



**The Ambassador of Algeria, Hamid Boukrif, bids farewell to the
Head of State**



On Thursday April 25, 2024, the President of the Republic of Burundi His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye received in audience at the Kiriri Palace, Mr. Hamid Boukrif, Ambassador of Algeria to Burundi, who had come to bid him farewell at the end of his mandate as

2 years in Burundi. It was an opportunity to discuss the state of cooperation between Burundi and Algeria where both parties positively appreciated the bilateral relations which take place particularly in the fields of education and professional training and are committed to continuing this coop-

In this Edition:

page

The Ambassador of Algeria, Hamid Boukrif, bids farewell to the Head of State

1

Presentation before Parliament meeting in congress of the of the Work Plan and the Annual Budget (PTBA) implementation report for the first half of 2023 -204

2

Gitega: The senators adopt two bills

3

Ruyigi: judges and magistrates called for impartiality

3

More than 863 tonnes of heating briquettes were produced to reduce the use of wood in military kitchens

4

Call for the farmers to change the mentalities and behaviors for applying the good agricultural practices

5

eration. The President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye thanked the Ambassador of Algeria to Mr. Hamid Boukrif because he further strengthened relations between Burundi and Algeria, suggested the Burundian Number One before saluting the role of the outgoing ambassador in consolidating cooperation ties between the two political parties in power in Burundi and Algeria. Briefly, on the history of Burundi, the President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye said that Burundi, which has been delayed by repetitive conflicts, will need the support of its friends and partners to achieve the emergence of the country in 2040 and development in 2060.

“Peace, security and stability are all challenges that we have faced together,” said the Algerian diplomat, rejoicing that the two countries, which share pan-African values, are mutually exchanging experience with a view to effective reconciliation of their respective peoples.

The Burundian Head of State asked Ambassador Boukrif to continue to be the ambassador of Burundi where he will continue to strengthen the inter-university cooperation, particularly by continuing to provide the courses in public and private universities established in Burundi. **(Presidency)**

Presentation before Parliament meeting in congress of the of the Work Plan and the Annual Budget (PTBA) implementation report for the first half of 2023-2024



means.

It was only from the 2022-2023 budget year, a year of transition between planning based on means and that based on results, that the Government's plan integrated the Work Plan and the Annual Budget (PTBA) and indicates for each concrete action, the budget allocated and the result to be achieved during a quarter, reminded the Prime Minister.

In his report, the Prime Minister stressed that the actions and activities of the

As part of the control of government action and in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Burundi in its article 168, paragraph 4 which stipulates that the two Chambers of Parliament meet in congress to evaluate every six months the implementation of the program of the Government, the Prime Minister, Lieutenant General of Police Gervais Ndirakobuca, presented, on Wednesday April 24, 2024, at the Hemicycle of Kigobe, before the Parliament meeting in congress, a report on the implementation of the Work Plan and the Annual Budget of the Government for the first half of the year, financial year 2023-2024.

He indicated that Burundi has a National Development Plan, PND 2018-2027 and that to implement it, it adopts an Annual Action Plan each year focused on

Annual Work Plan and Budget (PTBA) of all ministries are included in the finance law for the 2023-2024 financial year. He also highlighted the achievements made in the political, economic, social and environmental fields.

Following the presentation of the report, parliamentarians had the opportunity to ask the clarifying questions. Among the questions raised were questions about the finance law for the 2024-2025 financial year, which was to be tabled in Parliament at the opening of the April session. The parliamentarians were also interested in the measures taken by the Government to deal with the overflowing waters of the Lake Tanganyika, as well as other questions of general interest. **(Senate)**

Gitega: The senators adopt two bills



On Tuesday, April 23, 2024, the Senate of Burundi met in plenary session in its hemicycle in Gitega, to analyze and adopt two bills. That is the Bill ratifying by the Republic of Burundi the loan agreement No. 5/812, between the Republic of Burundi and the Saudi Fund for Development relating to the financing of the rehabilitation and equipment project of the Center Kamenge University Hospital as well as the Bill ratifying by the Republic of Burundi the loan agreement between the Republic of Burundi and the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa, relating to the financing of the rehabilitation and equipment project of the Kamenge University Hospital Center, signed in Marrakech, Morocco on October 13, 2023.

The plenary session was led by Honorable Denise Ndadaye, the Prime Vice-President of the Senate. It was the Minister of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock Mr Prosper Dodiko who represented the Government in the Senate, to explain the two bills to the senators.

In his presentation, the Minister in charge of the environment explained to senators that the project

aims to reduce the infant, the neonatal and the juvenile mortality, the deaths due to infectious diseases and to fight against the chronic and non-communicable diseases. In addition, the project aims to strengthen the health system, increase the supply and improve the quality of health care for the population, by increasing the reception capacity through the training of executives in the field of health, ensuring its accessibility and proximity. Another important aspect of the project concerns the construction and the equipment of the health infrastructures that meet the national and international standards.

Responding to the questions from the senators, the Minister in charge of environment indicated that the rehabilitation and equipment project of the Kamenge University Hospital Center is financed by two donors, namely the Saudi Development Fund (FSD) which has agreed to give a loan of 50 million US dollars and the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA), which will give a loan of 34 million US dollars.

"The financing of the Project of rehabilitating and equipping the health infrastructure of the Kamenge University Hospital Center will contribute to the strengthening of the health system by increasing the supply and improving the quality of the health care for the population, in increasing the reception capacity through the training of the executives in the field of health, ensuring its accessibility and proximity in general, with a view to resolving the country's needs in terms of health", said the Minister in responsible for the environment, agriculture and livestock.

After the clarifications provided by Minister Prosper Dodiko, the senators unanimously adopted the two bills sent by the Burundian Government. **(RTNB)**

Ruyigi: judges and magistrates called for impartiality

On Tuesday April 23, 2024, the Ministry of Justice continued its field raids in the province of Ruyigi. Mrs Virginie Havugiyaremye, Assistant to the Minister of Justice, said that the purpose of those raids is to allow the population to easily access justice without traveling long distances and thus save time, to take care of the work of development.

The assistant to the Minister in charge of justice also specified that these raids are an opportunity to

listen to the grievances of the population in relation to justice. She urged the members of the judiciary to always be good advisors to the litigants, in delivering the impartial justice in order to protect the most vulnerable and judge conflicts.

Regarding the concerns of the population, the resident notables asked that their capacities be strengthened through training, that the work equipment be made available to them, including the umbrellas and offices in which to work. In addition, they insisted that the in-

centive fees they receive be increased. Regarding the incentive costs, the Assistant to the Minister of Justice explained that those do not constitute a salary and clarified that those resident notable were elected while being informed that they will work as volunteers, for the good of the population. Most of the grievances expressed by the population concerned the disputes relating to the land conflicts and the judgments which have not yet been executed. The litigants also received the responses to their letters that they had sent to the Minister in charge of justice concerning the review of their trials. (RTNB)



More than 863 tonnes of heating briquettes were produced to reduce the use of wood in military kitchens



On Monday April 22, 2024, more than 863 tonnes of heating briquettes were produced by the production units of Muzinda and Gitega. In order to reduce the use of wood in military kitchens, the Minister of National Defense and Veterans Affairs, Mr Alain Tribert Mutabazi during a press briefing held to present the quarterly reviewed of the major achievements of the 3rd quarter of the 2023-2024 budget year.

The Minister of National Defense and Veterans Affairs, Mr Alain Tribert Mutabazi noted that during that 3rd quarter of the budgetary year, their achievements are structured around the main objectives, namely the strengthening of defense, the strengthening good governance, the strengthening institutional and the operational capacities, the optimizing resource management, the developing a culture of planning and the accountability within the defense corps, improving the management of veterans and improving well-being and taking gender into account.

Regarding the strengthening of defense, the Minister stressed that the inspection of weapons, ammunition,

and optical equipment was carried out in the 3rd Military Division and in the units of the Navy force to ensure their proper functioning. In addition, the head of the Burundi National Defense Force carried out raids on the training centers of Mwaro and Bururi and also carried out a raid on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Military Divisions.

As part of the strengthening and sustainability of cooperation in defense matters, he specified that the Minister received in audience the Ambassador delegate of the European Union to Burundi who had come for discussions on the strengthening of technical and the logistical support in various projects and on Burundi's efforts in peace missions.

In addition, the Head of the National Defense Force of Burundi paid a visit to Goma to assess the security situation in the company of his counterparts from member states of the Southern African Development Community who have deployed forces there. Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) as part of bilateral defense cooperation with the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Regarding the strengthening of good governance, the High Command of the National Defense Force (FDN) organized a meeting with the commission responsible for recruitment, so that that work takes place with total transparency. Thus, a data collection raid on retired soldiers in 2018 was carried out and related sheets were distributed in the 18 provinces of Burundi. Still in the spirit of good governance, weekly, monthly and quarterly reports were produced on time.

Regarding the strengthening of the institutional and the operational capacities within the Ministry in charge of National Defense, he announced that the rehabilitation and extension work of the garage of the automobile and military equipment maintenance brigade to make it modern and increase its reception capacity is at 97%. "The finish-

ing work on the construction of the logistics school shows that we are at a final stage, all the work being estimated at 95% and 70% for the work of raising the walls of the military hotel infrastructure of Gitega”.

The Minister of National Defense and Veterans Affairs, Mr Alain Tribert Mutabazi also noted that the 51st session of the non-commissioned officer school completed its training while the final incorporation took place for the 52nd session, training of 30 senior officers who have already covered 16 of the 28 weeks of training, 25 officer candidates from central services and personalized administrations followed capacity building training in planning and monitoring-evaluation as well as 5 officers who followed strengthening training capacity in Uganda on the control of personnel movements in peacekeeping missions.

The Minister in charge of defense also declared that 200 non-commissioned officers are undergoing training in various professions at the Muzinda professional training center where they have already covered 28 of the 40 weeks of training planned.

Regarding the optimization of resource management, the development of a culture of planning and accountability within the defense corps, Minister

Alain Tribert Mutabazi indicated that 19 demobilized people with severe war disabilities were hospitalized and the costs paid, 105 care vouchers were established, 408 care vouchers renewed and 97 disability certificates were validated as part of improving the management of veterans.

Regarding the optimization of resource management, the development of a culture of planning and accountability within the defense corps, Minister Alain Tribert Mutabazi indicated that 19 demobilized people with severe war disabilities were hospitalized and the costs paid, 105 care vouchers were established, 408 care vouchers renewed and 97 disability certificates were validated as part of improving the management of veterans.

In relation to improving well-being and taking into account gender, he reported that the Kamenge military hospital installed 125 m³ water storage tanks to improve the property and the working environment by general.

In order to improve the consideration of gender, the soldiers from different units continued to be made aware of the fight against gender-based sexual violence. Likewise, 15 focal point officers benefited from the capacity building on the care of survivors of gender-based violence. (ABP)

Call for the farmers to change the mentalities and behaviors for applying the good agricultural practices



On Tuesday April 23, 2024, Burundian farmers have been called upon to redouble their efforts to put into practice good agricultural practices such as the protection of arable land, respect for the agricultural calendar, the use of the selected seeds and the use of the fertilizers in with a view to increasing production and supporting the development of the country., Mr Georges Nimubona, the Advisor to the Permanent

Secretariat of the Ministry of the Environment, Livestock, Agriculture, reminded that the agricultural sector is of great importance to the Burundian economy where it contributes 39.6% to GDP, offers 84% of jobs, provides 95% of the food supply and constitutes the main supplier of raw materials to the agricultural industry. He pointed out that the agricultural sector has many assets to conquer the market share of the products in the export sector, thus generating the foreign exchange earnings and providing a response to the Burundian nutritional challenge. That is why all the Burundians can use their resources in the agricultural sector, with a view to achieving the country's vision “Burundi, an emerging country in 2040 and developed in 2060.”

According to the Director General of the Burundi Development Agency (ADB) Dr Révérien Nizigiyimana, the agricultural sector will be modern if the investors in that sector work together. For example, the rice cultivation is more productive in the Imbo region while the

potatoes are the most productive in the Mugamba region. That is the only way of moving towards development, with a view of increasing the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) through that agricultural sector. To that end, the Director General of the Burundi Development Agency (ADB) recommended to the Ministry in charge of agriculture to collaborate with the provincial governors and private investors with a view to promoting investments and creating jobs, in order to contribute significantly to the development of the country. "Once we have improved productivity for each province, it will help us fighting poverty in our country," he explained. The multiplier of selected seeds, Mr. Jean Mutabazi from

Kirundo province, Bwambarangwe commune, Bugorora zone, indicated that the only way to increase the production is for all the farmers to be made aware of the use of selected seeds from the Institute of Agronomic Sciences of Burundi (ISABU). Mr Mutabazi called on the Burundian farmers to change their mentalities by using selected seeds, to exploit available land, to adopt modern agricultural techniques in order to combat the famine in our country and to support the national vision.

To the monitors and agronomists, he called them to be the models for the population in agro-pastoral activities. (ABP)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation

Department of Communication

www.mae.gov.bi

Twitter: @MAEBurundi