



President Evariste Ndayishimiye took part in the 21st International Development Association (IDA) Summit



On Tuesday April 30, 2024 the Head of State His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, returned after a successful working mission to Kenya where he participated in the 21st International Development Association (IDA) Summit and led the fruitful consultations in supporting the Vision of Burundi emerging in 2040 and developed in 2060.

That Summit, which brought together the African Heads of State and Government, on Monday April 29, 2024 in Nairobi, the Kenyan capital, aimed to discuss the avenues to explore to the replenish funds for the development of Africa through the IDA.

It was an opportunity for the African leaders to set the priorities so that they could be taken into account in the next mobilization of sufficient financing for dealing with the impacts of climate change and the various conflicts affecting the countries, revealed Ms. Rosine Guilène Gatoni, Spokesperson for the President of the Republic.

“The Burundian Head of State has, for his part, taken up the challenge that the Burundian people have taken on to achieve emergence within 16 years,” she continued before adding that that was the opportunity to pre-

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sent to the development partners the priority projects put forward by the Government of Burundi and to make an evaluation in relation to the support of IDA 20 where Burundi recorded an increase in GDP of 2.8 percent.

“In addition, the portfolio granted to Burundi shows a disbursement rate which increased from 17.1 to 31.6 percent, which shows the significant progress and which places Burundi among the first countries to realize their development projects,” also reported the spokesperson for the President of the Republic.

During that Summit, the President of the Republic also pleaded in favor of support to deal with climate change, for the implementation of growth-enhancing projects and for improving the living conditions of the population.

Meetings between the African Leaders and the development partners were organized on the sidelines of that Summit in order to discuss the initiatives and projects likely the strengthening of the bilateral cooperation relations between the States.

Thus, the Burundian Number One met with the President of the World Bank Group, Ajay Banga, where they discussed the ways and means of boosting the partnership and cooperation between Burundi and the World Bank.

Furthermore, President Ndayishimiye met the investors of the AGAKAM Group. The latter expressed the wish to invest in Burundi, particularly in the hotel, health and digital sectors. **(Presidency)**

President Ndayishimiye supports the social dialogue in the workplace



The President of the Republic of Burundi His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, in the company of the First Lady and other High Dignitaries joined on Wednesday May1, 2024 at the Gatwaro stadium, the workers of the Kayanza province (North) in the celebration ceremonies of work and workers.

The day was marked by a long parade of different public, financial institutions and development cooperatives, scattered in the different communes of the Kayanza province.

In his welcoming remarks, the Governor of the Kayanza province Rémy Cishahayo informed his distinguished visitors on certain facts such as the satisfactory production of corn, their determination to promote the production of avocado, before deploring the state of affairs of OTB Rwegura.

The representative of the Burundi Trade Union Confederation (COSYBU in acronym) Célestin Nsavyimana, for his part, recounted the characteristics of a good worker and a good employer, before making his bitter observation on the current state of things in the two sides.

He further said the issues related to retirement, the problem of indexing salaries to the cost of living, the problem of travel, etc.

“Representatives of the unions should sit down together with technicians from the ministries to discuss such issues and thus adopt concerted measures,” said Mr. NSAVYIMANA.

The President of the employers' association also did not fail to positively appreciate the government's efforts in the labor sector. He nevertheless mentioned certain obstacles to good working conditions such as the lack of currency, electricity, fuel and the change in laws governing taxes.

“Social dialogue in the workplace should be encouraged. I thank COSYBU for its commitment to cooperate with a view to improving working conditions for better production,” said the Head of State His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye responding favorably to COSYBU's request to sit down together to be able to find solutions to the various difficulties encountered by workers in Burundi.

“The unions of Burundi should organize meetings not only for their self-evaluation but also to significantly make their contributions to the State” said President Ndayishimiye, insisting that all leaders have the duty to serve

the people. He congratulated producers and production cooperatives, before rewarding the best workers. It should be mentioned that the day's ceremo-

nies saw the participation of former Heads of State, Sylvestre Ntibantunganye and Domitien Ndayizeye, and former first ladies Laurence Ndadaye and Denise Nkurunziza. **(Presidency)**

Ngozi: The Head of State leads a government retreat



On Thursday May 2, 2024, the Head of State His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye led a government retreat in Mwumba commune of Ngozi province. Objective: internalize the roadmap of the vision of Burundi, an emerging country in 2040 and a developed country in 2060. According to the Spokesperson for the Head of State Rosine Guilene Gatoni, the image of the 2040-2060 vision is already there. She indicated that the Government still has 16 years to realize

that vision.

Discussions at that government retreat focused on the role and responsibility of government and when it should act. The discussions also led to questions about the performance indicators for each stage reached and in each sector.

The Head of State Evariste Ndayishimiye took the opportunity to emphasize that achieving the vision is a path of no return. He made it known that everyone must take responsibility and will be evaluated according to the performances that were set during that retreat. That challenge for Burundi to emerge in 2040 and develop in 2060 requires the support of the public and private sector, civil society and the population, he said.

The President of the Republic of Burundia also called on all the sectors to inform and organize themselves in order to meet their duty in relation to the key sectoral indicators, so that no one delays the machine already in motion, for achieving the 2040-2060 vision. That vision will inspire all the subsequent programs of the road map and budgetary laws in the future, concluded the Head of State. **(RTNB)**

The country records a loss of more than 40 million dollars per year in the sale of coffee



On Friday May 3, 2024, the President of the Republic of Burundi His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye met, at the Ruhuka hotel in Buye in the province of Ngozi, all the stakeholders in the coffee sector to revitalize that sector, the primary source of foreign currency in Burundi.

In his presentation, the Minister of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock, Mr Prosper Dodiko indicated that the coffee production chain from the nursery to the international market, is experiencing challenges that must be addressed to revitalize the coffee sector. He cited, among other things, high-profit loans, commission agents, fraud and poor trading on the international market.

After the presentation by Minister Prosper Dodiko, the Commission of the Presidency of the Republic in charge of monitoring and evaluation of the coffee sector spoke of the problems that that sector is undergoing, in particular the loss of 47.6 million dollars following the poor negotiation on the International market.

The Ad hoc Commission conveyed a series of recommendations to revitalize the coffee sector, in particular

the reduction of collection centers to avoid fraud, give up buying cherry coffee by the individuals, the municipality. Forbid mingling the cherry coffee to another, unless the latter does not have a canvassing factory.

The Presidency Commission in charge of monitoring and evaluation of the coffee sector also recommends a curfew on the circulation of coffee, and, to the Coffee Development Office (ODECA) to give the exact quantity of coffee not yet sold within one week, for canvassing and pulping factories to provide exact data to ODECA to know national production.

It was recommended to the Directorate in charge of plantations at ODECA to fertilize and spray them on time, to safeguard quality and increase coffee production. The Director General of ODECA no longer has the right to grant the sales contract alone, without the counter signature of the unit in charge of coffee marketing.

According to the President of the Republic, it is deplorable that the country loses more than 40 million USD annually due to the "shenanigans of those involved in thAT sector", pointing the finger at ODECA.

He also deplores the presence of multiple intermediaries: "It is incomprehensible that coffee from Burundi is sold at 3.6 USD per kg while that of other countries in the region is sold between 7 and 8 USD."

The President of the Republic H.E Evariste Nday-

ishimiye, for his part, recommended to the Ad hoc Commission of the Presidency to make this year a model year. That commission will be responsible for control and monitoring-evaluation and will provide a report each month.

He also instructed the State General Inspectorate (IGE) to conduct an investigation into the irregularities observed at ODECABDI, in order to transmit the file to the authorities authorized for monitoring.

The Head of State Evariste Ndayishimiye requested the establishment of committees responsible for monitoring the coffee sector, from the hill to the province. The committees monthly reports to be transmitted to the ad hoc Commission of the Presidency of the Republic.

The Head of State asks commercial banks to finance the coffee production chain to allow the country to have foreign currency. He recommends that factory managers develop the value chain of the coffee sector, to resolve the problem of fraud, production and inputs. The Head of State asked stakeholders in the coffee sector to redouble their efforts in increasing coffee production and in the fight against fraud. They are also invited to contribute to market negotiation, in order to increase revenues from that sector and thus coffee farmers will have added value. (RTNB)

Celebration of the Labor and Workers' Day, 2024 edition



“Let’s work more so that everyone evaluates what they have accomplished” is the national theme of the International Labor Day, celebrated on May 1, 2024.

In Gitega province, the ceremonies took place at the Ingoma stadium and were under the leadership of the Right Honorable Gélase Daniel Ndabirabe, President of the National Assembly. They were marked by a long

parade of the employees from the different socio-professional sectors working in that province.

The Representative of the workers' unions in Gitega congratulated the Government of Burundi for the 2040-2060 vision. According to him, to achieve the latter, it is necessary to strictly respect the law, raise awareness among the population about regular attendance at work while promoting dialogue. And to present the challenges facing workers, in this case the cost of living, the retirement age which should be set at 65, the dialogue between the employees and employers which is not always highlighted when making certain decisions, the floods leading to the displacement of the workers and their families, etc. And to conclude that the Government should spare no effort to answer the questions asked.

The employers' representative, for her part, praised the Government's efforts in implementing the new salary policy. And to plead that that be applied in the private sector. However, he stressed that the improvements in

other key sectors of the country's life are necessary, citing access to electricity, the shortage of fuel and foreign currency, low internet speed, the fight against corruption and fraud, etc.

In his speech, the President of the National Assembly the Right Honorable Gélase Daniel Ndirakobuca first wished an excellent labor and workers' day to the entire population of Gitega. He then presented the speech sent by His Excellency the President of the Republic. While highlighting the Government's efforts to increase the production, that speech also

places a particular emphasis on diligence at work and raises awareness among the intellectuals to focus on agriculture and livestock breeding. He also encourages that category of people to enter the private sector and work taking into account the 2040-2060 vision. In that speech to the nation, concerning the new policy of salary regularization of civil servants and care of retirees, the President of the Republic gave a deadline of one week to finalize the ad hoc technical work, in order to allow the Government to implement it. **(National Assembly)**

Gitega: basic schools refine preparations for the 9th grade competition



The preparations for the 9th grade competition in the basic schools of the political capital Gitega are going well. That is the observation made by the teams of the National Radio of Burundi during their visit to different basic schools in the town of Gitega on Friday May 3, 2024.

At the Saint Paul VI fundamental school, the Director of that sister school Emmanuela Nshimirimana indicated that the 9th year programs have been completed and that the teaching manuals are available in sufficient quantity. She added that the students are doing the revision with the help of their teachers.

The students and teachers were at work revising using standard tests from previous years.

However, the prefect of studies at Lycée Gitega Ndorero Jean Marie Ted noted a challenge facing the 9th grade class, namely a glaring lack of educational manuals. He suggested in fact that the class only has 23 student books for 72 students enrolled.

At the Stade basic school, the responsible teacher Karibwami Marie Claire also indicated that the programs have been completed and that the students were practicing with the training tests and the school does not have any textbook problem.

The managers of the different establishments visited highlighted a shared challenge, linked to the organization of the science and technology course which includes 5 disciplines and which is assigned to a single professor. However, according to these officials, a teacher cannot be qualified in everything.

Another challenge noted by those in charge of the different basic schools is that students believe that the 9th grade competition is not difficult and that the mark required to pass this competition is not very high. Thus, these officials explain, students no longer make any effort to assimilate the material taught in class.

The heads of basic schools recommend that the authorized bodies take into account both the points obtained in class and the results of the national competition for the 9th year, so that the winners can be qualified. "Thus, students could make more effort and increase the level of understanding of the subject taught," insisted these officials.

It is worth remembering that the national competition for the 9th year is scheduled for the month of May but the date has not yet been specified. **(RTNB)**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation

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