



**Burundi scores an improvement for its involvement in the development of Africa**



that "Burundi scores a point for its involvement in the development of Africa and constitutes a flagship country for moderation between East Africa and Central Africa». To this expiration, he told the Burundian Head of State and current President of the EAC that the support of ECCAS in resolving the conflict in eastern DRC would be beneficial. President Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE also received in

**O**n Thursday september 1, 2022, the Head of State, His Excellency Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE, during an audience, discussed with Mr. J Jacques DEMAFOUTH, the Head of the Liaison Office of the Economic Community of Central African States in Burundi, ECCAS. Their exchanges focused on the need to promote and advance the implementation of integration projects.

The President of the Republic stressed the urgency of developing transport infrastructure to facilitate the free movement of people, goods and capital and above all to promote communication with a view to eradicating crime in the region.

With a mandate of three years in Burundi, Mr. DEMAFOUTH, who is delighted to work in Burundi, indicated

audience Mr. Jeroen STEEGHS, Ambassador of the Netherlands to Burundi who had come for a courtesy visit. The two high personalities reviewed the state of bilateral cooperation relations between Burundi and the Netherlands.

The President of Burundi invited the Dutch diplomat to have confidence in state institutions and to establish a permanent dialogue with the leaders in order to know the real policy of the country. «There has been a misinterpretation of the history of Burundi, if you listen to the leaders of our country, you will see Burundi in a different light," he insisted. Ambassador DEMAFOUTH promised to promote dialogue in order to strengthen the partnership between his country and Burundi. ([www.presidence.bi](http://www.presidence.bi))

**In this Edition:**

**page**

Burundi scores an improvement for its involvement in the development of Africa

1

Central African ombudsmen and mediators welcome the step done by Burundi in terms of national reconciliation

2

The President of the Republic HE Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE receives the new Resident Representative of the World Bank in Burundi

2

Japan welcomes the progress made in Burundi under the leadership of President NDAYISHIMIYE

3

President Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE takes part in the 8<sup>th</sup> edition of TICAD

3

Strengthening cooperation between Japan and African countries at the heart of TICAD8

4

Establishment in Burundi of the CERDOTOLA regional office for Eastern and Southern

5

MEDIA RELEASE N° 16 CONSECUTIVE TO THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 31 AUGUST 2022

8

## Central African ombudsmen and mediators welcome the step done by Burundi in terms of national reconciliation



The President of the Republic, His Excellency Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE, received on Thursday September 1, 2022, a delegation of Ombudsmen and mediators from Central Africa who came to Burundi as part of the Regional Conference on the role of Ombudsmen and mediators in conflict resolution and the consolidation of Peace. This delegation, led by the Ombudsman of Burundi, was made up of Mediators from the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, and Equatorial Guinea.

While acknowledging the great role played by the Ombudsman of Burundi in the past, the Head of State said that the country is now stable and that Burundians have taken a significant step in terms of national reconciliation. «Thank you for accepting the invitation of the Ombudsman of Burundi. It shows that you have confidence in our country,” he said.

The delegation of Central African ombudsmen and mediators welcomed the organization of this conference by Burundi, which has become a textbook case in terms of the preservation of peace and national reconciliation.

"We would have liked all the Heads of State to take ownership your vision of guaranteeing food security", suggested Mr Laurent Ngon Baba, Mediator of the Central African Republic before recommending to the President of Burundi to plead for the establishment of the institution of the ombudsman in certain countries which need it.

This delegation also told the Head of State that the Ombudsmen and mediators of Central Africa plan to establish a synergy in order to intervene in the resolution of conflicts in their respective countries and elsewhere. ([www.presidence.bi](http://www.presidence.bi))

## The President of the Republic HE Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE receives the new Resident Representative of the World Bank in Burundi



The Head of State, His Excellency Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE received in audience on Thursday September 1, 2022, the new Resident Representative of the World Bank in Burundi, Mrs. Hawa Cissé Wagué. During their meeting, they discussed the projects financed by the World Bank in Burundi. The President of the Republic presented his vision

of seeing a prosperous Burundi thanks to a partnership that takes into account the real needs of the population and the priorities of the Government. "For the Government, the urgency is to take care of road infrastructure to open up certain regions so that they can be used in economic development", suggested the Burundian Number One who added that rural electrification is a project that is also close to the heart of the State of Burundi since it is a determining factor in the success of the empowerment of young people.

Speaking, the Resident Representative of the World Bank reaffirmed the commitment of the World Bank to support the action of the Burundian Government.

"We will continue to work together to accelerate the implementation of projects," she said.

Mrs. Hawa Cissé took the opportunity to announce the new program of the World Bank to extend the Merankabandi Project to all the provinces of the country for an amount of 150 million dollars. ([www.presidence.bi](http://www.presidence.bi))



## Japan welcomes the progress made in Burundi under the leadership of President NDAYISHIMIYE



On the sidelines of TICAD8, the Head of State HE Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE met with Mr. Yoshimasa Hayashi, Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs and Special Envoy of Prime Minister Fumio Kishida; on subjects of common interest and on the international agenda. Minister Yoshimasa Hayashi warmly welcomed the significant progress recorded by Burundi in several aspects of national life thanks to the leadership of President Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE. They pledged to strengthen and diversify bilateral cooperation. HE Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE thanked the Japanese

Government for its multifaceted support in the realization of several development projects. He expressed the wish to consolidate cooperation in the priority sectors of education, health, infrastructure, sport, agriculture, tourism on the shores of Lake Tanganyika and mining.

Minister Yoshimasa Hayashi indicated that Japan wants to grow at the same pace as its partner countries and intends, to this end, to support the technical and professional training of young people, a prerequisite for the industrialization and exploitation of the Burundian subsoil.

Before closing their exchanges, the two personalities called for a framework to facilitate, attract and secure foreign and Japanese investments in this case, in order to significantly boost the private sector in Burundi. ([www.presidence.bi](http://www.presidence.bi))

## President Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE takes part in the 8<sup>th</sup> Edition of TICAD



Accompanied by the First Lady His Excellency Angeline NDAYISHIMIYE, the President of the Republic of Burundi His Excellency Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE landed in Tunisia on the evening of August 26, 2022 to participate in the eighth edition of TICAD, which is a cooperation platform Africa – Japan launched in 1993 and of which Burundi is an active member. The Burundian presidential couple was warmly welcomed by the President of the Republic of Tunisia HE Kaïs Saïed.

When he got off the plane, the Head of State His Excellency Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE briefly spoke with his Tunisian counterpart HE Kaïs Saïed. The two Heads of State want this eighth edition to also be an opportunity to exchange and strengthen solidarity between African countries, which also have a common destiny.

On the morning of August 27, 2022, the delegation

of Burundi led by the President of the Republic HE Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE took part in the opening ceremonies and the work of the first day of the "TICAD8" co-organized at the Palais des Congrès in Tunis by the African Union and Japan to assess, reorient and strengthen Africa-Japan relations. This conference thus offers an ideal framework for an in-depth study of the transformation of Africa into a region of economic growth, the construction of a resilient society and the consolidation of lasting peace and stability. Indeed, the African and Japanese political leaders have insisted on the urgency of rethinking the traditional models of partnerships and ensuring that the resolutions taken are translated into concrete actions in the interest of the peoples.

While commending the major role played by Japan in reducing certain imbalances, the African Heads of State and Government call for a readjustment of priorities and a redefinition of approaches, "new mechanisms in the face of new challenges", "to build a new era together. Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida indicated that his country wishes to grow at the same pace as its partner countries and stressed that Africa, the continent of the future, must be the actor of its own development ([www.presidence.bi](http://www.presidence.bi))

## Strengthening cooperation between Japan and African countries at the heart of TICAD8



**R**eturning from a mission to Tunisia where he took part in the 8<sup>th</sup> Edition of TICAD, the Head of State, His Excellency Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE, who was accompanied by the First Lady, His Excellency Angeline NDAYISHIMIYE, revealed on Monday, August 29, 2022 that this mission was an opportunity to strengthen bilateral cooperation relations between Burundi, Japan and other African countries.

The President of the Republic has indeed indicated that during this Tokyo International Summit for the Development of Africa, funding of thirty billion dollars was approved, intended for the development of Africa for the next three years. "We then met with the Japanese Minister of Foreign Relations, Mr. Yoshi-

masa Hayashi, to assess together the state of our relations and present to him the priority projects of Burundi requiring financial support".

He further indicated that among these projects are the construction of a highway linking the city of Bujumbura and the political capital of Gitega, the construction of five vocational training centers to promote the technical and vocational training of young people, the integrated development of the shore of Lake Tanganyika as well as the construction of a sports complex of international standards.

"Minister Hayashi was delighted that these projects are in line with the objectives of the Japanese Government", he underlined before adding that the President of the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) plans, for this purpose, to visit Burundi to identify urgent needs requiring accompaniment and support from the Japanese government.

On the sidelines of this summit, which also addressed the issue of peace and security, in particular to provide a collective response to the challenges linked to terrorism, the Burundian Head of State met Sergio Pimenta, Vice-President of the Financial Company International. They, among other things, discussed ways and means to improve the business environment and increase the production capacity of Burundian companies. ([www.presidence.bi](http://www.presidence.bi))

## Burundi deploys a contingent in South Kivu



**D**uring the session of August 30, 2022, the National Assembly adopted the schedule of activities for the ordinary parliamentary session of August 2022 for the period from August 29 to September 5, 2022. During this period, the National Assembly will continue to receive the candidacy files of the members of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC). During this same period, it is planned on Saturday, September 03, 2022, the reception by the National Assembly, of the delegation of Belgian parliamentarians on colonization.

The President of the National Assembly, the Right

Honorable Gélase Daniel NDABIRABE, at the same time read to the deputies a message sent by the President of the Republic.

It was a message in which the Head of State informed Parliament of the decision he had taken to send a contingent to the South Kivu province in the Democratic Republic of Congo within the framework of the fight against terrorist groups operating in this area of the DRC. In this message, the Head of State recalls that the East of the Democratic Republic of the Congo has known for several years a presence on its soil of terrorist groups which continue to commit nameless and innumerable crimes not only in this country but also in neighboring countries.

The outgoing President of the East African Community, Uhuru Kenyatta took the initiative to help the Congolese government to bring peace and security to the

East of the country, so that all the countries of the Region live in peace and tranquility with a view to planning work for the development of their respective peoples.

Thus, the outgoing President of the East African Community, Uhuru Kenyatta organized several conclaves of Heads of State of the East African Community to try to find a lasting solution to the security problems in the East of the DRC.

Several decisions were successively taken during these conclaves, especially that of June 20, 2022. The most decisive decision is that of the deployment of a regional military force of the East African Community in this part of the DRC. It was agreed that this force be deployed under the auspices of the East African Community, for a period of six months renewable with a mandate to contain, combat, and eradicate terrorist and negative groups operating in eastern DRC in support to the Congolese Armed Forces, operating in this area and in close collaboration with MONUSCO. The Heads of State of the East African Community also determined the sector of responsibility of each country, while recommending bilateral contacts with the

Government of the DRC in the implementation of the Armed Force to be deployed by each country. It is in this perspective that the Government of Burundi, in bilateral collaboration with the Government of the DRC and by virtue of article 255 of the Constitution which specifies that within the limits determined by the Constitution and the laws, only the President of the Republic can authorize the use of armed force in the fulfillment of international obligations and commitments, took the decision to deploy a contingent in South Kivu.

After official consultation with the CNS National Security Council on August 22, 2022, as prescribed by Article 256 of the Constitution and Article 4 of Organic Law No. 1/26 of December 6, 2021, amending Law No. 1/23 of August 31, 2002 on the Mission, composition, organization and functioning of the National Security Council, the Head of State wanted to inform Parliament that Burundi has just deployed a contingent consisting of a battalion of infantry in the province of South Kivu for a period of three months renewable. ([www.rtnb.bi](http://www.rtnb.bi))

## Establishment in Burundi of the CERDOTOLA regional office for Eastern and Southern Africa



On Thursday September 1, 2022, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation HE Albert SHINGIRO and the Executive Secretary of the International Center for Research and Documentation on African Traditions and Languages (CERDOTOLA) Mr. Charles BINAM BIKOI signed a headquarters agreement for the establishment of the CERDOTOLA regional office for Eastern and Southern Africa in Burundi.

After the signing, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation announced that he was delighted with the establishment of this regional office in Burundi. He indicated that this establishment has advantages on two counts, namely the close collaboration between the Institution and the Govern-

ment of Burundi so that Burundi's efforts in the promotion of Culture and Scientific Research can be supported by the organization on the one hand, and allow Burundian citizens to have work within this organization on the other hand. He thus promised to work closely with the Executive Secretary of

CERDOTOLA but also through the Representative of the Institution in Bujumbura.

The Executive Secretary of the International Center for Research and Documentation on African Traditions and Languages (CERDOTOLA) has meanwhile indicated that Burundi is at the center of all the concerns that are those of Africa in terms of rebirth, regeneration of the African spirit and dissemination of African values, values of civilization in the history of Africans in the world. Mr. Charles BINAM BIKOI explained: "Burundi by hosting this office, takes back the place that has never ceased to be its own, Burundi is at the heart of Africa but also a crossroads of civilization, a crossroads of peoples from Africa which means that when you



are in Burundi you are in Africa. Establishing the regional office of CERDOTOLA in Burundi then gives Burundi the opportunity to be the showcase of this Organization, the showcase of the African soul in reconstruction, the showcase of the effort of the African man to regain his footing in a world that is his hostile for 600 years. He indicated that with all the above, we see a very natural added value which means that the regional office will be the resonance and redundancy of the spirit of the headquarters of CERDOTOLA which is in YAOUNDE.

Let us remind that CERDOTOLA is a Cultural and Scientific Institution that has been set up by African States for 45 years, with the mandate of collecting, developing, enhancing, promoting and enhancing African cultures, which we call the traditions, but also the exploitation and documentation of the languages of Africa which are the vectors of the culture.

In the evening the two parties and guests met at the Tanganyika Lake View Hotel to share a drink, in a good climate and wind from Lake Tanganyika. (MFADC)

## Burundi/World Bank: financing agreement for the support project for the foundations of the digital economy



**T**he Minister responsible for finance, Dr. Domitien NDI-

HOKUBWAYO and the Resident Representative of the World Bank in Burundi, Mrs. Hawa Cissé Wagué, signed the financing agreement for the support project for the foundations of the digital economy in Burundi. This funding donation is up to fifty million US dollars.

Minister Domitien NDIHOKUBWAYO then revealed that the signing of the first financing agreement for the support project for the foundations of the digital economy in Burundi constitutes an opportunity for the mobilization of additional resources to e-Government allocations in order to enable the Government to carry out its provisional development projects.

According to the Minister in charge of Finance, with an envelope of 50 million US dollars, this project comes at the right time at a time when ICTs are invading the world community towards all social strata, industries, offices, homes, etc.

According to the Minister in charge of Finance, with an envelope of 50 million US dollars, this project comes at the right time at a time when Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) are invading the world community towards all social strata, industries, offices, homes etc.

What about the added value of this funding donation? For Minister Domitien NDIHOKUBWAYO, the implementation of this project will make it possible to increase access to high-speed Internet, in particular for unconnected rural populations, the higher education sector and to improve

the capacity of the Government to provide public services using digital technology. This project also offers many opportunities including the fate of the private sector, the contribution to economic growth, the sharing of information, the improvement of public services, etc.

On behalf of the Government of Burundi, the Minister in charge of Finance also thanked the World Bank Group for its multifaceted support in the search for sustainable solutions to deal with the problems facing Burundi, particularly those in the trade sector, climate business, ICT etc.

As for the Resident Representative of the World Bank in Burundi Mrs. Hawa Cissé Wagué, this project supports the Government in the implementation of its digital vision defined in the PND 2018-2027. Make Burundi an emerging digital economy, she stressed. She also specified that this project is aligned with the framework of the partnership between the World Bank and Burundi around the two axes, namely the strengthening of human capital and inclusion, the foundation of economic and social resilience, etc.

Thanks to this project, based on the already existing assets, Burundi will see its economy strengthen, thanks to the implementation of an infrastructure of shared services, operability of digital systems, etc. said the resident representative of the World Bank in Burundi.

Indeed, Mrs. Hawa Cissé Wagué also points out that this project will also provide training and basic digital skills and compatible devices to beneficiaries including women and marginalized people.

To conclude, Mrs. Hawa Cissé Wagué wanted this project to be implemented quickly. She reiterated the availability of the entire World Bank team in Burundi to support this project. May the objectives already defined together be achieved as soon as possible, concluded the resident representative of the World Bank in Burundi Mrs. Hawa Cissé Wagué. (www.rtnb.bi)

## Gitega: Back to school 2022-2023, scheduled for september 12, 2022



**T**he Ministry of National Education and Scientific Research Dr François HAVYARIMANA

organized a two-day meeting from september 1 to 02, 2022. The objective of this meeting, which took place in Gitega, was to prepare for the start of the 2022-2023 school year. The senior executives of the Ministry and the provincial and communal directors of education as well as the representatives of the teachers' unions were invited to this meeting.

On the sidelines of the meeting, the Minister of National Education and Scientific Research Dr François HAVYARIMANA hosted a press conference. He announced that the start of the 2022-2023 school year is set for September 12, 2022 with the exception of Lycée Scheppers Nyakabiga, Lycée SOS Bujumbura and Lycée d'excellence Ngagara which will start classes on September 14, 2022 following the activities of the EAC which take place there.

Taking into account the places available in the first years of post-fundamental and after consulting the Council of Ministers, the Ministry in charge of National Education has taken the following decisions:

1. Is admitted to post-basic general, pedagogical and technical education, both public and private, all graduates

who have obtained a mark greater than or equal to 72/200, or 36%.

2. Admission to post-basic education in public schools in the technical, scientific and pedagogical streams with boarding facilities as well as in public schools of the town hall of Bujumbura is subject to obtaining a higher grade. or equal to 120/200, i.e. 60%.

Exceptionally, the Minister pointed out that all the winners of the Batwa community's national competition, that is to say those who have obtained at least 72/200 will be directed to boarding schools. Out of 117 Batwa candidates who sat the national competition throughout the country, 103 passed the national competition. The provinces of Ruyigi and Rutana had no Mutwa candidates in the national competition.

The Minister announced at the same time that the work on the orientations is in progress. These guidelines will be displayed in the capital of the provinces (DPE) and municipalities (DCE) from Saturday September 3, 2022 very early in the morning, added the Minister of Education.

The Minister in charge of Education, Dr François HAVYARIMANA invited the students to consult the orientation sheets to better prepare for the start of the 2022-2023 school year.

Minister in charge of education Dr. François HAVYARIMANA took this opportunity to once again remind all school officials, teachers, parents and students that class skipping is not allowed in the Burundian education system. ([www.rtnb.bi](http://www.rtnb.bi))

## Burundi hosts the EACA's 12th annual conference



**T**he Lumière University of Bujumbura (ULB) in collaboration with the Ministry in charge of communication hosted on Monday August 29, 2022

the activities of the 12<sup>th</sup> annual conference of the East African Communication association (EACA), under the theme: "media and communication, opportunities, lessons learned and challenges for technology, innovation during the coronavirus pandemic." The Minister in charge of Communication Mrs. Léocadie Ndacayisaba enhanced these activities with her presence.

According to the Minister in charge of communication, Mrs Léocadie, the objective of the conference was to create a platform allowing universities, communication experts and media professionals to reflect on the achievements of the experience, and on the chal-

lenges of innovation in times of pandemics, especially COVID-19.

The Rector of the Lumière University of Bujumbura, Dr Yves NDAYIKUNDA indicated that during the 3 days of the conference they expected that researchers, journalists and regulators will be able to discuss how to communicate and see how those who use information technologies have behaved in times of the covid19 pandemic, knowing how in such crises the media can continue to play their role. Asked why the theme insisted a lot on COVID-19, the reader from the Lumière University of Bujumbura clarified that it is so that people continue to behave properly, because he says the coronavirus pandemic still exist.

The delegations of the countries that participated in this conference are: Burundi, Rwanda, Norway, Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya DRC, USA. ([www.rtnb.bi](http://www.rtnb.bi))

1

REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI

PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC  
Secretariat-General of the State**MEDIA RELEASE N° 16 CONSECUTIVE TO THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY 31 AUGUST 2022**

A Cabinet meeting was held in Bujumbura on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> of August 2022, under the chairmanship of His Excellency Major General 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 Wednesday 24 August 2022, 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. Bill amending Law No. 1/02 of March 3, 2016 reforming municipal taxation,** presented by the Minister of the Interior, Community Development and Public Security.

Municipal taxation is governed by Law No. 1/02 of March 3, 2016 on the reform of municipal taxation in Burundi. This law has experienced difficulties in its application for several reasons:

- The annexes to which it referred were not available;
- The taxes and duties provided for in this law have been left to the prerogative of the Municipal Council to set the rate applicable in each



Municipality. The consequence has been its differentiated application on the national territory, thus compromising the principles of generality and equality of citizens before taxes;

- The rise in prices on the market alongside the adjustments made to the tax base have resulted in the taxes and duties collected for the benefit of the Commune becoming insignificant;
- The tax on rental income which had been transferred to the communes was later recovered by the State, thus causing a loss of earnings for certain Communes, although provision is made for the payment into the communal fund of an amount of 60% of the total tax collected in each municipality;
- The contribution of 0.5% of the value added tax (VAT) which was to be paid by the State to the municipalities as provided for by law has never been paid. This situation has deprived the Communes of the means to finance their own operations and self-investment.

In addition to all these difficulties encountered for the implementation of this law, it is necessary to harmonize it with the 2018 Constitution of Burundi which specifies that the budgetary exercise in Burundi begins on July 1 and ends on June 30 of the following year.

These are the reasons that prompt the modification of the law governing municipal taxation.

At the end of the debate, the Council of Ministers noted that the project required a much more in-depth analysis at the technical level to ensure that it is in harmony with the other texts in force governing taxes and duties.

The project will be brought back to the Council of Ministers after this work with its version in Kirundi.

## **2. Draft organic law amending Law No. 1/08 of March 14, 2005 on the Code of Judicial Organization and Jurisdiction, presented by the Minister of Justice.**

Despite the reforms of judicial organization and jurisdiction carried out in

1987 and 2005, the expected objectives for the advent of equal justice for all, closer to litigants, faster and more accessible have not been all achieved.

Indeed, the analysis of the Burundian judicial organization reveals bottlenecks and blocking factors affecting the overall efficiency of the system.

This is why it appeared necessary to revise the Code of Judicial Organization and Jurisdiction to establish a modern and more efficient judicial system. The bill thus aims to bring Burundian legislation in this area up to the best international standards.

While basing the development of the project in the wake of the provisions currently in force, it is added elements which tend either to modernize the organization of justice, or to facilitate its operation. The project also aims to empower judges and make them more accountable.

The main innovations introduced by this bill are:

- The institution of a single judge in certain matters, so that the magistrate in charge of the case assumes and assumes his responsibilities in his decisions;
- The establishment of the dissenting opinion in the event of disagreement occurring during the deliberation;
- The assignment of officers of the Public Ministry to the Courts of Residence;
- The increase in the value of the dispute with regard to the material jurisdiction of the Court of Residence in civil matters, with a view to bringing justice closer to the litigants and to accommodate the economic realities of the moment.
- The restoration of the principle of the double degree of jurisdiction for disputes related to rural land;
- The creation of a Commercial Court of Appeal and commercial chambers within the High Courts;

- The reorganization of the administrative jurisdictions, by the creation of specialized chambers within the Courts of Appeal and the Administrative Courts having two chambers, that of the first degree and that of the second degree which must hear the appeal of judgments rendered in administrative matters ;
- The reconstitution of a legal file, when, as a result of any cause, minutes of judgments or judgments not yet executed, or proceedings in progress have been destroyed, removed or lost.

After discussion and debate, the project was adopted with, among other recommendations:

- Include the dissenting opinion of a judge in the same judgment or judgment and not attach it to avoid its loss;
- Provide an anti-corruption chamber in the Intermediate Courts and appeal chambers in the Courts of Appeal;
- Insert a provision that indicates the relationship between the Council of high notables and the Court of Residence;
- Mention in the draft that the Courts and Tribunals must closely follow the trials in progress in the instances which are hierarchically inferior to them to get them more vigilant;
- Indicate in the draft the possibility of resorting to the Superior Council of the Judiciary and the body responsible for implementing the decision of this Council when it finds a misjudgment.

**3. Bill revising the Code of Civil Procedure**, presented by the Minister of Justice. Civil procedure in Burundi is currently governed by Law No. 1/10 of May 13, 2004.

Eighteen years after the introduction of this law and despite the progress made in this area, there are still certain challenges that make access to justice difficult. This is in particular the challenge linked to the slowness of judicial proceedings, the length of proceedings, the difficulty linked to the execution of



judicial decisions, the remoteness of courts, delaying maneuvers by litigants, etc. In order to improve the administration of justice, it is imperative to review the code of civil procedure to adapt it to the imperatives of the moment.

The problem related to certain methods of seizures is also raised in the law under revision. Indeed, some seizures remain difficult although they constitute a guarantee to satisfy creditors.

Another no less important challenge concerns the liability of agents and servants of the State for acts they have committed and which engage the responsibility of the State or its branches. Currently, the law provides that the State compensates the victims and turns against its agents by means of recourse action. This procedure should be modified for the efficiency and accountability of public officials.

The major innovations of this bill are:

- The establishment of the pre-trial judge whose mission will be to ensure the fair conduct of the procedure;
- Reduction of procedural delays;
- The establishment of the dissenting opinion in the event of disagreement occurring during the deliberation;
- The reform of the appeal procedure, in order to reduce the congestion of the appeal courts;
- The reform of enforcement procedures, so that all wealth can be immobilized, apprehended, seized to offer a panoply of enforcement measures to creditors.
- The authorization of the amicable sale before the forced sale;
- The abolition of the sale by pared way,
- The establishment of alternative methods of conflict resolution, such as conciliation and arbitration;
- Clarification of the specific rules of procedure in administrative matters, by specifying that at the same time as the State or its subdivisions are summoned,

the administrative official author of the contested decision or act must also be summoned to appear before the courts alongside the State lawyer and that in the event of a joint conviction, the execution will first concern the property of the administrative official.

- The procedure for evicting defaulting tenants has been clearly defined.

At the end of the debate, the project was adopted with, among other recommendations, to correct the provision referring to the joint conviction of the State with its employee because criminal responsibility is always individual.

**4. Bill on the ratification by the Republic of Burundi of the revised Georgetown Agreement, signed on June 20, 2021**, presented to the Minister of East African Community Affairs, Youth, Sports and Culture in lieu of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, unable to attend.

The Georgetown Agreement is a Constitutive Act of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States made up of 79 countries. The 9<sup>th</sup> Summit of Heads of State and Government held in Nairobi from 09 to 10 December 2019 revised the Georgetown Agreement, hence it is currently referred to as the "Revised Georgetown Agreement".

During this same Summit, the Heads of State and Government of the ACP States decided to transform the ACP into an international organization called "Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS)". The importance of this change is to allow this organization to be able to conclude Partnership Agreements with other partners, instead of being limited only to the European Union.

At the end of the discussions, this project was adopted.

**5. Bill on the accession by the Republic of Burundi to the convention on the physical protection of nuclear materials;**

**6. Bill on the ratification by the Republic of Burundi of the amendment to the**

### **convention on the physical protection of nuclear materials.**

These two projects were presented by the Minister of Hydraulics, Energy and Mining in lieu of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, unable to attend.

The Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material was adopted on October 26, 1979 and entered into force on February 8, 1987 under the auspices of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

The Republic of Burundi has been a member of the International Atomic Energy Agency since 2009.

With the adoption of the nuclear bill, the Republic of Burundi has put in place a legal framework that will allow it to develop the peaceful applications of nuclear energy in various fields relating to electrical energy, health, agriculture, environment and others. Thus, this Convention refers to the said nuclear law, especially in the articles relating to the promotion of nuclear science and technology as well as those relating to the fight against terrorism.

Given that the theft of nuclear materials, a terrorist attack or an act of sabotage in one country can easily affect others, regardless of the origin of the nuclear materials in Africa as elsewhere, Burundi has an interest in adhering to this convention to show solidarity with the international community in the event of a radiological or nuclear incident or accident.

After analysis, these two projects were all adopted.

**7. Draft decree revising Decree No. 100/128 of June 23, 2016 on the provisional declaration of public utility of the area intended to accommodate the infrastructures of the Services of the Presidency of the Republic,** presented by the Minister of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock.

Dated June 23, 2016, Decree No. 100/128 of June 23, 2016 on the provisional



declaration of public utility of a 200ha plot of land located on Gasenyi Hill, Mutimbuzi Commune of Bujumbura Province to accommodate Presidency Infrastructures was signed.

As these lands belonged to individuals, a compensation procedure was undertaken, of which 40 ha have already been compensated while 160 others are not yet.

After analyzing the boundaries of the land concerned by the decree declaring the 200ha as a public utility area, the security services found that this land is not sufficient to ensure the security of the Presidency. They thus proposed to integrate the Hill of Gishingano with an area of 334 ha 40 ares 110ca located on the Remba and Karama Sub-hills.

This is the subject of this draft decree.

After discussion and debate, the project was adopted with the following recommendations:

- In the title, write "declaration of public utility" and not "provisional declaration of public utility" to avoid speculation;
- Find another site for the relocation of the population within this perimeter, in particular the site which had been identified at the start to house these infrastructures and where the population was compensated;
- Proceed with the closure of this perimeter declared of public utility to avoid any speculation;
- Identify at the level of the Provinces sites to be declared of public utility so that the State has spaces for its projects.

**8. File relating to the request for land for the realization of a Project for the construction of an autonomous port and a shipyard on Lake Tanganyika on an area under the public domain of the State located in Kajaga in Mutimbuzi Commune,** presented by the Minister of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock

On the 29<sup>th</sup> of January 2022, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Autonomous Port of Bujumbura made a request for land that will house the construction and operation project of the Autonomous Port and the Shipyard.

The company "Port Autonome de Bujumbura" is a group of two companies under Burundian law, the "Canadian Total Logistic" from the Burundian diaspora in Canada, and the cooperative company "SOCIBUA-ABAHIZI", in order to build an autonomous port meeting the international standards for deep water ports.

This Project is in line with the Lake Tanganyika Integrated Coastal Development Plan.

This new company has brought together the adequate financial and technical resources to carry out this project.

This project comes to meet the following challenges:

- The lack of places for building and repairing boats on Lake Tanganyika.
- The difficulties of supplying goods in Burundi in particular and many other cities in the sub-region in general.
- The creation of new permanent direct jobs.

At the end of the analysis of this file, the Council of Ministers found the Project interesting but recommended the following:

- Set up the construction project for the shipyard and the Port within the framework of the Public-Private Partnership;
- Look for another land for this Project because the one identified is a tourist area;
- Determine the deadlines for the realization of this Project as soon as the land is granted;

The Ministers in charge of Transport and the Environment have been tasked with monitoring this Project.

## **9. Draft ordinance revising ordinance n°630/123 of February 07, 2012**

**establishing the National Program for the Fight against AIDS and sexually transmitted infections**, presented by the Minister of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS.

Viral hepatitis is a global public health problem. In Burundi, the epidemiological situation of viral hepatitis is little known. According to the definitive report on viral hepatitis of January 2018, the seroprevalence of the hepatitis B virus and that of the hepatitis C virus is high and increases with age.

To deal with this situation, a national strategy for the fight against viral hepatitis for the period 2018-2022 has defined Burundi's vision for 2030. The aim is to guarantee access to care and treatment for quality, affordable and effective to achieve the elimination of viral hepatitis B and C viruses by 2030.

Since 2019, the fight against viral hepatitis has been integrated into the Program's package of activities.

It is within this framework that the revision of Ministerial Order No. 630/123 of 07/02/2012 establishing the National Program for the Fight against AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections is proposed in order to reorganize its services to better organize actions for the prevention and management of viral hepatitis in addition to HIV and STIs (Sexually Transmitted Infections).

At the end of the analysis, the project was adopted.

**10. Transport Resilience Project in Burundi**, presented by the Minister of Commerce, Transport, Industry and Tourism in lieu of the Minister of Infrastructure, Equipment and Social Housing.

In order to expand the Burundian road network and take climate effects into account, a project called "Transport Resilience Project" (PRT) is being developed with funding from the World Bank.



In this context, Burundi will benefit from a grant from the World Bank worth 120 million US dollars.

The components of this project are:

- The rehabilitation of roads and social services resilient to climate change;
- Improving non-motorized transport and road safety
- Institutional strengthening for road infrastructure and logistics planning resilient to climate change
- Support for the implementation of the Project

After discussions and debate, the project was adopted with the following recommendations:

- Reread the document and change some inappropriate terms, "gender gap", "15-year-old women" etc.
- Verify the veracity of certain figures and their sources;
- In setting up the Project, take into account the displacement of certain infrastructures of REGIDESO, ONATEL, BBS and others located within the scope of the project;
- Identify other elements in need of funding that can be negotiated as additional components in this project.

### **11. Any Other Business**

- The Minister of National Education and Scientific Research presented a note relating to the setting of the minimum pass mark for the national competition and methods of orientation to post-basic education, Edition 2022. This Note was set at 72/200 or 36%.

He indicated that for a participation of 70,008 candidates for the 2022 national competition, 28,866 students have a score greater than or equal to 50%. The number of students who will be oriented in public boarding schools and in the City of Bujumbura is 10,955 students.

The number of students who will be directed to communal and municipal high schools (day schools) is 51,828 students.

The number of failed students will be able to enroll in vocational training centers or repeat a class if places are available.

The Council of Ministers has recommended that:

- Find a formula for managing schools of excellence that are almost empty;
  - Find a way to encourage Batwa students;
  - Firmly prohibit class skipping.
- The Minister of National Solidarity, Social Affairs, Human Rights and Gender presented a note on the inventory of internally displaced persons following natural disasters and some sustainable solutions actions undertaken by the Ministry and the partners.

There are three options, namely:

- The return and sustainable reintegration in the places of origin;
- Sustainable integration in places of displacement;
- Resettlement/relocation elsewhere in the country.

She indicated that all this requires the participation of all stakeholders and bilateral and multilateral partners because it requires a lot of financial and technical means.

The Council of Ministers asked her to collaborate with the Ministry of Interior, Community Development and Public Security in this work.

- To conclude, His Excellency the President of the Republic requested that the files to be analyzed in the Council of Ministers be prepared and sent in time for a preliminary technical analysis.

**Done at Bujumbura, 01 September 2022  
Prosper NTAHORWAMIYE**

**Secretary-General and Spokesman.-**

# Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation

## Department of Communication

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

Twitter: @MAEBurundi