



The Burundian President reassures the population regarding the market for the sale of production



On Monday May 20, 2024, during a visit to Cendajuru commune in Cankuzo Province, the Head of State His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye reaffirmed the commitment of the Government of Burundi to ensure the flow of food products in the event of overproduction.

The President of the Republic of Burundi spoke on that issue at a time when the Cendajuru commune recorded high maize production during Cul-

tural Season B and said it was facing the problem of lack of a sales market. He guaranteed that the Government takes care of the conservation of the harvest through the National Agency for Stock Management and Food Security, ANAGESSA, and that it plans to move on to agro-food processing and export of products in the event of of necessity.

“It is not forbidden to sell your production, but we sell the surplus” insisted the Burundian Number One, criticizing

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the behavior of certain Burundians who sell their crops and find themselves with nothing to eat.

The Head of State also recalled that the enemy of Burundians remains poverty and that they must work hard to ensure the development of families with a view to the vision of Burundi as an emerging country in 2040 and developed in 2060.

"When you don't learn to work at a young age, you won't be able to when you grow up," said the Burundian Number One who encourages young people to prioritize studies while introducing themselves to agro-pastoral

activities. .

The President of the Republic pointed out to the inhabitants of Cankuzo that development is not possible without peace and tranquility. He urged them to safeguard peace and security while remaining united against ethnic discrimination.

At the start of the dry season, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye took this opportunity to call on the population of Cendajuru to develop vegetable gardens in order to always have vegetables in their daily meals. **(Presidency)**

Awareness campaign on reproductive sexual health



On Thursday May 23, 2024, the First Lady Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye continued the awareness campaign at the Maranata high school at Kivoga in Mutimbuze commune, in schools on sexual and reproductive health, the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) AIDS and nutrition for the year 2023-2024.

That campaign was launched by the First Lady Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye with the aim of "zero pregnancies in schools". Mr Helmenegilde Burikukiye, the Assistant to the Minister of Education indicated that to begin those awareness campaigns, the First Lady

Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye based that on the published figures of unwanted pregnancies at the national level, where in 2021, 379 students out of 336,228 dropped out of school following unwanted pregnancies.

Students were recommended to listen carefully and put into practice the advice of parents and educators, to avoid the gifts offered by the men and other kinds of deception that mislead them and to follow their studies carefully. It was noted that in the event of pregnancy in the girl, the latter encounters many difficulties among others: dropping out of school, poor family treatment, stigmatization by those around her, difficult care for the child. Child, etc.

During the lessons given to those young students on the sexual and reproductive health, HIV AIDS and nutrition, it was proven that among the factors favoring HIV AIDS infection include, among other things, the low level of knowledge of HIV, early sexual intercourse, etc.

On behalf of the students who attend the Maranata high school at Kivoga in Mutimbuze commune, Rukiza Bonfils welcomed the lessons received from the First Lady Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye and thanked her warmly. He said he will always advise the young girls to avoid the early sexual relations. **(RTNB)**

The Burundian Senate adopts a bill amending the law governing the press

On Tuesday May 21, 2024, the Burundian Senate analyzed for adoption, a bill amending Law No. 1/19 of 9/14/2018 amending Law No. 1/15 of May 9, 2015 governing the press in Burundi.

In her explanatory statement, the Minister of Communication, Information Technologies and Media Madame Léocadie Ndacayisaba indicated that the media landscape has evolved and that the legislator should take

that into account.

According to the Minister, with the multiplicity of media, it is also essential to reconcile the principle of press freedom with the professionally responsible attitude of the media. The main innovations brought by the bill which will govern the press are in particular the taking into account of developments, an expansion of the rights and duties of journalists and press organs, the partial decriminalization of press offenses, and a better classification on the place



of cinema and advertising in relation to the media. Responding to the senators' question about the gaps observed in the law that currently governs the press in Burundi, Minister Léocadie Ndacayisaba indicated that the 2018 law does not take into account the evolution of the media landscape as emergence of online media and community radios. She also clarified that the 2018 law does not sufficiently enshrine the rights and obligations of the journalists and press organizations, particularly in terms of employment contracts and remuneration.

He added that the current law governing the press does not consider the dissemination of information that violates privacy, the presumption of innocence and the identity of victims of sexual violence as press offenses. In that bill, article 22 stipulates that any press organ must have a publishing director aged at least 18 years. Asked whether a person aged 18 is sufficiently mature to be a publishing director, the minister replied that the age of 18 is the age of majority to conclude acts creating rights and obligations.

Article 79 of the bill which will govern the press in Burundi provides a list of offenses which will be punished by a fine varying between 500 thousand and one million five hundred thousand BIF. The Minister specifies on that subject that the objective is to prevent the light sanctions from leading to a trivialization of those offenses and consequently to repeat offenses. After the discussions and debates, the bill was unanimously adopted by the Senators. (RTNB)

The Ambassador designated of the Republic of Ireland to Burundi presents the figurative copies of his letters of credence



On Monday May 20, 2024, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation His Excellency Ambassador Albert Shingiro received in audience Her Excellency Madame Mary O Noeill, Ambassador-designate of the Republic of Ireland to Burundi with residence in Dar-Es- Salaam in Tanzania who had come to present figurative copies of his credentials. Minister Albert Shingiro congratulated Mrs. Mary O



Noeill on her new position. He wished him a good work and success in his duties in Burundi. Mrs Mary O Noeill was delighted with the welcome and promised to give her heart and soul to strengthening the bilateral relations between Burundi and the Republic of Ireland. The two High Personalities also discussed bilateral relations and ways and means to boost them. The Minister invited also him to the Diplomatic Week scheduled for the end of June 2024 and to the ceremonies com-



assistance consisted of the financing of spare parts for the production equipment, the technical assistance in peat-land prospecting and peat exploitation, training courses and short-term missions, the granting of the university scholarships. The National Peat Office (ONATOUR) resumed the contacts with the corresponding Irish company and a mission went to Dublin in 2009 to explore the conditions for resuming cooperation.

Ireland can also offer other expertise in various sectors. He was asked by Burundi to be an interlocutor with Mrs Mary Robinson, former President of Ireland and current Special Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations for the Great Lakes Region, so that beyond the theme of peace and security, it can address the

memorating the 62nd anniversary of national independence.

The Assassination in Burundi, on December 29, 2003, of the Apostolic Nuncio, Mgr Michael COURTNEY, Irish Citizen, painfully felt in Bujumbura as in Dublin, was a starting point for the establishment of diplomatic relations between Ireland and our country in April 2004.

The Multiple talks between the Burundian Government and the Irish Government were held to strengthen the bilateral relations between the two countries. It should be noted that before the 1993 crisis, Ireland had provided an assistance to the National Peat Office. That



development issues, in particular through the financing of cross-border projects which are solid links for strengthening peace and security. **(MFADC)**

The Ambassador designated of the Republic of Finland presented the figurative copies of his letters of credence



On Monday May 20, 2024, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation His Excellency Ambassador Albert Shingiro received in audience Her Excellency Madame Theresa Zitting, Ambassador-designate of the Republic of Finland to Burundi with residence in Dar-Es-Salaam in



Tanzania who had come to present the figurative copies of his credentials.

In their discussions, His Excellency Ambassador Albert



Shingiro congratulated Mrs Theresa Zitting for her new functions and wished her a good stay in Burundi. Mrs Theresa Zitting expressed her gratitude for having been appointed to her new role in Burundi and promised that she will spare no effort for strengthening forward the bilateral relations that exist between Burundi and the Republic of Finland. The two High Personalities also discussed the ways and means to make the bilateral relations that exist between the two countries more dynamic.

The Minister also invited him to the Diplomatic Week scheduled for the end of June 2024 and to the ceremonies commemorating the 62nd anniversary of national independence.

The friendship between Burundi and the Republic of Finland goes back a long time. They initiated a few projects in the 1980s which were carried out to the satisfaction of both parties even if some did not reach completion. Unfortunately, the crisis of October 1993 meant that the Finnish interventions in favor of Burundi were essentially oriented towards the humanitarian and emergency actions channeled through the United Nations system and humanitarian NGOs.

The Government of Burundi made the visits to the Republic of Finland in order to resume the contacts with the Finnish authorities and explore the new possibilities for renewing the bilateral cooperation

relations. Several high-level meetings were organized in particular with the Secretary of the State in charge of the environment, the Secretary of State in charge of social affairs and health, the Secretary of State in charge of economic affairs, the Secretary of State in charge of development cooperation, the Director General of Finnfund who was joined by some representatives of the private sector organizations and the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

At the end of those various interviews, it was noted that the Finland provided a support to Burundi through the regional and international organizations and within the



framework of the regional cooperation. In that context, the environment and energy offer the best possibilities for establishing sectors of cooperation between Burundi and Finland. Reforestation (with adapted species), protection of existing primary forests, protection of watersheds to prevent natural disasters like the one that struck certain northern districts of Bujumbura in February 2014, purification of the waters of Lake Tanganyika and protection of the water table are interesting the areas of cooperation between Burundi and Finland.

It should be noted that the Republic of Finland has the opportunities that Burundi should establish the friendship and business relations with that country in order to benefit from its experience, particularly in the field of promoting the Small and Medium Enterprises. Burundi could benefit from cooperating with Finland in the field of tourism and optimize the exploitation of its potential, Burundi could benefit from the experience and cooperation with Finland and promote its exploitation. (MFADC)

Gitega: The Minister of National Solidarity, Social Affairs, Human Rights and Gender distributes assistance to poor people

On Thursday May 23, 2024, the Minister of National Solidarity, Social Affairs, Human Rights and Gender Hon. Imelde Sabushimike distributed sheet metal to 40 households in the Gitega commune, poor households, victims violent rains which washed away their

homes.

Minister Imelde announced on that occasion that the State will support the efforts of all those who will work in line with the vision of Burundi, an emerging country in 2040 and a developed country in 2060, adding that no one must be left behind in that journey towards the



development. She asked everyone, including the poor, to make more efforts in developing themselves and the country.

After the distribution of the metal sheets to needy households, the Minister in charge of national solidarity visited an association of the albinos located in the Nyabisindu district in the town of Gitega, an association supported by the Ministry of National Solidarity, Social Affairs, Human Rights and Gender and which practices agriculture, raising pigs, rabbits, sewing and making soap. She granted that association 200kg of rice.

The Minister subsequently visited a cooperative of people living with disabilities called "Turwanye gusega" located in the Magarama district in the town of Gitega, a cooperative which does sewing and basketry. She encouraged the members of this cooperative and also gave them 200kg of rice. She also promised the two associations sewing the machines to support them in their initiatives to fight poverty. **(RTNB)**

Delivery of 30 ambulances to the Ministry of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS



On Tuesday May 21, 2024, the Minister of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS (MSPLS), Mrs Lyduine Baradahana received a donation of 30 ambulances offered by the World Bank as part of the management of Covid-19. Minister Baradahana indicated that among those 30 ambulances, 8 will be distributed to the district hospi-

tals, 21 to municipal hospitals and one ambulance to civil protection. The value of those ambulances is 2,500,000 USD.

She appealed to the officials of the municipal and district hospitals to educate the drivers in maintaining them properly, adding that it is forbidden to drink the drugs or alcohol when driving those vehicles.

Minister Baradahana also informed the population that those ambulances arrive during the period when cholera appears in certain neighborhoods precisely in Tenga and Bwiza in Bujumbura town hall. She indicated that that is an asset for the management of the epidemic, inviting the patients to take advantage of those ambulances, instead of using the public transport services such as taxis, buses, in order not to contaminate the others.

In the event of an emergency linked to cholera, the population can call the Red Cross numbers 109 and the protection number 113. **(ABP)**

Towards the modern agriculture related to the development of agro-industrial value chains



On Thursday May 23, 2024, the Ministry of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock in collaboration with the Platform for Agricultural Risk Management (PARM) carried out the restitution of the preliminary results of the study assessment of agricultural risks in Burundi, for the rice, corn and rabbit

sectors.

According to the Representative of the Platform for Agricultural Risk Management (PARM), Mr Jean Claude Bidogez, the prevalence and complexity of the multiple risks facing the agricultural systems continue to make the agricultural sector of many countries extremely vulnerable.

It is in that context that the countries of the Group of Twenty (G20) established the PARM in 2013, with the mission of providing the technical support to the Govern-

ments of the developing countries for the integration of the agricultural risk management, the agricultural insurance, the institutional capacities and the investments.

The Platform for Agricultural Risk Management (PARM) is therefore particularly well placed to help the developing countries identify areas in which the policy reforms and the targeted investments can be most effective in strengthening the resilience of the agricultural sector.

In Burundi, the PARM is carrying out the actions jointly with the Ministry of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock, after the Government of Burundi signed an aide-mémoire for the formalization of its participation in PARM2, translated then into a joint action plan.

As for the Minister's Assistant Mr Emanuel Ndorimana, the first phase of the PARM process made it possible to target corn, the rice and the rabbit as the three value chains on which to focus the risk assessment study. These value chains were chosen by the government of Burundi based on their place in food and nutritional security as well as in Burundian employment and the economy, their exposure to agricultural risks and their priority nature within agricultural policy national, programs implemented by the State and its technical and financial partners.

Through the new vision of the country, the Government's objective assigned to the agricultural sector is to establish the modern agriculture focused on the development of an agro-industrial value chains, contributing to the strengthening of the resilience of the

agro-pastoral households, while ensuring the country's food security.

According to the Assistant to the Minister of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock, there are five expectations from that workshop, namely: a consensual list of the main risks; tools and the instruments to mitigate those risks; the modalities for implementing the recommended solutions, including control of water management, the use of public-private partnership (PPP) and the establishment of an insurance and agricultural guarantee mechanism; the cost associated with those remedies; as well as a resource mobilization plan and the implementation schedule.

During that restitution, the experts showed certain risks of the rabbit industry, particularly related to health (viral, parasitic and bacterial diseases), the market (overproduction of meat, droppings, etc.), logistics (mortality during the transport, power cut, etc.) and access to financing.

The experts issued strategies to minimize agricultural risks, notably resilient and collective water management for the corn and rice sectors, hydro-agricultural development, collective management of water and the storage infrastructures, the watershed development, the evacuation of excess water, the protection of the soil with and the anti-erosion hedges. Concerning the rabbit industry, the strategies to be taken include training the national experts, the specialized veterinary service, the supervised importation of rabbits, the promotion of rabbit products, and the training of agricultural instructors. (RTNB)

Gitega: visit of the officers from the Nigerian Higher Command and Staff College



On Wednesday May 22, 2024, the Economic Empowerment and Youth Employment Program (PAEEJ) received a delegation of military officers from Nigeria, Ghana and Zambia visiting Burundi. Those officers attend the

Nigerian Command and Staff College.

The National Coordinator of the Youth Economic Empowerment and Employment Program (PAEEJ) Mr Désiré Manirakiza indicated that those soldiers visited the PAEEJ to see how it contributes to the improving the effectiveness of the African armed forces. He explained that the PAEEJ, a financing program for youth projects, has a link with the effectiveness of the armed forces because one of the classic missions of the army is the security of borders. For him, by financing youth projects, the PAEEJ contributes to limiting the emergence of internal conflicts.

The National Coordinator of PAEEJ is delighted with the visit of the delegation of those soldiers because the articles produced by the young people with funding from PAEEJ are starting to cross borders. He specified that those soldiers purchased quite a few products ex-

hibited during the visit. The National Coordinator of the Youth Economic Empowerment and Employment Program (PAEEJ) Mr Désiré Manirakiza encouraged the young people in increasing the visibility spaces for their products, by organizing the permanent exhibitions and

participating in the fairs organized in the sub-region region, without waiting for the intervention of the PAEEJ because, after funding, the young people becomes autonomous. (RTNB)

Gitega: the commando center hosts a 2023-2024 military championship



On Tuesday May 21, 2024, the military championship which closes the 2023-2024 instruction and training year was launched at the

Gitega commando center, under the theme: "Instruction and training in the National Defense Force of Burundi (FDNB). The ceremonies were chaired by the head of the national defense force General Prime Niyongabo.

In his remarks, the head of the national defense force of Burundi indicated that the objective of the military instructions and training organized each year is to develop cohesion within the defense Corps and prepare the soldiers to perform well the technically their combat mission.

According to General BdeTéphore Barandereka, in charge of education, training and operations, the best winners of that competition will represent Burundi in other regional and international competitions. (RTNB)

The provincial committee responsible for monitoring the fuel distribution is called upon to verify whether this activity is carried out in compliance with order



The irregularities observed in the distribution of fuel were judged to be a disruptive element of safety. This was said on Monday, May 20, 2024, by the provincial police commissioner in Rumonge, during a security meeting organized by the governor of the Rumonge province, Mr. Léonard Niyonsaba for the heads of provincial services. During this meeting, the provincial police commissioner in Rumonge province indicated that security is good throughout the province except that there are homeless households whose houses and fields have been flooded following the rise in violence. waters of Lake

Tanganyika.

Furthermore, he indicated, the irregularities observed in the distribution of fuel at the stations disrupt security among the population.

According to him, cases of fuel fraud are being observed between distributors and some consumers.

The heads of provincial services, the owners of transport vehicles and motorcycles are involved in these irregularities, as the provincial police commissioner in Rumonge announced. According to him, the fuel which should be served transparently is sold on the black market where a liter and a half of gasoline costs around 26,000 FBu.

It emerged from this meeting that the fuel sold on the black market comes from consumers who receive a large quantity from service stations while others receive not even a drop. They thus requested transparency and vigilance from the members of the provincial committee responsible for fuel distribution in order to avoid these irregularities which generate discontent among the population and hamper services.

The governor of the Rumonge province therefore asked the members of the provincial committee responsible for fuel distribution, each time to rely on order when distributing fuel.

In terms of the fight against fraud, the provincial commissioner reported that on May 13, 55 loin-cloths, 6 boxes of sachets and 60 packets of tobacco called chicata were seized by the police. The

driver of the bicycle taxi who transported these items was brought to justice. The police are chasing the owner who fled. **(ABP)**

Popularization of the insurance code in Burundi



On Tuesday May 21, 2024, the Insurance Regulation and Control Agency (ARCA) organized in Mwaro province (central-west of Burundi), a workshop to mobilize administrators and representatives of traders in insurance and the popularization of insurance. Burundi insurance code.

The delegate of the Insurance Regulation and Con-

trol Agency (ARCA) Mr Onésphore Nizigama, specified that the insurance of the operations of commercial buildings in terms of fire or explosion, transport of goods and importation were the highlights among others that were presented. He made it known that insurance is not a source of wealth, but a solution in the event of human or material damage. He called on administrators and traders to serve as examples in the mobilization and popularization of the Burundi insurance code.

That workshop was organized with the aim of helping the Burundian people to know compulsory insurance and the types of insurance, indicated, in a brief presentation, the Permanent Executive Secretary of the association of insurers, Mr Thacien Sibomana.

During the said workshop, various presentations were presented, in particular those on life and non-life insurance products, the insurance contract, and provisions of the insurance code relating to THE compensation procedures. **(ABP)**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
and
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