



The Burundian Head of State encourages the citizen development initiatives



On Monday May 13, 2024, the President of the Republic of Burundi His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye visited the Gihanga commune in Bubanza Province in order to encourage and support the population who contribute to the development of the country through the livestock farming.

The Burundian Number One first went to Gihungwe locality where he visited the farm run by a private entrepreneur invested in rabbit farming. Didier Nizigiyimana testifies to having started this activity in December 2023 with 45 rabbits and that he currently has 231 rabbits.

In addition to the rabbit farming, he also raises poultry (turkeys, turkeys, ducks) and goats and aims at creating a breeding center for the multiplication of the rabbits in the Imbo region.

In the same commune, the Head of State then visited the Uburimyi n'Ubworozi Family Association, UBFA, led

by Mr Yaramba Liévin Justin who is involved in pig breeding on Rumotomoto locality. Created in April 2021, that association now has 1,680 pigs obtained from 13 and plans to launch into the export of pork products.

Addressing the residents of Gihanga, the President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye urged them to roll up their sleeves in order to work for the achievement of the emerging country in 2040 and developed in 2060 while remaining united for peace and security.

Faced with the global problem linked to climate change, the President of the Republic recommended that they plant at least 10 fruit trees per household without forgetting to create the gutters in order to prevent flooding.

The Burundian President also reiterate his commitment as Father of the Nation and the Head of the Government that he will spare no effort to improve the living conditions of the population through the establishment of the roads and other infrastructure necessary for the development of the population.

"I also learned that that locality is not supplied with drinking water; and I promise you that a drinking water supply will be installed within 1 month", promised President Ndayishimiye who

In this Edition:

page

The Burundian Head of State encourages the citizen development initiatives

1

The Burundian President salutes the work of the police

2

Opening by President Ndayishimiye of the 2023-2024 academic year at ISCAM

2

President Ndayishimiye leads a moralization session for the defense force of the 3rd Military Division

3

The Burundian Head of State and Commander-in-Chief of the Defense and Security Forces held a moralization session for the security forces

3

Respect for institutions, an imperative to consolidate the democracy (Georges Nshimirimana)

4

Great untapped tourism potential in Kabezi commune

5

Media Release N°006/2024 Consecutive to the Cabinet Meeting held on wednesday 08 May 2024

6

recalled that each hill must have pure water as stipulated in the priority projects and programs of the govern-

ment of Burundi. **(Presidency)**

The Burundian President appreciates the work of the police



On May 13, 2024, during a quarterly evaluation meeting held in Cibitoke province with the officials of the National Police in the western region, the Head of State His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye positively evaluated the work carried out by the national police for ensuring order and security of the country and its inhabitants so that they continue going about their daily business.

“We congratulate you for the step taken by our country, you are accomplishing your task well because the crim-

inals have been apprehended” indicated the Burundian Number One before inviting them to discuss in detail the security situation which prevails in their respective localities in the objective of deciding on strategies for future prospects.

That was followed by a session presenting the security situation by the provincial commissioners of the western region bringing together the Town locality in Bujumbura, Cibitoke province and Bubanza, then by the Regional Commissioner, then the Inspector General and finally by the Minister responsible for the security situation public security in its responsibilities.

That meeting was closed by the wise advice from the President of the Republic and Supreme Commander of the Security Forces with the aim of encouraging those responsible in strengthening the vigilance with a view to curbing and especially annihilating those are disrupting the public order. **(Presidency)**

Opening by President Ndayishimiye of the 2023-2024 academic year at ISCAM



On Thursday May 15, 2024, the President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye proceeded to the solemn opening of the 2023-2024 academic year at the Higher Institute of Military Executives (ISCAM) under the theme “ISCAM, Guarantor of preservation of the historical values of the Burundian military elite, of bravery in the defense of the homeland.

Those ceremonies were marked by the final incorporation of more than 170 officer laureates of the 53rd promotion of ISCAM, the handover between the 49th and 50th promotions of ISCAM and the presentation of diplomas to around 80 laureates of the 20th promotion of Officer Refresher Courses.

The commander of the Higher Institute of Military Executives (ISCAM), Col. Gérard Bimenyimana indicated that that military institute of Higher Education has two faculties, namely the faculty of economic sciences which includes the political economy, the administration and the management as well as the rural economy and the faculty of sciences which includes the civil and environmental engineering, information and telecommunications technologies (ICT) and mechanical engineering.

He expressed satisfaction with the results of the achievements recorded during the 2022-2023 academic year, before taking up the challenges facing the Higher Institute of Military Executives, among other things the infrastructure for the physical conditioning of officer candidates and the absence of a virtual library.

After receiving the request from the winners, the Supreme Commander of the armed forces, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye called on them to follow the model of the country's martyrs including the famous Bihome in their vocation in order to protect their homeland.

"You must aim very far, adjust to the times and always be on the lookout of defending the nation in order to live an Emerging Burundi in 2040 and De-

veloped in 2060," the Head of State told them, while clarifying that the terrorist enemy or supported by Rwanda seeks to pass through the non-vigilant eye of the force.

The Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Prime Niyongabo and the Burundian Minister responsible for the National Defense, Ir Alain Tribert Mutabazi, in turn, provided advice to the officers of the National Defense Force (FDN), while discouraging certain personal ambitions. **(Presidency)**

President Ndayishimiye leads a moralization session for the defense force of the 3rd Military Division



On Thursday May 16, 2024, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye President of the Republic and Commander-in-Chief of the Defense and Security Forces led a moralization

session for the soldiers of the Third Military Division in the Province of Kirundo where he called them to the patriotic awakening.

That meeting aimed to assessing the security situation and discussing on the strategies to use for continuing to ensure the territorial integrity.

The Head of State congratulated them on the security stability throughout the national territory and also on their bravery that they demonstrate when they are on peacekeeping missions outside the country. It was also an opportunity to encourage them further.

That exchange session also forged hope for the strengthening of collaboration between the army and the population to act in synergy in order to ensure the territorial integrity. **(Presidency)**

The Burundian Head of State and Commander-in-Chief of the Defense and Security Forces held a moralization session for the security forces

On Thursday May 16, 2024, the Head of State and Commander-in-Chief of the Defense and Security Forces His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye also met in Kirundo, the heads of the Security Forces in the Northern region for a moralization session and assessment of the security situation.

That meeting is part of the tour that the Commander in Chief of Defense and Security began on the national territory in order to meet the Defense and Security forces for discussions with a view of inquir-



ing about the state of play of the security situation in

their respective regions.

During that meeting, it was demonstrated that the security situation is very positive, which gave the Burundian Head of State the opportunity to congratulate the security forces in the northern region. It was also an opportunity to encourage them further, to continue, to strengthen their vigilance because if today peace and security reign throughout the national territory, it is not because the enemy is dozing but it is because they are vigilant, indicated Ms. Rosine GATONI, Spokesperson for the President of the Republic at the end of this meet-

ing. He also encouraged them to pay more attention to the economic security by supporting all the measures that are being taken by the Government in order to boost the Burundi's economy by fighting against the possible theft and fraud but by ensuring that the population can carry out those daily activities in complete safety.

He also encouraged them to be the models by warning that nothing can delay the wheel which is moving towards Burundi emerging in 2040 and developed in 2060. **(Presidency)**

Respect for institutions, an imperative to consolidate the democracy



The president of the SAHWANYA FRODEBU party in Gitega province Mr Daniel Manirakiza also says he is against the institutional coups and advocates the ballot box route. He calls on the members of his political party and especially the young people, to live peacefully with their neighbors and not to listen to the detractors.

Compared to the attempt to overthrow the institutions in 2015, Mrs Irakoze Claire Dorine, a lady met in the town of Gitega, indicated that anyone who attempted such a coup again would be everyone's target. According to her, the tragedy

On Monday May 13, 2024, nine years after the attempt to overthrow institutions by certain malicious minds, politicians and citizens of the political capital Gitega who spoke to the editorial staff of "Radiotélévision National du Burundi (RTNB)", said they have drawn the lessons from those events and affirm that they are very vigilant to preserve peace and security.

For Mr Georges Nshimirimana, the Secretary of the National Council for the Defense of Democracy-Forces for the Defense of Democracy (CNDD-FDD) party in Gitega province, the lessons to be learned from the events of 2015 are that insurrections set back democracy, lead to losses and hinder the development of the country. He took this opportunity to invite Burundian citizens to respect the verdict of the ballot boxes and the country's institutions.

of 2015 kept the Burundians distracted and caused the economy of the households and the country to regress.

In that period which approaches the elections, the Secretary of the National Council for the Defense of Democracy – Forces for the Defense of Democracy (CNDD-FDD) in the province of Gitega urges the citizens of his constituency, especially the young people, to never give in to the solicitation of certain malicious minds who could incite them to destabilize institutions. Instead, he invites them to quietly get on with development work.

The same story with Mr Minani Innocent, a motorcycle taxi driver from the town of Gitega; he wants peaceful elections and asks the young people to avoid being exploited by the politicians but rather, to quietly prepare their future. **(RTNB)**

Great untapped tourism potential in Kabezi commune



Burundi has places that could be good tourist sites, if they were developed. That is the case of the place commonly called Ku Kayange, located in Kabezi commune (west) which could generate the funds for the commune due to its location, located on the shores of Lake Tanganyika, along the national road number 3, Bujumbura-Nyanza-Lac. At the entrance to that site, we see the beautiful herbs (akayange) and thermal water wells, noted the Burundian Press Agency (ABP) on Monday May 13, 2024.

Apart from the tourist site on the Livingstone and Stanley stone operated by the General Directorate of Tourism, Ku Kayange is another site, located not far from there, which is not highlighted while the thermal waters are therapeutic and can attract many people especially since the Kabezi commune is close to the economic capital Bujumbura, and easy access.

Aloys Mushatsi, a 72-year-old manufacturer of mats made from Akayange, testified that the years ago, the white people came to contemplate that nature, but that currently, very few people frequent that un-

developed place. A source close to the Kabezi commune affirmed that that site, once developed, would contribute to the increasing municipal revenues and added that there is a project to develop the site in the near future. It should also be noted that the communes of Isare and Mubimbi have thermal waters which can attract the visitors. **(ABP)**

REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI

PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC
Secretariat-General of the State

**MEDIA RELEASE N°006/2024 CONSECUTIVE TO THE CABINET
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 08 MAY 2024**

A Cabinet meeting was held in Bujumbura on Wednesday 08th of May 2024, under the chairmanship of His Excellency Major General Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE, President of the Republic of Burundi.

After the presentation and adoption of the agenda, His Excellency the President of the Republic invited the Minister of Interior, Community Development and Public Security to present, on behalf of the Prime Minister on mission abroad, to present the summary of the observations resulting from the preparatory meetings of the Council of Ministers which the Prime Minister chaired respectively on the 29th April and 3rd May 2024 and which were devoted to the preliminary analysis of the same files on the agenda.

The following items were analyzed:

1. Draft organic law revising organic law n°1/20 of August 3, 2019 relating to the organization and functioning of the Constitutional Court as well as its appeals' procedure, presented by the Minister of Justice.

Even though the law governing the Constitutional Court is recent, it has gaps that must be filled in order to enable its optimal functioning.

Among the gaps identified, it is worth mentioning:

- Provisions which are in contradiction with the Electoral Code regarding the deadlines for appeals in electoral matters which it is necessary to harmonize.
- The law governing the Constitutional Court provides for the procedures applicable before it but fails to mention the aspects relating to its jurisdiction as specified in the Constitution. These aspects are integrated into this project.



REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI**PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC
Secretariat-General of the State**

After analysis, the project was adopted with some corrections.

2. Information note on additional financing for the MERANKABANDI Productive Social Safety Nets and Employment Support Project, presented by the Minister of National Solidarity, Social Affairs, Human Rights and Gender.

The Merankabandi Project, implemented since April 22, 2022, is a cash transfer program accompanied by complementary activities intended for the most vulnerable rural households.

In order to contribute to achieving the objectives of the vision of Burundi as an emerging country by 2040 and a developed country by 2060, the Government of Burundi has requested additional funding from the International Development Association in an amount equivalent to 50 million US dollars. in order to respond to the current urgent situation generated by climatic disruptions and economic difficulties. The duration of the Merankabandi Project is extended by one year, until December 31, 2027.

After exchange and debate, the Council of Ministers approved this financing with the following recommendations:

- 1° Strengthen transparency in the identification of beneficiaries;
- 2° Place an emphasis on capacity building for those who have capital but cannot grow it;
- 3° Strengthen the mechanisms put in place for the proper management of funds;
- 4° Ensure that the currency transferred constitutes capital for the sustainability of the Project after its closure.

3. Draft decree authorizing the State of Burundi to participate in the share capital of the mixed company Impulse, Guarantee and Support Fund (FIGA sm), presented by the Minister of Finance, Budget and Economic Planning.

The draft decree authorizing the State of Burundi to participate in the capital of the FIGA mixed company is proposed as part of the implementation of the FIGA reform,



REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI



PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC Secretariat-General of the State

to migrate from a Public Establishment to a Mixed Company. After inventory, the value of the assets of FIGA, Personalized State Administration, is estimated at sixteen billion two hundred and thirty-eight million four hundred and forty thousand two hundred and thirty-two Burundi Francs (BIF 16,238,440,232). It is this amount which will constitute the minimum share capital of the State in the FIGA joint company.

After analysis, the draft decree was adopted with, among other things, a recommendation to specify the State's contribution after determining the share capital of the Company.

4. Draft decree establishing the scope, structure and operation of the Treasury Single Account, presented by the Minister of Finance, Budget and Economic Planning.

As part of public finance reform, Burundi is committed to implementing better management of its cash flow through the creation of a system called the Single Treasury Account.

The purpose of this decree is to establish the fundamental rules relating to the consolidation of the State treasury. It defines the scope, structure and operating methods of the single treasury account, in order to promote optimal management of the State treasury.

At the end of the analysis, the Council of Ministers adopted it with, among other recommendations, indicating the budgetary heading to be allocated each time it involves paying for an activity that has been carried out.

5. Draft decree setting the timetable for the preparation of finance bills, presented by the Minister of Finance, Budget and Economic Planning.

This draft decree is part of the updating of the implementing texts of the organic law relating to Public Finances of 2022, in order to implement the current results-based management reforms aimed at the passage of the budget resources to the budget in program mode.



REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI



PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC Secretariat-General of the State

This new decree highlights the main actors and the different stages of the budget preparation process and establishes the order of carrying out the main related activities.

After exchange and debate, the project was adopted.

6. Draft decree amending decree no. 100/106 of June 17, 2008 establishing a framework for dialogue and consultation for a public and private sector partnership, presented by the Minister of Commerce, Transport, Industry and Tourism.

The Dialogue and Consultation Framework for a public and private sector partnership was created by Decree No. 100/106 of June 17, 2008. Compared to this current decree, the main innovations brought by this project are as follows:

- The National Public-Private Dialogue Framework which was placed under the Second Vice-President of the Republic, a position which no longer exists, is placed under the supervision of the Ministry of Commerce, Transport, Industry and Tourism;
- A new name for certain bodies of the Dialogue Framework, namely the General Assembly which becomes "National Dialogue Committee" and the Coordination Office which becomes "Dialogue Steering Committee" to harmonize the name of these bodies with the nature of their respective missions.
- The Permanent Secretariat is reinforced by two executives representing respectively the public sector and the private sector in addition to the two senior executives who assisted the Permanent Secretary.

After analysis, the draft decree was adopted with some adjustments.

7. Information note on the preliminary designs for the reconstruction of the former central market of Bujumbura, presented by the Minister of Infrastructure, Equipment and Social Housing.

The old central market of Bujumbura was inaugurated in 1994 and a fire destroyed it at dawn on January 27, 2013. The revised National Development Plan (PND) 2018-2027 provides for the reconstruction of this infrastructure, which is so crucial for the economy of the country.



REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI



PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC Secretariat-General of the State

The note proposes two variants, the first consisting of the construction of a complex including, in particular, a Shopping Mall, a Conference Facility for three thousand people, a 5-star Hotel, while the second consisting of the construction of a subdivided complex in 5 blocks of buildings and a 30-level tower including more than 3,000 stores, supermarkets and boutiques, a conference room for more or less 1,000 people, a 5-star hotel, etc.

After analyzing the note, the Council of Ministers appreciated the work that was carried out and made the following observations:

- Make a model of three towers in the image of the stars of the national flag and prepare it for analysis at the Council of Ministers within three months;
- Remove the rubble from the site so that it is an open area while recovering the materials found there;
- Look for a specialized house and the means to carry out the preliminary studies necessary for this reconstruction.

8. Draft ministerial order establishing the conditions for carrying out real estate development activity in the private sector in Burundi, presented by the Minister of Infrastructure, Equipment and Social Housing.

Burundi's planning tools place particular emphasis on social housing and the development of decent housing accessible to low-income Burundian citizens, and require the commitment of those responsible as well as the combined efforts of various stakeholders.

The Town Planning, Housing and Construction Code authorizes private real estate developers to carry out town planning operations. Real estate developers continue to demonstrate their desire to invest in the real estate sector and certain banks are also showing their interest and the Government encourages this type of initiative.

This draft order is proposed so that real estate development initiatives can find an adequate framework allowing their materialization. After exchange and debate, the Council of Ministers recommended that this project be analyzed alongside the text



REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI

PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC
Secretariat-General of the State

creating the Authority for the Regulation and Control of Real Estate Transactions in the next Cabinet Meeting.

9. Draft decree revising decree n°100/064 of May 8, 2020 establishing the National Reference Center for Physiotherapy and Medical Rehabilitation into a personalized administration of the State, presented by the Minister of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS.

The National Reference Center in Physiotherapy and Medical Rehabilitation was established in 2015. Subsequently, the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research undertook the process of revising the decree establishing the Center in order to place it under its supervision, taking into account one of its missions in relation to diploma training.

The new decree organizing the Ministry of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS has placed the National Reference Center in Physiotherapy and Medical Rehabilitation under the supervision of this Ministry. This draft decree complies with this decree organizing the Ministry.

At the end of the analysis, the project was adopted with, among other recommendations, making this Center a public establishment of an administrative nature to enable its proper functioning.

10. Memorandum of Understanding for the Optical Fiber Interconnection Project between the Democratic Republic of Congo and BURUNDI, presented by the Minister of Communication, Information Technologies and Media.

The Fiber Optic Interconnection project between the Democratic Republic of Congo and Burundi is a joint initiative aimed at improving digital connectivity in the region. In view of the growing demand for broadband, this project aims to establish fiber optic links between the two countries, thus providing increased access to advanced communications services for institutions, businesses and citizens.



REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI**PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC
Secretariat-General of the State**

After exchange and debate, the Memorandum was adopted.

11. Note on the certification of Burundian coffee in relation to European Union regulations against deforestation, presented by the Minister of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock.

From June 2024, the European Union will implement new regulations aimed at preventing companies from placing products linked to deforestation and forest degradation on its market. Coffee is one of the products affected by this conditionality. This regulation imposes on operators the obligation to obtain the geolocation coordinates from which these products were harvested as well as the date or period of their production, in order to ensure that it has not led to deforestation. The regulation affects plantations dating after December 31, 2020.

The Government of Burundi would like to establish a partnership with an NGO called Enveritas which would take care of the geolocation work of the Burundian coffee orchard and would award the ad hoc certificate of non-deforestation so that Burundian coffee continues to access the European market.

The Council of Ministers gave its approval for the process to continue.

12. Any Other Business

The Council of Ministers discussed the issue of civil servants' retirement pensions. It was noted that the delay in implementing the Head of State's promise to increase this pension is due to biased calculations at the level of social security institutions.

A team will be set up to calculate all the detailed monthly income of these institutions as well as monthly expenses, in order to know the State's share as a subsidy.

Done at Bujumbura, 09 May 2024

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