



**The Head of State animates a session of moralization for the representatives of the members of the African Ministry of Compassion (MAC)**



The President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye met, on november 3, 2022, in the premises of the National Institute for Public Health (INSP) and in a session of moralization, the religious denominations grouped within the African Ministry of Compassion (MAC) under the theme "to build Burundi on the word of God". The Head of State first congratulated the religious denominations for the step taken in the peaceful resolution of conflicts. "I no longer receive lamentations about religion conflict except for the Adventist Church of the Seventh-day," President Ndayishimiye said, clarifying that mecha-

nisms for choosing legal representation must be governed by Burundian law.

"Churches should serve more than politicians, through multifaceted support for youth," said President Ndayishimiye, calling on religious to awaken a sense of patriotism through the word of God.

The Head of State then urged various religious denominations to properly supervise various choirs under their authority in agro-pastoral associations in order to promote not only the development of churches but also that of families.

At the end of the exchanges, the steering committee of the African Ministry of Compassion released a press release in which the churches thank President Ndayishimiye for various decisions that lighten the lives of Christians and also expressed their grievances mainly concerning rental houses, travel documents, the lives of prisoners, and the protection of culture and mores.

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## Burundi is making a “notorious change” under the administration of HE the President of the Republic.



The President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye received in audience on november 3, 2022 a delegation from the World Bank led by the Director of Operations Mr. Albert Zeufack, who was accompanied by Mrs. Jumoke Jaguan-Dokunmu, Regional Director of the IFC (International Finance Corporation).

The World Bank delegation congratulated the Head of State for the success of the 1st Edition of the National Private Sector Forum and for his presence at the event, which testifies to the interest that the Highest Authority has in private sector development, said Director Zeufack.

This meeting offered an opportunity to present to the

President of the Republic the report of the main conclusions resulting from the last General Assemblies of the World Bank held in Washington during which Burundi was awarded an excellent rating.

“Burundi has been recognized for its “notorious change” and that has positioned us well in relation to our interventions”, underlined the Director of Operations before adding that this financial institution intends to invest in the digitalization of services as a priority and in the financing of infrastructure, in particular the construction of the Bujumbura-Gitega road.

While commending the commitment and determination of the World Bank to support Burundi, the Head of State, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye revealed to them the major reforms undertaken by the Government of Burundi to develop the agricultural sector in order to meet the employability challenges.

In addition, the Burundian Number One placed particular emphasis on digitization as the only solution to establish good governance in the country.

“We are convinced that it is the private sector that develops the country,” said President Ndayishimiye, who suggested that the support of Burundi’s partners is always welcome, especially through the sharing of experience and expertise with Burundian economic operators. ([www.presidency.bi](http://www.presidency.bi))

## Official launch of the 16th edition of the Light of Peace in the town hall of Bujumbura



On Wednesday November 2, 2022, the Head of State, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, in the company of His Spouse Angeline Ndayishimiye and other high authorities of the country, launched in the town hall of Bujumbura, the 16th edition of the Light of Peace, which will therefore

tour the country until November 12, 2022 under the

theme “serving Burundi well in the management of public affairs”.

“The Burundian people are now aware of the need to benefit from the dividends of peace”, declared President Ndayishimiye, before recalling the role played by the light in Olympic Games.

“The torch lit today will go around Burundi, with a large package to support development,” hammered the Burundian Number One, while placing particular emphasis on the protection of social infrastructure and natural resources.

He was pleased that colossal amounts have been recovered from the hands of fraudsters and / or cases of eco-

conomic and financial embezzlement and used in development projects, like one billion Burundian francs to rehabilitate the Intwari Stadium.

The Head of State promised to build a 10-storey building that will house the Light of Peace, which is still lit.

After blessing and wishing a good trip to the Intwarurumuri team, he promised them that different personalities will join them in this important journey in development. "We will try later to make a reorganization of the tour of the Light of Peace, to reach all the municipalities of the country", he concluded. ([www.presidency.bi](http://www.presidency.bi))

## Opening of the activities of the National Private Sector Forum



**W**hile opening the 1st edition of the National Private Sector Forum held on November 1, 2022 in Bujumbura, the Head of State His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye warned economic operators who engage in currency fraud and tax evasion.

"We are going to take measures to fight against currency fraud by certain companies which benefit from banking facilities for the import of basic necessities but only use less than 50 percent", insisted the President of the Republic who also made a point of stressing that businessmen who keep their capital at home instead of depositing it in banks, believing in this way to escape taxation, contribute to the impoverishment of the population.

This forum, which results from the recommendations of the Development Forum held last year in Bujumbura, will provide an opportunity to identify the major constraints to the participation of the private sector in development on the one hand, and on the other hand to establish clear political and regulatory reforms necessary to ensure the growth

of the private sector in the country, announced the Burundian Number One. However, he deplored that this activity is taking place at a time when some companies have been forced to close their doors following non-compliance with the required standards.

"The last few days have been marked by the closure of several agro-food processing units, in particular those manufacturing juices and wines that do not meet hygiene and quality standards through the modernization of the Burundian Bureau of Standardization".

The President of the Republic has thus indicated that the Government of Burundi will spare no effort to encourage companies that work in transparency and legality but that it is ready to use all possible means to combat the actors of underdevelopment.

The Head of State also thanked the countries and international organizations, which continue to work with Burundi to support it in its development and economic growth efforts.

"We will not forget to thank and encourage national and foreign investors, young and female entrepreneurs in particular, for their clear willingness to invest in the development of the private sector of our dear homeland", he said. - he continued before announcing that this forum called "Umuzinga day" will be organized each year with the aim of evaluating the step already taken and highlighting the real economic operators and the actors of underdevelopment. ([www.presidency.bi](http://www.presidency.bi))

## The President of the Republic of Burundi receives in audience the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the company pay code



**T**he President of the Republic of Burundi, Evariste Ndayishimiye received

on October 31, 2022 at the Ntarerushatsi Palace, Mr. Gabriel Ruhan, the Director Manager of the pay code company, accompanied by another delegation from the Master card company which will work with pay code.

At the end of the audience, the spokesperson of the President of the Republic, Mr. Alain Diomède Nzeyimana told the Burundian press that the CEO of pay code explained to the Head of State that his company specializes in financial transactions but also in biometric identities. This company, which operates internationally, has services that will allow people to make transactions even in the absence of internet connection and

electricity. He also specified that pay code can be used for exchanges between banks, transactions between individuals and banks or microfinance. According to the spokesperson for the President of the Republic of Burundi, the pay code company works together with the Master card company which distributes cards for purchase on the internet or in payments in hotels, buses and others. Mr. Nzeyimana reported that the Head of State took this opportunity to invite these businessmen to the national private sector forum. With regard to the added value for the government of Burundi and the Burundian population in relation to this pay code company, the spokesman for the President of the Republic said that the latter comes at the right time, because Burundi is promoting digitalization in all services of the country, to reduce expenses, avoid corruption, promote good governance and achieve financial inclusion. It should be noted that the headquarters of the pay code company is located in London, England. **(ABP)**

## The Prime Minister receives in audience a UNHCR delegation led by the UNHCR Deputy High Commissioner in Geneva



**O**n November 2, 2022, the Prime Minister of Burundi H.E Gervais Ndirakobuca received in audience the Deputy

High Commissioner of UNHCR in Geneva Ms. Kelly T. Clements accompanied by the Head of the UNHCR Regional Office based in Nairobi, the Resident Representative of the United Nations United Nations in Burundi and the UNHCR Representative in Burundi.

At the end of the hearing, Moïse Nkurunziza, spokesperson for the Prime Minister, indicated that the interview focused mainly on the questions of Burundian refugees, especially those who are on Tanzanian soil.

These authorities have noticed that before Covid-19, Burundian refugees were returning massively but that for the moment, the movement has slowed down.

With the control of Covid-19, Burundi expects the movement to be relaunched and Burundian refugees will return massively, hence the support of UNHCR will be necessary. Mr. Ndirakobuca thanked UNHCR for responding to Burundi's call to increase the return package for returning Burundian refugees and for building a Covid-19 treatment center in Cankuzo. For the moment, he asks the UNHCR to help these refugees who return to build decent houses in order to contribute to their well-being, which can motivate them to stay at home instead of returning to the host countries. .

During this meeting, the question of education was also raised, especially for children living on Tanzanian soil. The Prime Minister reported that Tanzania has revamped its education system and would like refugee students to follow the Tanzanian education system, which becomes very difficult for children in school who are already in another education system. He asked the UNHCR to make a plea.

Ms. Kelly Clements promised that the UNHCR will con-

tinue to advocate for Tanzania to stay on this decision. These authorities also spoke about the question of Congolese refugees established in Muyinga and Cankuzo, where it happens that these refugees violate the rules of refugees by going back and forth to their country of origin illegally.

The security issue in eastern DRC was also discussed, where refugees could flood into Burundi at any time. UNHCR has promised to follow this issue closely. **(ABP)**

## The President of the Senate listens to the population



**T**he President of the Senate Right Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera led on november 2, 2022 two meetings with administrative staff, heads of services, civil servants and religious leaders of Marangara and Mwumba communes of Ngozi province to gather the concerns of the population of these two municipalities.

Among the challenges hampering the development of the two communes are the poor condition of the roads linking these communes to the capital of Ngozi province and to other communes in this province, the absence of agricultural monitors on certain hills, the need school canteens in schools etc.

Other challenges that concern the population of the two municipalities relate to infidelity in couples which leads to dislocation, school drop-out due to hunger, Non-Governmental Organizations which improvise actions in the community without prior consultation with the administrators.

The civil servants of the Marangara commune expressed the wish to have as soon as possible the biometric cards of affiliates to the Mutual of the Public Service to be able to be treated. The population of Marangara commune also confided that infidelity and concubinage are commonplace and

are a source of poverty and insecurity in families.

For all these challenges that concern the population of the two municipalities, the President of the Senate replied that he will talk about it with the Ministers concerned. He urged the population of Marangara and Mwumba communes to avoid extramarital relations and recalled that this practice leads to quarrels in families and to poverty.

On the subject of women who complain of being left behind by their husbands and who are unable to support themselves, the President of the Senate invited all married men to take care of their wives and to support them in all circumstances.

Faced with the drought that raged at the time of sowing, the President of the Senate recommended to the administrators and the population of Marangara and Mwumba to be resilient by practicing hillside irrigation.

The President of the Senate invites the entire population of Marangara and Mwumba to contribute in the fight against fraud and to denounce the illicit trade.

In Marangara commune as in Mwumba commune, the population of these two communes deplores the fact that the prices of BRARUDI products continue to climb while the quality leaves something to be desired.

The population of the town also pointed out that the juices made from ginger are now prohibited for non-compliance with standards while their marketing had been authorized by the ministry in charge of trade. And to ask who will assume the consequences of the consumption of these drinks on human health.

On this subject, Emmanuel Sinzohagera indicated that the ministry concerned will have to carry out in-depth investigations to identify those in the Ministry of Commerce who have given authorization to sell drinks that do not meet the standards, with a view to suspending them from their functions. **(www.rtnb.bi)**

## The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation presents the achievements of the Ministry



On October 25, 2022, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation H.E. Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO presented the achievements of the Ministry for the 1st term of the 2022-2023 fiscal year to the national and international community.

In his presentation, H.E. Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO focused on 3 chapters namely: politico-diplomatic gains, activities carried out at the Central Administration within the framework of good governance as well as challenges and future prospects.

For the chapter of politico-diplomatic gains, the Minister indicated that it is a great honor for the country that Burundi has become the vice-president of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

In this same context, Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO indicated that this term was characterized by many successful signings of Agreements and Memoranda such as the signing of a Cooperation Agreement be-

tween the Republic of Burundi and the Republic of Indonesia as well as that between Burundi and Morocco on the exemption of entry visas into these respective countries for holders of diplomatic and service passports, the signing of the Headquarters Agreement with the Economic Community of Central African States in Burundi as well as the signing with the Ambassador of Japan in Burundi of the exchange of Note of a Japanese Donation of 1500 Tons of rice worth 4.5 billion BIF.

The Ministry also continued to sign Draft Cooperation Agreements and Memoranda of Understanding with Burundi's partners: This is a Memorandum of Understanding with Switzerland in the field of education signed on 21/9/2022 as well as other Agreements which are still in the normal process of ratification such as the Economic and Technical Cooperation Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Burundi and the Government of the United Arab Emirates, the Trade Agreement between the Republic of Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and the bill on the ratification by the Republic of Burundi of the General Cooperation Agreement signed in 2019 between Burundi and the Republic of Serbia.

In the field of education, the Minister indicated that 284 scholarships and vocational training were negotiated and obtained from development partners.

It should be noted that the Minister did not fail to indicate that there were also firm commitments to strengthen the ties of friendship and cooperation between Burundi and Japan during his visit to Tokyo. **(MFADC)**

### Burundi present in international and regional organizations



Burundi currently has a considerable place in international and regional organizations. This was announced by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation H.E. Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO during his presentation, on October 25, 2022, of the report on the achievements of this Ministry for the months from July to September 2022.

On this subject, the Minister indicated that the Ministry carried out several diplomatic steps which led to results such as the fact of ensuring the vice-presidency of an ordinary session of the General Assembly of the United Nations in New York, the fact of taking part in the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union for a 2-year term, the presidency of the PSC with brilliance in April and one of its sessions which took place in Bujumbura on April 25, 2022.

At the level of the United Nations, Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO indicated that the presence of Burundi is

remarkable. Burundi is a member of the United Nations Statistical Commission, the United Nations Social Development Commission, the NGO Commission, the Administration Council of UN-Women, the Administration Council of WFP, the Commission of the United Nations on Science and Technology for Development, of the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency, of the

Board of Directors of the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF), of the Central Africa sub-group within UNESCO as well as the presidency of the 18th and 19th session of the United Nations Forum on Forests. This substantial contribution of Burundi to UN action improves the image of the country in the concert of the United Nations. **(MFADC)**

### The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation presents the main actions of the Central Administration



**T**he Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation has carried out many activities within the framework of strengthening good governance for the period from July to September 2022, as indicated by H.E. Ambassador Albert Shingiro, Minister in charge of this Ministry. Indeed, there was the signing of performance contracts by the Senior Executives and Executives of

the Central Administration and the Heads of Diplomatic and Consular Missions, the development of a manual of administrative and financial procedures, two missions of inspection in the diplomatic missions in Abuja and Berlin, a joint mission between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation and the United Nations Fund for monitoring and evaluation of achievements on the field of the yearly Actions Plan of the United Nations Agencies working in Burundi in the provinces of Gitega, Ruyigi, Cankuzo, Rumonge and Makamba.

Other internal control missions in the context of the performance audit were organized and follow-up to the training courses and seminars of the staff of the Ministry where 25 Executives were trained in the key areas of diplomacy. **(MFADC)**

### The Government of Burundi strengthens strategic relations with the diaspora



**A**s part of strengthening strategic relations between the Government of Burundi and the diaspora, as well as promoting the employment of migrants, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation has carried out several activities, including the organization with resounding success of the 6th edition of the Week of the Burundian Diaspora in July, under the theme: "Burundian Diaspora together for agricultural development and environmental protection".

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The Minister declared it on October 25, 2022 when he presented the achievements of the 1st term of the current fiscal year. The Minister Albert Shingiro also indicated that as part of the celebration of Human Trafficking Day celebrated on July 30, the Ministry participated in the activities of a round table on human trafficking.

Other activities related to strengthening relations with the diaspora were also organized. These include the meeting of the President of the Republic of Burundi with members of the diaspora, in the sidelines of the 77th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, as well as the process of authorizing the operation of overseas migrant worker recruitment agencies. **(MFADC)**

## The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation continues activities relating to infrastructure development



**A**s part of the development of public infrastructure and with the aim of transforming Burundi into a landlord State instead of remaining a tenant State, various actions have been carried out by the Ministry. These activities relate to the monitoring of the construction project of the building which will house the services of the Ministry in Gitega, the chancery works in Addis Ababa in Ethiopia, the rehabilitation works of the Chancery in Dar-Es-Saalam, the closing of the plot where the chancellery of Burundi will be erected in Dodoma, the construction works of the consulate general in Kigoma, the renovation of the chancellery in Kigali, the works of the construction of the

fence of the plot where the chancellery of Burundi will be erected in Mogadishu and the renovation of the residence of the head of mission in Paris.

In addition, the Minister indicated that Burundi and Tanzania launched on August 12, 2022 the call for tenders for the selection of railway construction companies for the Uvinza-Gitega section, and that Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo signed a bilateral financing agreement for feasibility studies and preliminary engineering. The People's Republic of China has already started to choose the management company for the rehabilitation, extension and modernization of Melchior NDADAYE International Airport while Japan has been informed of the agreement of the Government of Burundi on the amendment of the agreement concerning the rehabilitation project of the Port of Bujumbura.

It should be noted that this information was given by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation H.E Ambassador Albert Shingiro, during a press conference held on 25/10/2022 about the achievements of the 1st term. **(MFADC)**

## Promoting the image of the country, at the center of diplomatic communication



**T**he Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation has just produced a booklet and a documentary film about Burundi.

In its efforts to promote the image of Burundi, the Ministry has designed these advocacy tools to stimulate foreign investors and tourists to bring their expendi-

tures to Burundi.

These tools are additional to other activities carried out through soft power such as the publication of a quarterly newsletter, the publication of twelve magazines in French and English, as well as the publication of articles on the activities of the Ministry in the real-time at the social networks such as Facebook/MAECD Burundi, Instagram/MAECD Burundi, twitter (@MAE Burundi) as well as the Ministry's website ([www.mae.gov.bi](http://www.mae.gov.bi)).

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation H.E Ambassador Albret SHINGIRO indicated, during the presentation of the report about quarterly achievements which took place on october 25, 2022, that during the past term, steps towards setting up an interpreting service have already started. **(MFADC)**



## The implementation of economic diplomacy, an objective to be pursued



The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation recorded a satisfactory amount of achieved activities

that were planned for the first term of the current fiscal year.

According to H.E Ambassador Albert Shingiro, this performance is displayed by the undisputed return of Burundi to the regional and international scene.

However, some challenges were observed. These include the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on Burundi's diplomatic action, the situation in Ukraine which has

disrupted the supply chains of basic necessities, the lack of material and to conduct foreign policy in good conditions as well as the lack of buildings that can house all the departments of the Ministry in the same building.

Despite this, the Ministry remains committed to strengthening, cementing, invigorating and further diversifying its relations of friendship, brotherhood and cooperation with traditional partners. The Ministry will also continue to lead the implementation of economic diplomacy with five ramifications, namely the promotion of foreign investment and strengthening of the private sector, trade, technology transfer, promotion of tourism as well as the promotion of transport infrastructure at national and regional level through regional integrative projects. **(MFADC)**

## The Burundi Diaspora Association opens its Headquarter in Bujumbura



On Monday October 31, 2022, the Minister's assistant Mr. Syldie MANIREREKANA at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation Mr. Syldie MANIREREKANA and the President of the Burundian Diaspora Mr. Eric NIRAGIRA, proceeded to the official inauguration of the Headquarter of the Burundian Diaspora located in Kinanira III, MUHA Commune in Bujumbura Town Hall.

In his speech, the President of the Diaspora indicated that after his election at the head of the Burundian Diaspora, in synergy with the executive committee and the members of the diaspora scattered in different countries of the world first directed their efforts to all strategies aimed at establishing a legal framework that would subsequently allow them to operate as an entity recognized by Burundian law. The Burundian diaspora is in the process of raising awareness among its members for this legal framework obtained so that it can collaborate with everyone for the socio-economic development of Burundi.

Mr. Eric NIRAGIRA thanked the Government of Burundi for its contribution and its frank collaboration in the establishment of the legal framework governing the Burundian Diaspora. He also thanked the members of the Burundian Diaspora and invited them to go to the field to contribute to the success of their vision: "Burundi is prosperous and sustainably developed", he added.

In his Speech, the Assistant to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation Mr. Syldie MANIREREKANA said that the opening of a headquarter of the Association of the Burundian Diaspora in Bujumbura is an eloquent sign that the call launched against the Diaspora by the Government of Burundi has been heard.

This call invited the Diaspora to respond massively and to join other Burundians to participate in the development of their mother Country. He continued his remarks by saying that the activities of the Diaspora relating to the development of the country began a long time ago and the results are satisfactory, they are multiple and varied even if the path remains always long in this kind of action because the satisfaction total and complete has ever been achieved.

According to the Minister's Assistant, "His Excellency the President of the Republic never ceases to say that the assistance of all Burundians to participate in the development of their native country without exclusion "TWESE HAMWE BIRASHOBOKA" he recalled and to conclude that everyone must, therefore, bring their stone to the building. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, which manages Diaspora issues on a daily basis, has taken care to let the Diaspora organize itself as it pleases in the spirit of the National Diaspora Policy and its Implementation Strategy implemented and the Ministry must ensure that all the talents and resources of the Diaspora contribute to the progress of the country without hindrance," he added.

The Minister's assistant Mr. Syldie MANIREREKANA closed her speech by encouraging the strengthening of dialogue, communication and trust between all members of the Diaspora.

Note that it is planned to hold an extraordinary general assembly for all members of the Association of the Burundian Diaspora, Sunday, November 06, 2022. **(MFADC)**

## Opening of the meeting of Experts of the First Session of the Mixed Commission for Cooperation between Burundi and South Africa.



sion for Cooperation between Burundi and South Africa, as a prelude to the ministerial session.

In his speech, the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, the first Session of the Mixed Cooperation Commission between Burundi and South Africa is the determination of these two respective Governments to revitalize bilateral cooperation

**O**n wednesday november 02, 2022, at the Kiri Garden Hotel, the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation Mr. Ferdinand BASHIKAKO opened the activities of the Experts from Burundi and

South Africa of the first session of the Joint Commission for Cooperation between Burundi and South Africa, as a prelude to the ministerial session.



eration with a view to reinforcing the already existing relations and promoting the economic and socio-cultural development of these two countries and these two peoples. These excellent relations have materialized through numerous Bilateral Agreements and Memoranda of understanding which have already been signed between these two countries, especially the signing on february 6, 1992 in Cape Town, of an Air Transport Agreement followed by the official establishment diplomatic relations on june 23, 1995 without forgetting the signing of a General Cooperation Agreement, signed on february

South Africa of the first session of the Joint Commission

ary 14, 2007 in Cannes, from which stem all the Sectoral

Agreements and Memoranda of Understanding already signed



The Director General at the Ministry of International Relations and Cooperation of the Republic of South Africa and Head of the Delegation of South African Experts Mrs. Tselane MOKUENA welcomes the good relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries.



It should be noted that Burundi and South Africa have maintained excellent relations of friendship and cooperation for a long time, but especially since 1998, which have grown with the firm commitment of South Africa to the peace process of Arusha, such as the participation of the late Presi-

dent Nelson Mandela Madiba in his capacity as mediator and then his successors. South Africa has also provided military units to be part of the African Mission in Burundi and the United Nations Mission in Burundi (ONUB) to ensure the protection of political leaders who have returned from exile to participate in the institutions of the transition and Burundi remains very grateful.

Relations between Burundi and South Africa were also maintained by high-level visits which were regularly exchanged between the Heads of State and which contributed to strengthening the relations of friendship and cooperation between these two countries. and brotherly peoples which have been marked, among other things, by the signing of four cooperation agreements in various sectors, including trade, agriculture, education, defense, sports and leisure.

As this session was an opportunity to explore the opportunities that arise in health, hospital services, higher education,

trade and transport, industry, crafts, tourism, energy, mines, education, agriculture and livestock, investment, etc. and to explore the ways and means

for the signing of new Agreements and Memoranda, Mrs. Tselane MOKUENA wished that the exchanges be successful in achieving the desired goal. **(MAECD)**

## The Minister in charge of National Education draws up a quarterly report on achievements



**T**he Minister of National Education and Scientific Research François Havyarimana presented on november 31, 2022 during a press briefing the quarterly report on the achievements of the year 2022-2023.

The minister in charge of national education indicated that 68 schools had the authorization to open while 33 others which did not meet the conditions provided for by the regulations in force were closed.

With regard to improving the quality of learning, teaching tools and materials have been developed for the Geology, Mines and Quarries section and this section began with the opening of the 2022-2023 school year in the provinces of Bubanza, Muyinga and Rutana, specified François Havyarimana.

The minister in charge of national education also said that the ministry will no longer organize the national competition and state exam for students who are still in refugee camps in Tanzania. Those who want to stay there will have to follow their training in the educational system of the host country and will have the equiva-

lence of diplomas at the end of their course.

Concerning the improvement of learning conditions and access to school, 131 new classrooms were built and equipped and 365 classrooms rehabilitated and equipped.

93,764 desk benches are being manufactured in all municipalities to meet the need for desk benches.

65,000 schoolchildren are fed in 849 schools through the national school feeding programme.

In connection with the promotion of regional integration and partnership, the various senior officials and executives of the ministry participated in activities organized at regional and international level. Among other things, participation in the pre-world summit in Paris on the transformation of education, participation in an African Union meeting on science, technology and innovation and in 7 activities organized within the framework of the EAC. Three partnership agreements have been signed between the University of Burundi and its academic and non-academic partners, while two others have been signed by the École Normale Supérieure. ([www.rtnb.bi](http://www.rtnb.bi))

## Universal health coverage is possible in Burundi



The Ministry of National Solidarity, Social Affairs, Human Rights and Gender through the Permanent Executive

Secretariat of the National Council for Social Protection (SEP/CNPS) in collaboration with the Platform of Health Insurances in Burundi (PAMUSAB) organized on thursday november 03, 2022 in the Province of Ngozi, a workshop to launch the week dedicated to social protection and health insurance. This week dedicated to social protection and mutual insurance is organized under the theme "The mutual of health, one of the ways of extending social protection in health"

According to the President of PAMUSAB Edouard Nkurunziza, the province of Ngozi has a high provincial penetration rate of (4.4%); which motivated the choice of the latter for the launch ceremonies this week in order to encourage it and serve as a testimony to other provinces, he said.

The president of the PAMUSAB Edouard Nkurunziza praised the effort of the government of Burundi in terms of social protection and the measures taken to facilitate the Burundian population's access to quality health care, free health care for children under five, pregnant women and during childbirth, the policy of setting up a hospital in each municipality, health care for the vulnerable population and the elderly.

In the context of health insurance, the promoters of Community Health Insurances in Burundi, grouped together in the platform (PAMUSAB) have taken the lead in supporting government policy and are present in 101 communes in the country and cover services in public, private and faith-based health facilities for 141,102 beneficiaries from households in the informal and rural sector.

The President of PAMUSAB informed that community health assurances exist in all provinces, 85% of municipalities and 89% of health districts. However, the coverage rate of social health protection for the Burundian population in general is still very low despite the advantages offered by these mutual health insurance schemes.

In order to contribute to the establishment of equi-

table Universal Health Coverage in Burundi, Dr. Edouard Nkurunziza, PAMUSAB, in collaboration with the Ministry of National Solidarity, Social Affairs, Human Rights and Gender, carried out a pilot study to classify the population of the GASHOHO commune and the results of this study showed that Universal Health Coverage is possible in Burundi and at a lower cost. He took this opportunity to ask the Government to endorse this study and extend it to several municipalities in order to set up Universal, Equitable, Effective and Sustainable Health Coverage in Burundi.

The President of PAMUSAB launches a strong appeal to organizations in the sector as well as organizations of the social and solidarity economy, including cooperatives, to organize themselves to promote health insurance for community health assurances.

According to Arcade Nimubona, Permanent Executive Secretary of the National Social Protection Council (SEP/CNPS), since the adoption of the National Social Protection Policy in 2011, the country has experienced significant progress in the field of social protection and development new social protection programs including the extension of community health assurances.

In addition, on the programmatic side, a National Social Protection Strategy was developed and validated in 2015 from 2015 to 2020. The two documents: the Policy and its implementation strategy are being updated in to align them with the National Development Plan (PND), added Arcade Nimubona.

He also specified that in order to build a sustainable social protection system, the appropriation of social welfare measures by the community is more beneficial and partners in the sector are asked to continue coaching the population to promote adherence to the community health insurances.

Mr. Arcade Nimubona was delighted that the members of the Community Health Insurances appreciate and bear witness to their advantages, among others: solidarity and equity, proximity and democratic participation, not to mention the improvement in the quality of services and health care.

The week dedicated to social protection begins for this year from november 3 to 11, 2022 with awareness-raising at the level of various selected municipalities.

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## The institution of the ombudsman assists vulnerable students and the Communal Directorate of Education (DCE)



The Ombudsman of the Republic the Honorable Edouard Nduwimana handed over 50 pairs of school uniforms to students from vulnerable families, including the families of veterans of Gisuru commune in Ruyigi province.

On the same occasion, he handed over 15 reams of papers to the DCE Gisuru to help schools multiply the standard tests for competitions and exams which are organized at the national level. The objective is to be able to help students prepare for these tests. This assistance was collected by members of the sec-

tion of the CNDD-FDD party working for the institution of the ombudsman.

Innocent Nimpagaritse, Representative of CNDD-FDD activists at the institution of the ombudsman, said that this gesture was made to respect the recommendation of the Secretary General of the CNDD-FDD to be characterized by the spirit of love and solidarity with people in difficulty.

The ombudsman took this opportunity to challenge parents to instill in young people a spirit of love and patriotism. Honorable Edouard Nduwimana thanked the leaders of the CNDD-FDD party in Ruyigi province for having requested the assistance of the section of this party at the office of the ombudsman in order to come to the aid of these children from vulnerable families. ([www.rtnb.bi](http://www.rtnb.bi))

## The General Directorate of Livestock ready to sustain the achievements of the PRDAIGL project



The Ministry of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock organized a two-day workshop from 02 to 03 november 2022 to analyze the situation of

the achievements of the regional project for integrated agricultural development in the great lakes ( PRDAIGL). This project intervenes in the field of the repopulation of the bovine herd by the chain of value in 5 provinces of the plain of the imbo on financing of the World Bank. This PRDAIGL project financed by the World Bank via the international livestock research institute (ILRI) was able to import 3,000 cattle from Uganda during its mandate, which were distributed in 5 provinces of the Imbo plain, this which has brought a remarkable addition because a single well-maintained cow can give 10 liters of milk and more per day.

In the field of animal health, the PRDAIGL project in collaboration with ILRI and the ministry in charge of livestock have carried out the mapping of some animal diseases that are rampant in the region, such as the identification of risk areas for gray rose and Rift Valley fever, which allows veterinarians to intervene effective-

ly, especially by concentrating efforts in high-risk areas.

This international institute ILRI in charge of research was able to provide capacity building training to veterinary technicians from the national laboratory, especially in relation to special disease detection techniques for rapid intervention.

This international institute ILRI in charge of research has also proceeded to the diversification of fodder crops by bringing other new resistant and productive varieties to achieve an enormous fodder mass for good feeding of cattle in order to increase milk production. Regarding the diversification of fodder crops, it has now passed, according to the Director General of Livestock, the trial stage and was carried out in collaboration with the country's research institutions. The next step is to distribute the new forage varieties to other parts of the country so that farmers can obtain them easily.

The participants raised concerns about the sustainability of the achievements of the PRDAIGL project insofar as it will end in december 2022. The Director General of Livestock reassures that the project has worked in close collaboration with national institutions in responsible for livestock farming, that they are therefore able to sustain the achievements of the PRDAIGL project. ([www.rtnb.bi](http://www.rtnb.bi))

# Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation

## Department of Communication

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