty so that they too may recover peace.

The two authorities also exchanged views on peace and security not only in Burundi but also in the countries of the sub-region, in particular the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, where armed groups continue to be rife.

The UN's Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations for Peace Operations praised the efforts made

by the Burundian troops on a peacekeeping mission in the Central African Republic and indicated that he came to discuss with the Burundian authorities on the steps underway to that a memorandum of understand-

ing can be signed so that an additional unit can be deployed in the Central African Republic.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation receives in audience the Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations, visiting Burundi



This October 26, 2021, HE Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation received in audience Mr. Jean-Pierre François Renaud Lacroix, the Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations, Department for Peace Operations in the United Nations.

Their discussions focused on strengthening cooperation between Burundi and the United Nations, especially with regard to Burundi's participation in peacekeeping operations through the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), a mission for peacekeeping operated by the African Union in Somalia with the approval of the United Nations as well as the Mission of the United Nations for Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA).

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation informed the Vice-Secretary General for Peace Operations that he welcomes the current state of cooperation between Burundi and the United Nations. He added that Burundians are grateful for Burundi's withdrawal from the United Nations Security Council's agenda as it has improved the country's im-

age and encouraged foreign investors to come to Burundi.

The Government of Burundi and the Burundians also welcome Burundi's participation in peacekeeping operations in Somalia and the Central African Republic. He said that Burundi is carrying out this work with pleasure and good heart, despite the sacrifices that must be made. He recalled that there was a time when Burundi was also assisted by United Nations peacekeeping operations, but today Burundi is helping others. This shows the evolution of the situation in Burundi. The Minister, H.E Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO reiterated the will of the Government of Burundi to work more in this context, for the stability of the region.

For his part, the Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations greatly appreciated the warm welcome of the Burundians. He further stated that with regard to the withdrawal of Burundi from the Security Council agenda, the United Nations attaches a great importance to partnership.

Regarding Burundi's readiness to always serve through peacekeeping operations, Mr. Jean-Pierre Lacroix announced that the United Nations is open to evaluate the current peacekeeping situation, in order to work more. He said that the United Nations also intends to improve the technical service with regard to recruitment.

The Minister greatly appreciated this meeting and concluded with a summary relating to the strengthening of relations of friendship and cooperation between Burundi and the countries of the sub-region. Note that the Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations will also be received by the highest Authorities of the country.

(Source: [MFADC-Newsroom](#))

Audience granted by the Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation



On Friday, October 29, 2021, the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation Mr. Ferdinand Bashikako received in audience Mrs. Sonja Kribich, Head of the Unit of "Fundamental issues: African Union, Sub-Saharan Africa, Southern Africa and Great Lakes" within the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Berlin. She was accompanied by the Ambassador of the German Federation in Burundi.

After usual greetings, Mr. Ferdinand Bashikako thanked the Head of the Unit of the "Fundamental Issues: African Union, Sub-Saharan Africa, Southern Africa and Great Lakes" Unit for visiting Burundi. He said she will have the opportunity to see the reality on the ground instead of just settling for certain bad-intentioned social networks and media that report false information.

The Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation said that peace

and security are a reality in Burundi. The Government of Burundi is working to establish good governance, human rights and the development of the country in general. "The President himself does not tolerate in any case those who ignore the practices of good governance, human rights and security for all", said Mr. Ferdinand Bashikako. He said that the human rights situation in Burundi is good. He then asked Mrs. Sonja Kribich to visit the interior of the country to see the reality of the stability of the country.

Speaking, Mrs. Sonja Kribich thanked the Permanent Secretary for granting her the audience. She indicated that Germany notes certain initiatives of the President of the Republic of Burundi in the framework of normalizing the situation in general, in the country. Germany also appreciates this period of warming and approaching diplomatic relations with other countries. Mrs. Sonja thus noted the Government's effort to accelerate the normalization of relations with the European Union.

In closing, the Permanent Secretary Mr. Ferdinand Bashikako invited Mrs. Sonja Kribich to participate in the Diplomatic Week which is organized every year. Mrs. Sonja Kribich took note of this invitation, and indicated that she will discuss it with her superiors.

(Source: MFADC-Newsroom)

PREPARATION OF THE GENERAL CENSUS OF THE POPULATION, HOUSEHOLD, AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK IN BURUNDI OF 2022



As part of the preparation of the general census of the population, household, agriculture and livestock in Burundi of 2022, the Assistant to the Minister Mr. Syldie Manirerekana, together with the Director General in charge of Multilateral Relations Ambassador Isaie Kubwayo, officially opened a meeting to mobilize partners, on Tuesday October 26, 2021.

In his speech, the Minister's Assistant recalled that since its Independence, Burundi has already carried out three general population and household censuses,

respectively in 1979, 1990 and 2008. These are statistical operations of national scope that provide information on the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the population and on the household conditions and well-being of households down to the finest geographical level.

The data from the general population and household census of 2008 has become obsolete, it appeared necessary to organize a new census in order to update the socio-demographic indicators, the data on household and the database survey. This is more necessary since Burundi has adhered to the Program of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (CIPD) which recommends, among other things, that countries organize, as much as possible, a census every ten years.



In addition, Burundi does not have detailed information on the characteristics and structure of agriculture and livestock covering the entire territory, specifically on households and farmers, apart from data relating to the characteristics of the population from the 1979, 1990 and 2008 censuses.

For all these reasons and in order to meet the needs of users, the Government of Burundi, through the Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies of Burundi (ISTEEBU), has undertaken to increase the statistical supply by organizing the fourth General Census of Population and Household which integrates the basic module of the General Census of Agriculture and Livestock.

The Minister's Assistant also indicated that this major statistical operation, instituted by Decree No. 100/109 of November 30, 2020 establishing the general census of the population, housing, agriculture and livestock in Burundi in 2022, sets the legal bases of the

operation and defines its organizational structures, thus translating the manifest desire of the Government of Burundi to include it as a priority, among the priority planning and program implementation projects and country development projects. He also indicated that this desire was also reflected by the official launch of this census, on September 10, by the President of the Republic of Burundi, General Major HE Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE who invited the partners to support Burundi, especially its Responsible and Laborious Government, in this vast and heavy statistical project.

Thus, the Minister's Assistant indicated that Burundi will carry out its fourth census which will include several phases, namely: census mapping, pilot census, actual enumeration of the population, post-census survey, processing data, data analysis, publication, and dissemination of results and archiving of technical documents and data to enable the country to have up-to-date data on population, household, agriculture and breeding in August 2022.

Before closing the speech, the Minister's Assistant did not forget to let it be known that one of the particularities of this 4th census is that it will be digitized in order to improve the quality of the data, to have the results available within a reasonably short period of time, reduce the costs of storing questionnaires and acquiring equipment and limiting clerical errors by eliminating the traditional steps of verification, coding and entry.

Towards the end of the session, some of the partners gave their opinions. The one who represented the UNFPA said that the UNFPA said it was committed to supporting the activities of this census. As for the one who represented the WHO, after asking if the census will include the health module, he too indicated that the WHO will support this census. And the one who represented the ADB indicated that the ADB was not well aware of this activity. For this, he asked the Government of Burundi to seize the ADB to support this important activity of the country.

(Source: MFADC-Newsroom)

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, committed to produce reliable statistical data



As part of the production of reliable statistical data, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation organized, in Gitega, from 25th to 27th October 2021, a retreat on the verification of the consistency, processing and clearance of statistical data of the statistical yearbook, 2020 edition.

The retreat was organized for the principal Inspectors, the Inspectors and all the Focal Points of the Statistical System coming from the various services of the said Ministry. The Inspector General at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation Mrs. Ildégarde NIYONZIMA chaired the work of the retreat, assisted during the various presentations by Mr. Thérence NDAMUHAWENIMANA, Principal Inspector in charge of Statistics and Planning.

The work focused first on the presentation of the methods of collecting, processing and analyzing statistical data from administrative sources; the methodological framework and the statistical data collection

framework to allow a common understanding of the theme.

Afterwards, it was the object of analyzing, in turn, the statistical data provided by the General Inspectorate; the General Directorate of Protocol and Consular Affairs; the General Directorate of Administration and Management; the General Directorate of Multilateral Relations; the General Directorate of Bilateral Relations; the General Directorate of the Diaspora, Non-Governmental and Foreign Organizations, Non-Profit Foreign Associations and the Promotion of Employment and Migrants; the Communication Department and the Legal Affairs Department.

The statistical data provided by these different departments of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation were consistent. However, some data requires readjustment.

In closing, recommendations and suggestions were made for each department. In her closing remarks, the Inspector General at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, Madam Ildégarde NIYONZIMA, thanked the Cabinet of the Ministry for their technical and financial support for the success of this retreat. She also asked everyone to implement each other's recommendations and suggestions, in order to have good products.

(Source: MFADC-Newsroom)

The Ministry of Agriculture fixes the price of dry corn grain



The Minister of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock hosted a press briefing on Monday, October 25, 2021 where he announced the measures taken relating to the sale of dry corn grain collected and purchased by the National Stock Management Agency (ANAGESA).

Mr. Emmanuel Ndorimana Permanent Secretary at the Ministry in charge of agriculture informed that during the purchase campaign of dry maize grain, ANAGESA was

able to collect a production equivalent to 14,000 tons in the various communes of Burundi. And to add that after the corn purchase and collection campaign, the ministry informs the public that it is releasing this production on the market so that the population can obtain supplies according to their needs. This production can be transformed and used for various purposes.

The sale of maize production is carried out by traders who agree to respect the price set by the Government. At the level of the ANAGESA hangars located in the administrative centers of the communes, the price of one kg is fixed at 970 fbu.

Mr. Emmanuel Ndoricimpa explained that it is necessary to pay at the level of banks or microfinance institutions BRB, BANCOBU, BCB, ECOBANK, BGF, INTERBANK, FINBANK, FENACOBUR, Post; an amount

equivalent to the price of the desired quantity. The trader will then present a payment slip issued by the Bank or recognized microfinance institution to the managers of the ANAGESA hangars, he continued.

Mr. Emmanuel Ndurimana also indicated that the buyer must bring the packaging according to the quantity of corn to be purchased and ensure the means of transport. The buyer must also pay the municipal tax at the rate of BIF 10 per kg and this tax is sanctioned by a receipt received from a collection agent, explained the permanent secretary at the Ministry in charge of agriculture.

At the market or shop level, the price of dry corn grain should not exceed 1080 Fbu, a price set by the Government.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

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REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI

PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC
Secretariat-General of the State**MEDIA RELEASE NO 28 CONSECUTIVE TO THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 27 OCTOBER 2021**

A Cabinet Meeting was held on Wednesday 27th of October 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 which the Prime Minister chaired on Monday 25 October 2021, and which was devoted to the analysis of the same files on the agenda.

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

- 1. Expenditure commitment ceilings for the second quarter of 2021/2022,** presented by the Minister of Finance, Budget and Economic Planning.

The commitment ceilings are subject to regulations prescribed in certain texts, in particular the decree on fiscal governance, the decree establishing general regulations for the management of public budgets. They also comply with the law establishing the general budget of the Republic of Burundi for the 2021/2022 Fiscal Year which introduces in its article 50, the development of quarterly expenditure commitment ceilings which must be validated by the Council of Ministers.

These commitments are made on the basis of cash receipts. These commitment ceilings, which are in line with the state treasury plan,

concern all state spending, except those that are mandatory and irreducible, such as salary and debt spending.

Thus, during the 2021/2022 budget management, the pace of commitments will depend on the pace of revenue collection. After discussion and debate, these commitment ceilings were adopted with the following recommendations:

- Ensure that the commitments of the 1st and 2nd quarter combined do not exceed 50% of the planned annual budget;
- For commitments related to capital goods, ministries and institutions late in the 1st quarter can commit up to 50% of the planned budget;
- Speed up the preparation of the overall public finance collection strategy;
- Market corn in stock to avoid its deterioration and re-analyze the measure suspending its import to promote the entry of revenue into the Public Treasury (Finance + Agriculture + Trade);
- Control the revenue collected by the autonomous institutions under the supervision of the ministries so that they are counted among the State revenue;
- Avoid intermediaries in the purchase of state equipment because they inflate costs.

2. Strategic documents from the Ministry of the Interior, Community Development and Public Security:

- **General policy letter 2021-2027**
- **Strategic plan 2021-2027**

These documents were presented by the Minister of the Interior, Community Development and Public Security.

They outline the sectoral orientations and the priorities of the Ministry to contribute in the implementation of the National Development Plan 2018-2027 and strengthen decentralization, so that the municipalities are really poles of sustainable community development.

The general policy letter recalls the institutional evolution, enumerates the challenges and issues, highlights the priorities and gives the vision of the

ministry by 2027 which is "A government institution ensuring with professionalism internal governance, community development and security, for the well-being of the population".

It then provides guidance in the form of strategic axes, as well as the implementation, monitoring and evaluation mechanisms.

As for the Strategic Plan 2021-2027, it operationalizes the General Policy Letter. It identifies strengths, shows weaknesses, opportunities and threats, and indicates strategic guidelines and their alignment with the National Development Plan.

It develops the strategic axes by specifying the programs, projects and activities by strategic axis, and proposes the budget for its implementation.

The Strategic Plan comprises four areas of intervention, 12 strategic axes, 29 programs subdivided into 102 priority projects for a total budget over seven years, estimated at One Thousand Six Hundred and Thirty Two Billion Five Hundred and Five Million Burundian Francs (1,632,505 billion Fbu).

At the end of the analysis, the two documents were adopted with the following recommendations:

- Ensure that the budget provided for the implementation of this strategy is spread over the entire period;
- Ensure that the planned projects are in line with other planning tools such as the Public Investment Program and the Annual Action Plan;
- Develop a realistic and achievable annual budget according to priorities;
- Speed up the file on administrative restructuring;
- Align funding from partners with Government priorities;
- In the action plan, highlight the following activities:
 - Promotion of dialogue between political parties;
 - Civic and patriotic education;
 - The question of the blocked or open list in local elections;
 - The issue of ethnic quotas at the level of representation in state institutions;
 - The strategy to be put in place to control births;
 - Control of the movement of people;

- Control of the movement of refugees established on Burundian territory;
- Control and maintenance of municipal works;
- Strengthening ethics at the leadership level;
- The issue related to inheritance for women and girls;
- The issue of children of unknown fathers;
- Improving government communication.

3. Sector strategy of the Ministry of National Solidarity, Social Affairs, Human Rights and Gender aligned with the National Development Plan, presented by the Minister of National Solidarity, Social Affairs, Human Rights and Gender

Burundi has adopted a National Development Plan which is currently the national reference document for development planning. In order to involve all sectors in the implementation of this Plan, it was recommended that sector strategies be drawn up, together with action plans.

It is within this framework that the Ministry of National Solidarity, Social Affairs, Human Rights and Gender, has developed its sector strategy.

This strategy is a reference strategic orientation document for the medium and long terms. It was developed through the three sectors of intervention of the Ministry, namely:

- The human rights protection sector with the vision of "Making Burundi a society that guarantees full respect for human rights",
- The social protection sector with the vision of "Adequate social protection coverage for all",
- The sector for the advancement of women and gender equality with the vision: "To build a society where women and men enjoy the same rights and are subject to the same duties within the framework of political and economic development, social and cultural culture of Burundi".

Thus, all sectoral investment programs should align with these objectives, in the consistent implementation of all activities under these three sectors.

The Council of Ministers analyzed this Strategy on May 19, 2021 and made observations to be taken into account in its finalization.

After discussion and debate on the new document presented, the Council of Ministers noted that the recommendations of the Council of Ministers have been taken into account and adopted the Strategy with the following recommendations:

- Ensure that the budget provided for the implementation of this strategy is spread over the entire period;
- Ensure that the planned projects are in line with other planning tools such as the Public Investment Program and the Annual Action Plan;
- Develop a realistic and achievable annual budget according to priorities;
- Align funding from partners with Government priorities;
- Establish criteria for assessing the degree of vulnerability;
- Adjust the implementation of the MERANKABANDI project so that in the future there is contributory assistance to prevent people from getting used to charity;
- Clearly define the criteria for choosing project intervention areas as well as beneficiaries;
- In the action plan, add the following activities:
 - The effective decentralization of the services of the ministry;
 - Improving the living conditions of retirees, including retirement pensions;
 - The question of the stratification of the cost of the health insurance card according to the beneficiaries;
 - The census of the truly destitute;
 - The management of orphanages;
 - The question of polygamy;
 - Improving government communication.

4. Sector strategy of the Ministry of Infrastructure, Equipment and Social Housing, presented by the Minister of Infrastructure, Equipment and Social Housing.

This sectoral strategy is in line with the logic of the operationalization of the National Development Plan 2018-2027, within the limits of the aspects that fall under the missions of this ministry.

As for the decade covered by this strategy, it should be noted that the project implementation process has already been initiated three years ago. This strategy comes as a response to the challenges encountered, with a view to strengthening the achievements already accomplished.

The main priorities provided for by this strategy are mainly aimed at opening up the interior and exterior, through the rehabilitation and extension of the bituminous network, the maintenance of the existing coated network, as well as the newly developed network.

With regard to equipment, it is planned to acquire appropriate building and public works machinery to facilitate the execution of the work underway

As for housing, priority will be given to the construction of apartments accessible to officials and other low-income buyers.

This strategy comprises seventeen (17) programs and forty two (42) projects.

To ensure the effective implementation of this strategy, an institutional framework will be put in place, consisting of a sectoral steering and monitoring-evaluation committee, which will be supported by a technical committee.

The overall amount of financing for the strategy is Five Thousand Six Hundred Eleven Billion, Seven Hundred and Seventy Million Burundian Francs (5,611,770,000,000 Fbu).

Following the analysis, the Strategy was adopted with recommendations to:

- Rearrange the document starting with the strategy, and follow it up with the implementation plan;

- Emphasize in the document the development of capacities, all the more so the ministry must have specialized human resources in various fields;
- Accelerate the housing and urbanization policy under development;
- Ensure that the budget provided for the implementation of this strategy is spread over the entire period;
- Ensure that the planned projects are in line with other planning tools such as the Public Investment Program and the Annual Action Plan;
- Develop a realistic and achievable annual budget according to priorities;
- Identify the texts that need to be revised to have an up-to-date legal and regulatory framework;
- Develop planning for the development of the Lake Tanganyika coastline, in collaboration with the Ministry in charge of the environment;
- Develop a road infrastructure maintenance and rehabilitation plan;
- Ensure that the feasibility studies of the various projects are always available to be presented to partners whenever they are required;
- Plan the acquisition of the means and equipment of the technical services of the ministry;
- Update the implementation period of the Strategy;
- Add the following activities to be carried out in the action plan:
 - Proceed with the effective decentralization of the services of the ministry;
 - Rehabilitate the roads according to a precise schedule, and in priority Bujumbura-Gitega and Bugarama-Kobero;
 - Build roundabouts embellished with monuments that symbolize Burundian culture;
 - Provide each municipality with a multi-storey building housing all the decentralized services working in the Municipality;
 - Look for a state cart intended only for service activities;
 - Put in place a strategy to repair government vehicles at a lower cost;
 - Take an inventory of all state-owned buildings across the country;
 - Carry out the necessary investigations to know the true legal status of the Presidential Palace of Kiriri;
 - Identify in all the provinces the places where the turnkey social housing districts will be developed according to the standings;
 - Promote the villagization policy;
 - Develop green spaces, games and entertainment;
 - Plan the procurement of equipment for state buildings by the state itself;

- Promote transport on Lake Tanganyika;
- Seek, in collaboration with the ministry in charge of finance, financing for the construction of the railway;
- Rehabilitate the Melchior NDANDAYE International Airport;
- Build administrative buildings in Gitega;
- In collaboration with the Ministry in charge of solidarity and the interior, set the goal of "0 Nyakatsi House";
- Clarify and address the issue of plots around the NTARE RUSHATSI Presidential Palace;
- Build an Multisport stadium to international standards;
- Develop a diplomatic quarter;
- Build an international conference facility;
- Decide on the issue of constructions erected in green spaces but for which titles have been issued;
- Improve government communication.

5. Sector strategy of the Ministry of Public Service, Labor and Employment, presented by the Minister of Public Service, Labor and Employment.

Burundi has adopted a National Development Plan which is currently the national reference document for development planning.

This Strategy constitutes a sectoral instrument of strategic orientation in the planning of activities to be carried out in the fields of the civil service, public administration reform, decent work and employment, professional development and training during employment.

The overall objective of this sector strategy is to "Build an efficient public administration and promote decent work for all".

This Strategy comprises 9 strategic objectives, 33 lines of intervention, 47 programs and 100 projects.

The strategy provides for an institutional implementation framework made up of a steering committee, as well as a technical committee made up of experts.

The overall cost of this strategy is One Hundred and Six Billion, Eight Hundred and Sixteen Million Seven Hundred and Sixty Eight Thousand Burundian Francs (106,816,768,000Fbu).

At the end of the debate, the Strategy was adopted with the following recommendations:

- Ensure that the budget provided for the implementation of this strategy is spread over the entire period;
- Ensure that the planned projects are in line with other planning tools such as the Public Investment Program and the Annual Action Plan to facilitate budgeting;
- Develop a realistic and achievable annual budget according to priorities;
- Develop efficient planning for mobilizing funding;
- Prepare as quickly as possible the ordinances that formalize the entry of the informal sector into the formal sector;
- Collaborate with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to have a database of foreign companies authorized to recruit labor and which collaborate with organizations operating in the country;
- Speed up the establishment of agreements with foreign countries that welcome the Burundian workforce so that everything takes place legally;
- Study strategies so as not to lose our experts by leaving in search of work abroad, to avoid the brain drain.
- Integrate the following actions into the action plan:
 - Proceed with the effective decentralization of the services of the ministry;
 - Complete the census of civil servants;
 - Prepare the necessary statistics to plan the replacements of civil servants who are going to retire;
 - Follow up on the careers of civil servants called to public office;
 - Increase in-service training;
 - Clear the issue of wage harmonization;
 - Establish social protection mechanisms for informal workers;
 - Put in place measures that encourage civil servants to take early retirement;
 - Improve government communication.

6. Sector strategy of the Ministry of Water, Energy and Mining, presented by the Ministry of Water, Energy and Mining.

This sectoral strategy is in line with the logic of the operationalization of the National Development Plan 2018-2027 within the limits of the aspects that fall under the missions of this ministry.

It was developed with a view to accelerating the growth of the development support sectors such as the drinking water and basic sanitation sector, the energy sector, and the hydrocarbons and mining sectors and careers.

It is built on the following vision: "The Ministry of Hydraulics, Energy and Mining, engine of sustainable development through a developed extractive sector, accessibility to drinking water and clean energy, contributing in a sustained way to socio-economic growth for the improvement of the living conditions of the population".

Among the five strategic guidelines included in the National Development Plan, the Ministry of Hydraulics, Energy and Mines is concerned with that relating to "the revitalization of growth sectors".

This guideline constitutes the reference in the implementation of the actions of the ministry. The overall cost of the strategy is 3,547.66 billion of Fbu.

After analysis, the Strategy was adopted with the following recommendations:

- Ensure that the budget provided for the implementation of this strategy is spread over the entire period;
- Ensure that the planned projects are in line with other planning tools such as the Public Investment Program and the Annual Action Plan to facilitate budgeting;
- Develop a realistic and achievable annual budget according to priorities;
- Study the ways and means so that the State itself finances the search for minerals, proceeds to their qualification, their quantification and their valuation to facilitate their exploitation;

- Establish a clear strategy in relation to the supply and storage of fuel;
 - Provide strategic fuel stocks.
 - Integrate the following activities into the action plan:
 - Proceed with the effective decentralization of the services of the ministry;
 - Make clean water available on all the hills by 2025;
 - Increase the number of hydroelectric dams;
 - Promote the use of biogas in households in the interior of the country;
 - Promote the use of gas in urban households;
 - Establish a clear mining policy with the objective of exporting ore under the Burundian label;
 - Put in place a strategy so that the State has fuel, even if the private sector is supplied with it;
 - Promote the use of peat instead of wood;
 - Improve government communication.
- 7. Draft decree revoking the license to mine nickel and associated minerals in the Musongati perimeter in favour of the company Burundi Mining Metallurgy International (BMM International), presented by the Ministry of Hydraulics, Energy and Mining.**

In May 2014, a mining agreement on the Musongati nickel deposit was signed between BMM International and the Government of Burundi. The exploitation permit was granted by decree in June 2014 and the official launch of the mining and processing activities for nickel and associated minerals from the Musongati deposit was made in October 2014.

Despite several reminders to BMM to respect its commitments and start the actual work, no action has been taken by this company.

In addition to the unjustified delay in the start or progress of the works, this company refused to communicate the technical information required under the Mining Code and the agreement it signed.

This is the reason why this project proposes the revocation of the operating license that was given to this company.

After discussion and debate, the project was adopted with the recommendation to draw up a legal opinion, which shows the ins and outs of this dossier.

It was also recommended to require this company to return to the Burundian state what it took away as a sample.

8. Draft decree on the status of veterans, presented by the Minister of National Defense and Veterans Affairs.

The decree on the missions and organization of the Ministry of National Defense and Veterans Affairs assigns to this ministry specific missions relating to veterans.

In order to carry out these missions, the Ministry has set up a General Directorate of Veterans Affairs.

Although this Ministry has been managing ex-combatants since the integration process, no legal framework governing them has been developed to date.

This project responds to this concern.

It defines the veteran, who is "any member of the ex-Burundian Armed Forces (FAB) or ex-Parties and Armed Political Movements (PMPA) who have regularly ceased to serve and or have been demobilized", and specifies its rights and obligations.

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

- Enrich the Presentation Note with the inventory of former combatants;
- Review the definition of veteran.

9. Draft memorandum of understanding between the Egyptian company EL SEWEDY ELECTRONIC and Burundi, presented by the Minister of Communication, Information Technologies and Media.

The Information and Communication Technologies sector plays an accelerating role in the socio-economic development of countries.

It is within this framework that the National Development Plan 2018-2027, in its axes, places particular emphasis on the promotion of this sector.

Aligning with the projects included in the sector strategy for the implementation of the National Development Plan, and in view of the importance of the private sector in the development of information and communication technologies, and of international expertise recognized by the Egyptian company ELSEWEDY ELECTRONIC, the Ministry of Communication, Information Technologies and Media wishes to establish a framework for negotiations with this company.

This is the subject of this Memorandum. It contains the preliminary terms and conditions under which the parties plan to establish cooperative relations, in order to analyze, plan and execute the projects covered by this Memorandum, namely:

- The establishment of an Integrated National Data Center;
- The Project for the Extension of Metropolitan Networks (MAN) with optical fibre in the cities of Bujumbura, Gitega and Ngozi;
- Modernization of landline telephony.

At the end of the debate, the draft memorandum was adopted with the recommendation that when setting up projects, they be submitted to the Government to ensure their feasibility.

10. Any Other Business

- His Excellency the President of the Republic informed the Council on a government retreat which will soon be organized for them and which will be extended to Directors General and Inspectors General of Ministries, thereafter.
- He also informed them that the prayer of thanksgiving which closes the year 2021 will take place in Bujumbura and will last 5 days.

Done at Bujumbura, October 28th, 2021

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

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation

Department of Communication

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