



The Head of State receives the winner of the “Radio France Internationale Talents du Rire Prize”



The Head of State H.E Pierre Nkurunziza received in audience on Thursday 12, 2019 Mickael Sengazi, a Burundian comedian who came to present to him the 2019 “RFI Talent du Rire Prize”, which he received as the best comedian on the African continent.

Mickael Sengazi was with his colleagues, a group of Burundian humorists. At the end of the audience, he indicated that this prize was awarded to him at Abidjan, in Côte d'Ivoire, because he was selected as the best humorist and the funniest on the African continent.

According to this actor, he and his friends wanted to inform the President of the Republic that the young people of Burundi are at work and are behind

him, that they are working too to promote the image of the country and its development.

Mickael Sengazi said that the Head of State was very happy with this determination of the young people and that he gave them a lot of piece of advices that could guide them. The winner of the “RFI Talent Prize” also announced that the President of the Republic has promised to support these young people in their careers.

He was accompanied by several of his colleagues, including the best known of the Burundian public, namely the famous comedians nicknamed Kigingi and Ildéphonse as well as Rossa Kamariza, the Director of “INGOMAG”, a magazine which shows the beauty of Burundi worldwide.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

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ISP: final incorporation of officer candidates from the 4th class of the Higher Police Institute (ISP)



The Head of State and Supreme Commander of the Defense and Security Corps His Excellency Pierre Nkurunziza proceeded, on Tuesday December 10, 2019, to the final incorporation of the officer candidates of the 4th promotion of the Higher Police Institute of Mitakataka in commune and province of Bubanza and at the solemn opening of the 2019-2020 academic year of this Institute. He called on these young people to put forward the best interests of the nation.

During the ceremonies, 114 officer candidates from the 4th class of this Police Institute presented themselves in sections to the Head of State and declared themselves ready to be definitively incorporated. These young officer candidates have been definitively incorporated into the police force and will undergo training at the Higher Police Institute in Mitakataka. The 2019-2020 academic year was solemnly opened by the Head of State on the same occasion.

At the same time, 62 officers, including two police chaplains, winners of the 3rd promotion of this Institute were sworn in before the President of the Republic. The national flag in hand, these police officers, in their oaths, committed themselves to obedience to the Head of State, to respect the charter of national unity, to work in strict compliance with constitution and to comply with the laws and regulations of the Republic of Burundi.

The ceremonies were marked by a long parade of the police force, traditional dances and the play of the Burundian drum. The Director of the Higher Police Institute Mr. Philibert Nkurunziza in his speech requested support for the extension of the premises of this Institute which today has a capacity of only 60 people.

The Minister of Public Security and Disaster Management CPC Alain Guillaume Bunyoni recommended that these laureates join the police force with new blood, with the determination to fight fraud and corruption.

Speaking, the Head of State congratulated the candidate officers who had just been incorporated and the officers who had just taken the oath and urged them to work for the best interests of the nation and in the utmost dedication for their homeland.

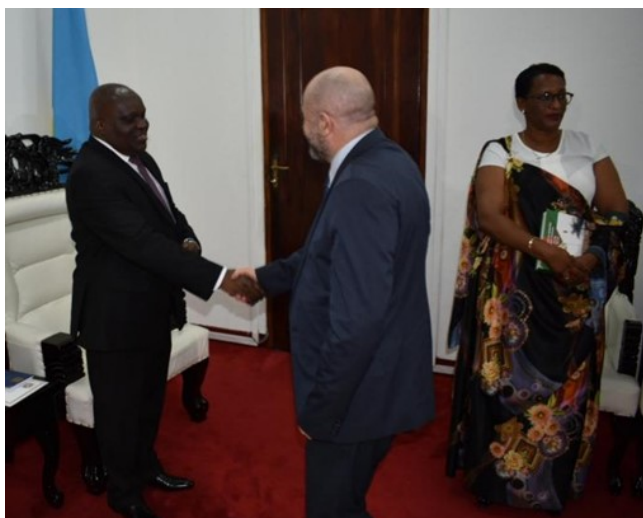
He warned them against greed and advised them to be more honest Police Officers, an attitude that will honor them and help promote the image of the police and the country. The President of the Republic invited them to be characterized by discipline and courage, not to listen to detractors, to observe without being carried away by malicious people.

The President Pierre Nkurunziza called on these police officers to be stable, to stand alongside the people, to calm and orient the population during the next elections.

In conclusion, the Head of State invited the police and all Burundians to walk in the vision of Ntare Rushatsi Cambarantama and other valiant men who fought for the honor of the motherland. He asked everyone to work hard and prepare to leave a better, more prosperous Burundi to his offspring than he is today.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

The President of the National Assembly receives a Swiss diplomat in audience



The President of the National Assembly, The Right Honorable Pascal Nyabenda received in audience Mr. Serges MUNIN, the Senior Advisor on

Peace Policy, from the Human Security Division of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs. According to the Spokesperson of the President of the National Assembly, Mr. Alexis Badian Ndayihimbaze, the two authorities met to discuss about bilateral relations between the two countries.

They also exchanged on the security that prevails in Burundi on the eve of the 2020 general elections. Mr. Alexis Badian Ndayihimbaze said that the President of the National Assembly informed his host that meetings with the Chiefs of political formations are regularly organized, to define the behavior and the methodology to adopt for the good running of the elections

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

The President of the National Assembly participates in the 13th meeting of the Parliaments of the East African Community



The President of the National Assembly, the Right Honorable Pascal Nyabenda took the plane in the afternoon of Monday December 09, 2019, bound for Kampala in Uganda where he will participate in the 13th meeting of the Members Parliaments of the East African Community.

As indicated by the spokesman of the National Assembly Mr. Alexis Badian Ndayihimbaze, the President of the National Assembly had just been appointed President of the Parliaments of the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) and was also President of the Parliaments of the East African Community.

He was going to seize this opportunity to make the delivery and recovery.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

The President of the Senate returns from a mission to Qatar



11th December 2019 from Doha in Qatar. As the Spokesperson of the President of the Senate Mr. Gaby BUGAGA indicated, he had just participated in the 7th World Conference on the Fight against Corruption, a conference which brought together the Parliaments of the world, to analyze the ways and means that could put an end to corruption around the world. Mr. Gaby BUGAGA said that there is significant progress in the fight against corruption around the world.

The President of the Senate the Right Honorable Révérien Ndikuriyo returned on Wednesday,

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

The President of Kenya's Upper House of Parliament Closes a Mission to Burundi



stay in Burundi was pleasant. He thanked the Head of State of Burundi who opened the work of the forum of the Parliaments of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) and the Burundian Parliament's President for the warm welcome he gave to the various delegations of this forum.

Mr. Kenneth Makelo Rusaka positively appreciated the socio-political and security situa-

The President of the Kenyan Senate, Mr. Kenneth Makelo Rusaka ended on Monday, December 09, 2019, his mission in Burundi where he had participated in the work of the forum of the Parliaments of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR).

He appreciated positively the security situation prevailing in Burundi. Upon leaving Ndadaye Melchior International Airport in Bujumbura, the President of the Upper House of the Parliament of Kenya said that his

tion prevailing in Burundi and congratulated the Burundian authorities for having restored peace and security. On this occasion, the Speaker of the Kenyan Senate expressed the wish to see bilateral cooperation between Burundi and his country go forward. He promised to testify to the realities he has noticed in Burundi and said that he will ensure that the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries can be further consolidated.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

The Minister of Foreign Affairs receives the Belgian Ambassador to Burundi in audience



Development Plan of Burundi (PND) 2018-2027.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs H.E. Ambassador Ezéchiel NIBIGIRA, for its part, appreciated the decision of the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium and said that the Government of Burundi agrees to the renewal of these projects supported by Belgium.

The two authorities closed their talks on a vow to strengthen diplomatic relations between the Republic of Burundi and the Kingdom of Belgium.

This Friday, December 13, 2019, the Minister of Foreign Affairs H.E. Ambassador Ezéchiel NIBIGIRA received in audience the Ambassador of Belgium to Burundi H.E. Alain Van Gucht.

The Ambassador of Belgium to Burundi HE Alain Van Gucht communicated to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Burundi, the decision of the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium to strengthen cooperation in the socio-economic field through certain projects supported by Belgium in Burundi.

He indicated that the terms of extension of said projects are in line with the perspectives of the National



(Source: MFA-Newsroom)

Awareness workshop on the National Diaspora Policy for the Governors of the Provinces



was held in the Province of Gitega.

In his words of welcome, the Representative of Gitega Governor Innocent NKURUNZIZA first welcomed the participants to this workshop in Gitega Province, and then thanked the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for having organized this workshop in the Province of Gitega. He added that the Province of Gitega attaches great importance to the various contributions to development by the Burundian Diaspora in their communes of origin. He recalled that all this is made possible by the facilities that the Government grants to Burundians living abroad, in particular through the National Diaspora Policy.

In his opening remarks, the Permanent Secretary at

This Thursday, December 12, 2019, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs organized an awareness workshop on the National Policy of the Diaspora towards the Governors of the Provinces. This workshop

the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Isidore NTIRAMPEBA, said that the Government of the Republic of Burundi has developed and validated the National Diaspora Policy and its Strategic Implementation Plan. And, this National Diaspora Policy aims to take into account the needs and aspirations of the Diaspora and maximize its contribution to the development of the country.

The Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs informed the participants of the workshop that certain members of the Burundian Diaspora have already engaged in the process of development of the country through multiple actions including the sending of funds, support actions and supporting families and communities of origin in various sectors, providing expertise in the fields of health, education and rural development.

However, the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs noted that these multifarious contributions of the Burundian Diaspora are not always known and are not very visible due to lack of data. To give these contributions the place they deserve, recognition of their impact on the development of Burundi is therefore legitimate. To do this, the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has indicated that actions must be taken in the context of strengthening this National Diaspora Policy which is necessary, in order to involve the Diaspora at the level of local development, while expanding their fields of action.



The Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs also indicated that it is within this

framework that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has organized this sensitization and dissemination workshop for the governors of the provinces. It is also an opportunity to exchange with the Governors of the provinces on their contributions in the implementation of the National Diaspora Policy and their role in monitoring and coordinating the activities of members of the Diaspora, without forgetting the contribution of the Burundian Diaspora in the development and implementation of Communal Development Plans (PCDC).

Activities continued with presentations on various themes, including the state of play of the National Diaspora Policy and its implementation strategy; management of the Diaspora in general based on experience from elsewhere and; exchanges of experiences on the contribution of the Diaspora to the development of a Province (case of the Province of Rumonge).



After the presentations, group work followed to allow participants to set up mechanisms for implementing the National Diaspora Policy. This work in groups ended with a pooling to allow to identify together points of convergence of these mechanisms.

The participants in this workshop appreciated the knowledge acquired regarding the content of the National Diaspora Policy.

This workshop was attended by representatives from the 18 provinces.

(Source: MFA-Newsroom)

Statement by the Minister in charge of Good Governance on the Fight against Corruption: "all united against corruption for sustainable development"



The world celebrates on December 9, the International Day against Corruption, every year. In Burundi, the week dedicated to the fight against corruption was celebrated under the theme: "all united against corruption for sustainable development". In a statement by the Minister in charge of good governance, Madam Jeanne d'Arc Kagayo said that Burundi has reached an advanced stage in the fight against this scourge. (Source: www.rtnb.bi)

Burundi joins other countries in the world to commemorate the Universal Declaration of Human Rights



On December 10 of each year, Burundi joins other countries in the world to commemorate the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The official ceremonies for the day took place on Friday, December 13 of this year under the theme "Youth, Stand Up and Activate for Human Rights".

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) grants materials to the Ministry in charge of Public Health for the education of young people



The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) on Wednesday, December 11, 2019 granted to the Ministry of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS materials for the education of young people in order to fight against unwanted pregnancies. This equipment consists of 24 television sets, 26 ge-

nerators and 6 sound kits worth 106 million of Burundian Francs intended for health centers and youth centers in the provinces of Ngozi, Ruyigi and the northern district of Bujumbura.

As indicated by the Representative of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in Burundi, this material will contribute to the development of the country because raising awareness among young people via these communication channels is one of the best solutions to curb unplanned pregnancies among young girls. These lessons will ensure the coherence of information on the reproductive health of young people in health centers and will improve the well-being of adolescents and young people through awareness raising.

The Minister of Public Health and the Fight against

AIDS Dr. Thaddée Ndikumana said that this material will facilitate in rural areas without electricity, raising awareness among young people and help women giving birth overnight.

This will help reverse the trend in relation to un-

wanted pregnancies. The girls will therefore attend school, have diplomas and contribute to the socio-economic development of the country, concluded Minister Thaddée Ndikumana.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

Preparations for the 2020 agricultural season B are underway



The Minister of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock Dr Déo Guide Rurema hosted a press briefing on Thursday, December 12, 2019 on the state of 2020 the agricultural season A. He said that the Government began the preparation of this season on September 12, 2019 with a view to making available fertilizers, seeds and phytosanitary products.

Dr Déo Guide Rurema indicated that during the visits by officials from the Ministry, technical services and parliamentarians, the observation was that the vegetative state is appreciable throughout the country except in a few places where some fields present the yellowing of the leaves following a heavy rainfall observed in all the provinces of the country. This heavy rainfall has caused nutrient leaching, limiting plant nutrition, especially in provinces where the watersheds are not protected, said the Minister in charge of the Environment.

The Minister proceeded to the evaluation to classify the provinces and communes having protected the environment as the removal of trees absorbing a lot of water in the marshes and the fight against the ero-

sion of watersheds, specified Dr Déo Guide Rurema. Thus, the first 5 provinces are Kirundo, Kayanza, Makamba, Ngozi and Karuzi while the last 5 are Bujumbura, Mwaro, Muyinga, Rutana and Bururi. He called on the population, the administrative and technical services as well as other partners to tackle environmental protection works otherwise all the efforts of the Government will be doomed to failure. He explained that this work would have an impact on the developed marshes, on production and could contribute to improving the living conditions of the population.

Dr. Déo Guide Rurema took the opportunity to refute the rumors spread by malicious people about the effectiveness of FOMI fertilizer manufactured in the country, saying that the fields maintained with this fertilizer would present a bad vegetative state. He reassured the population that FOMI fertilizer has required standards, it is cheaper and available in sufficient quantity and at the right time.

To start the 2020 agricultural season B, he reassured that the fertilizer is available in sufficient quantity and that the payment of the advances started on December 9, 2019 and will go until January 7, 2020. He asked the farmers to respect the calendar and respond massively to the payment for an increase in agricultural production.

"We ask the farmers united in hill cooperatives to pay the advance payments especially since the envelope of 10 million francs promised by the State for the increase of agricultural production is already deposited in their accounts, in total 28 billion are available on the accounts of cooperatives across the country," concluded Dr. Déo Guide Rurema.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

Awareness and popularization of the law governing pre-cooperative groups in Burundi



The Ministry of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock organized on Tuesday, December 10, 2019, in the capital of the Gitega province, a workshop to raise awareness and popularize the law establishing the organic framework of pre-groupings.-cooperatives and its application texts.

This workshop brought together the Governors of the provinces, the Administrators of all the municipalities in the country, the Provincial Managers of the Ministry of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock as well as partners in the agriculture and breeding.

In his opening speech, the Director General of the National Food Security Stock Management Agency (ANAGESSA) who represented the Minister in charge

of Agriculture and Livestock, said that the Government of Burundi has always urged producers to come together in associations to combine their efforts and defend their interests.

Following this call from the Government, associations working in several fields such as agriculture, breeding, the environment, handicrafts, and others were created. It was therefore necessary to set up a legal framework governing this associative movement, he said.

This law will bring a lot of facilities regarding access to accreditation, an accreditation which will henceforth be granted at the municipal level. Previously for approval, those in charge of pre-cooperatives should go to Bujumbura. The Director General of ANAGESSA appealed to the municipal administrators to popularize this new law so that the population complies with its texts governing pre-cooperatives.

The near-cooperatives we are talking about are organized structures presenting a maximum of 10 million Burundian francs as turnover because, exceeding this sum, the latter fall directly into the category of cooperatives.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

The Independent National Electoral Commission says it is satisfied with the partial recruitment for the elections of 2020



The President of the Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI) Mr. Pierre Claver Kazihise, hosted a press briefing on Wednesday,

December 11, 2019 to mid-term assess the partial enrollment in the 2020 elections and the display of the lists of candidate voters.

Mr. Pierre Claver Kazihise said that the enrollment concerns those who were absent in the country in 2018 for various reasons such as returnees, those who had traveled or who were sick. He called on everyone to check the lists to see if the names or numbers of the national identity cards are registered.

This enrollment went as planned except in cases of irregularities like the delay in the posting of the lists or the lists which were torn or stolen in certain registration centers, specified the President of the CENI.

He reassured those who have lost their voter cards that the CENI will issue others soon, that the important thing is to appear on the list displayed in the various polling stations.

After the 2 days of enrollment, those who registered have slightly exceeded 36 thousand people and Mr. Pierre Claver Kazihise has hinted that these figures will not exceed 100 thousand since those who have registered in the first round exceed 5000000. These 100 thousand are among the returnees estimated at 70 thousand people.

Requests for transfer from one polling center to another can be made from one region to another, from an

urban center in the interior of the country or vice versa, but the CENI has suspended requests for transfer to a same urban center because according to Mr. Pierre Claver Kazihise, the individual registers at the place of his birth or his residence.

The President of the CENI asked all Burundians not to try to be enlisted more than once because it is an offense punishable by the electoral code where the guilty party risks a sentence of 15 days to 3 months in prison and a fine ranging from 200 to 400 thousand francs if it is an ordinary citizen, but which is multiplied by two if the culprit is the administration or a civil servant.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

Burundi celebrated World Day dedicated to the fight against Genocide



December 9 each year is the world day dedicated to the Fight against Genocide and other crimes against humanity. Mr. Jean de Dieu Mutabazi, President of the National Observatory against Genocide, spoke about the situation in Burundi in relation to this concern that mobilizes the world

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

Statement by the National Independent Human Rights Commission on the situation of human rights in Burundi on the occasion of the celebration of the 71st anniversary of International Human Rights Day



The Independent National Commission for Human Rights (CNIDH) issued a statement on Tuesday, December 10, 2019, on the occasion of the

celebration of the 71st anniversary of International Human Rights Day.

The President of the Independent National Commission for Human Rights (CNIDH) Dr. Sixte Vigny Nimiraba indicated that the day is celebrated on December 10 of each year since the adoption of the universal declaration of human rights in 1948 by the United Nations General Assembly.

He said that this day is celebrated in Burundi at a time when the human rights situation has improved significantly and the generally good security situation in the country, were it not for the disturbances orchestrated by the armed groups which attacked the military positions on the night of 16th to 17th Novem-

ber 2019. Dr Sixte Vigny Nimuraba welcomes the massive return of the refugees as well as the arrangements made by the authorities empowered to re-

ceive these refugees in accordance with applicable international standards.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

Airport security improves by 20% according to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)



The International Civil Aviation Organization organized from 05th to 14th November 2019, an audit at Melchior Ndadaye Airport with regard to airport security. According to Mr. Emmanuel Habimana, Director General of the Civil Aviation Authority, the ICAO report shows that Melchior Ndadaye airport has experienced 20% progress since 2013. He explained that after this audit, the international civil avia-

tion organization gave a score of 46% compared to 26% obtained after the 2013 audit.

During security audits, between two audits the States generally experience progress of an average of 5 to 10%, said Emmanuel Habimana. The Director General of the Civil Aviation Authority also said that training for staff has been organized and will continue because, according to him, the field of aviation is a technical field where development is very rapid and that the requirements dictate to stay up to date. The airport also continues to expand its infrastructure to meet the requirements of the organization of international civil aviation, concluded Mr. Emmanuel Habimana.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

The Burundian Bureau of Standardization (BBN) launches a campaign to verify non-certified products



2019 from the central market of Gitega, the campaign to assess and examine the goods marketed in Burundi. The objective was to analyze whether these products meet the standards.

According to the Director of the Burundian Standardization Bureau Mr. Jean Félix Karikurubu, the checking agents of the Burundian Standardization Bureau noticed non-certified goods. As for goods that do not meet standards or expired, they have been seized, collected and will be destroyed so that they do not

The Burundian Bureau of Standardization (BBN) launched on Wednesday, December 11,

cause damage to consumers, said the Director of the Burundian Bureau of Standardization.

After the central market of Gitega, the agents of the Burundian Bureau of Standardization visited the various petrol stations of this city to verify if the quantity of fuel served to customers is up to standard.

At the end of this visit, the Director of the BBN, Mr. Jean Félix Karikurubu launched an appeal to manufacturers to put certified products on the market. And to merchants, he recommended that they check whether their goods are certified or have not expired before procurement.

The Director of the BBN, Mr. Jean Felix Karikurubu also announced that this campaign of evaluation and examination of the marketed goods will be carried out throughout the country during this month of December 2019.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC

Government General Secretariat

PRESS RELEASE OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 11th DECEMBER 2019

The Council of Ministers met on Wednesday, 11th December 2019, under the chairmanship of His Excellency the President of the Republic, Mr. Pierre NKURUNZIZA.

The following points were analyzed:

1. Draft law on the status of Burundi National Police Officers, presented by the Minister of Public Security and Disaster Management.

The Burundi National Police is governed by Organic Law No. 1/03 of 20th February 2017 on the missions, organization and functioning of the Burundi National Police, which revised Law No. 1/23 of 31st December 2004. This law provides for a number of implementing texts, including the statutes of the National Police personnel. Currently, the status of National Police Officers is determined by Law No. 1/18 of 31st December 2010. The present draft law on the status of officers of the Burundi National Police, which is being adapted to the 2017 organic law, introduces certain innovations that could enable the Officer to work in the current socio-economic, security and political environment.

Among other innovations, these are conditions of recruitment where the notion of celibacy is more explicit. With regard to the rights, duties and incompatibilities of the Police Officer, innovations are also being made with regard to the benefits related to working conditions, the seniority of the Officer, support for the family of the serving Officer who dies and support for a dignified reintegration into civilian life for the retired Officer.

With regard to ranks, innovations are being made in the nomenclature to remove confusion between the rank and the function of Commissioner.

New features have also been introduced with regard to premiums, allowances and other social benefits such as incentives and compensation for the constraints and risks of the police profession.

Innovations are also being made in the management of the Officer's career and the disciplinary system.

After analysis and discussion of this draft, the Council noted that it needed to be harmonized with the draft law on the status of officers of the National Defense Force.

He has set up a team to check the harmonization between the two texts. The same work will be done with regard to the draft laws on the status of Brigadiers and Officers of the National Police and of the non-commissioned officers and the soldiers of the National Defense Force. This team is also called upon to compute the budgetary impact of these draft laws. This team was given a one-month deadline.

2. Draft agreement between the Government of the Republic of Burundi and Belmont Technologies SDN BHD, submitted by the Minister of Public Security and Disaster Management.

This project concerns the implementation of digital visa system and advance passenger information.

BELMONT TECHNOLOGIES SDN BHG has expressed its interest and willingness to provide the Government

of Burundi with this system as well as the interconnection between border posts and the General Migration Commissioner's Office so that the latter can monitor and control all operations carried out at the border posts. The system has many benefits, particularly in terms of security, as the services concerned will have sufficient information on the persons who want to enter Burundi, and in terms of tourism, as even nationals of countries where Burundi does not have diplomatic representations will be able to obtain their entry visas to Burundi.

The signing of this agreement will allow the timely start of activities, especially now that, in the memorandum of understanding signed on 22nd May 2019 between the Government of Burundi and BELMONT TECHNOLOGIES SDN BHD, it was agreed that the latter will help the Government to secure the necessary funds for the implementation of this project. At the end of the analysis of the project, the Council gave its agreement-in-principle for its implementation but set up a team that will ensure that the interests of the State have been sufficiently taken into account through this agreement. The team was given a one-month deadline.

3. Action plan for the implementation of the strategy for the recovery, revitalization and sustainability of the coffee sector, presented by the Minister of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock

On 01st October 2019, the Council of Ministers analyzed the Strategy for the recovery, revitalization and sustainability of the coffee sector.

This Strategy was developed after the observation that the results of the State's policy of disengagement from the coffee sector were disappointing for the Burundian economy because coffee productivity and quality continued to decline. It is therefore the duty of the State to re-engage in the sector to intervene, coordinate and monitor all links in the coffee sector.

It is therefore imperative to take necessary legal and organizational measures to ensure the sustainable development of the coffee sector. This Action Plan is presented following the adoption of the Strategy and aims at its implementation.

This plan proposes the legal and organizational instruments necessary to ensure the sustainable development of the coffee sector in all its components. Thus, to better prepare and start the next coffee campaign 2020-2021, the Action Plan proposes the urgent establishment of a government technical body in charge of coffee development, namely the Office for the Development of Coffee "ODECA" whose draft decree governing its establishment and organization has been submitted to the Council of Ministers for analysis.

After analysis and discussion of the action plan and the draft decree, the Council adopted them with some amendments of the draft decree. This decree must have been finalized by the end of the current week.

4. National strategy for the planning and management of the transport sector and Action Plan 2018-2027, presented by the Minister of Transports, Public Works, Equipment and Land Management.

This Strategy was developed after consideration of the study showing the gaps and inadequacies with regard to the planning and management of all modes of transport. It supports the implementation of Vision 2025 and refers to the National Development Plan 2018-2027. The long-term vision of this Strategy is: "By 2027, the national transport system will play its role as an important tool for economic and social development. At the sub-regional level, it will offer quality passenger and freight transport services. Transport infrastructure networks will be developed, maintained and operated in accordance with national and international regulations". This Strategy is structured around seven strategic orientations, namely:

- Interurban road transport
- Rural transport
- Urban transport

- Rail, lake and multimodal transport
- Air transport
- Road safety
- Institutional and legal aspects

The overall cost of the Strategy is estimated at around €4.8 billion. The implementation of the strategy comprises different steps. During the analysis of this Strategy, the Council of Ministers noted a procedural flaw in the steps to be followed by this Strategy and recommended that it should first be analyzed and validated by the technical bodies before being brought back to the Council of Ministers for analysis. A period of one month was given to complete this work.

5. Draft joint ministerial order establishing and organizing the Health Development Management and Support Unit (UGADS), presented by the Minister of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS.

In the health sector in Burundi, the Global Fund is an essential partner in the fight against AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. It intervenes in Burundi through the funding it avails for Burundi to strengthen the health system in general and to fight these three pandemics in particular.

In the context of the implementation of Global Fund's financing in Burundi, the role of lead manager has undergone many changes due to various challenges. There was the National AIDS Control Council, and subsequently the role was assigned to national programs to combat these three pandemics (AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria) and civil society organizations (Caritas and Red Cross).

Challenges in the implementation of the previous grants led the Global Fund to entrust grant management to UNDP on a transitional basis, as of January 2018.

The Ministry in charge of public health, aware of the role it must play to have a good visibility on all resources and investments in the health sector, wants to set up a management structure so that the role of lead manager returns to the country and that the resources currently at UNDP level are repatriated to the national party which will then ensure their management.

This is the purpose of this draft order.

After analysis and discussion, the Council noted that the project needed to be reviewed and set up a team to analyze it in all its details to ensure that the State has sufficient control over the funds availed for the country to combat these scourges.

6. Any Other Business

The First Vice-President of the Republic, who had represented His Excellency the President of the Republic on the occasion of the International Day of Persons Living with Disabilities, conveyed to His Excellency the President of the Republic the thanks from persons living with disabilities for the support he continues to provide to them. Among other requests, they wished that their teachers and doctors be paid by the Government and that sign language be used on the television news so that deaf and dumb persons can follow the news.

Done in Bujumbura, on 12th December 2019

The Secretary General of the Government and
Government Spokesperson

Prosper NTAHORWAMIYE

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Department of Communication

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