

REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI



Ministry of Foreign Affairs

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Official launch of the technical control modernisation project



The second Vice-President of the Republic, His Excellency Joseph Butore, officially launched the project to modernise technical control services and grant transport permits at the headquarters of the transit authority OTRACO, on 11 February 2020.

After taking a guided tour of all the modernised services to see the process of granting these documents and verifying the condition of the vehicle, H.E. Joseph Butore congratulated the OTRACO authorities, technicians and senior Ministries for the step in technical control to strengthen road safety in Burundi.

He said that this system will improve quality services in real time and contribute to the tax increase because, the system is computerized, there will be no more leakage from the public treasury, said the second Vice-President of the Republic.

H.E. Joseph Butore also thanked the public-private partnership that has made a significant contribution to the

implementation of this project. He took the opportunity to call on other investors to invest in other sectors of national life to increase production. This is an eloquent sign that public-private partnership is possible in Burundi, he insisted.

To make this partnership operational on behalf of the Government, His Excellency Joseph Butore reiterated the Government's commitment to listen to them, guide them and build relationships with them in order to develop the country in all sectors. He called on OTRACO officials to extend these modernised services within the country, within the organisation's agencies. To close, he urged the OTRACO authorities to implement the theories they demonstrated during the guided tour.

It should be noted that the documents required to issue the technical check are: any identity document (passport, driver's licence, national identity card), the current insurance, the current technical check, a passport photo and the checklist of inspection tasks under Law No. 1/26 of November 23, 2012 with traffic code, Chapter IV Article 149 consists of vehicle identification, braking system, steering, visibility, lighting and signage as well as ground link.

(source: www.rtnb.bi)

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National Assembly: towards regulating pharmaceutical prices in Burundi



The National Assembly met on Wednesday, February 12, 2020 at the Kigobe Hemicycle to discuss the draft law regulating the drug, the practice of pharmacy, the profession of optician and the art of traditional practitioners. Minister of Public Health and AIDS Minister Dr Thaddée Ndikumana was the guest of the day.

In his explanatory statement, Minister Thaddée Ndikumana indicated that the drug appears as one of the major pillars throughout the health system. He added that in order to achieve one of the specific objectives of the national health development plan extended to 2018, is to improve the availability and accessibility of the drug and other medical consumables, through the complementarity of the public and private sector.

In his explanatory statement, Minister Thaddée Ndikumana indicated that the drug appears as one of the major pillars throughout the health system. He added that in order to achieve one of the specific objectives of the national health development plan extended to 2018, is to improve the availability and accessibility of the drug and other medical consumables, through the complementarity of the public and private sector.

Regarding the pricing of medicines, Minister Thaddée Ndikumana deplored the fact that in the old law there is a difference in prices, because drug prices are not currently regulated but in his opinion it should be regulated to allow that they are accessible to the public and avoid speculation that is dangerous to public health and avoid unfair competition.

Dr. Thaddee Ndikumana also deplored the fact that the various pitfalls associated with the availability of

medicines to CAMEBU and the Mutual of the Public Service (MFP) stem largely from the non-regulation of the private sector in the commercialisation of Pharmaceuticals.

However, the wish of the President of the National Assembly, the Right Honourable Pascal Nyabenda and some Members of Parliament is to see the price of the drug accessible to the population but provided that it is made available instead of missing on the market.

From this perspective, several factors can influence the price of medicines on the market, as some Members of Parliament have mentioned, namely the exchange rate, the expiry date of short-term medicines, etc. It is in this context that the Minister of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS welcomed the fact that Members of Parliament have made amendments to regulate the private sector in the marketing of the drug. According to these amendments, since the Government has already exempted all medicines to reduce the cost of acquisition at the population level, the public sector is regulated because there are caps set by the regulations. But on the private sector side, if there is a stock outage here and there, there is an excessive increase in the price of medicines that leads to the limit and accessibility in relation to the purchasing power of the population, explained Minister Thaddee Ndikumana.

Regarding the profit margin on the private sector side, Dr Thaddée Ndikumana said that it would be fair with the public sector because the Ministry referred to quotas applied to the public sector. He indicated that at the CAMEBU level, during the importation to the OBR, it applies 15% and to the private sector, what is proposed by Members of Parliament is to have a profit of 25% for wholesalers and retailers 15%. The Minister stated that this profit margin will allow the private sector to accompany and support the Government without exaggerating the interest rate in the public interest, the Minister said.

The other innovation of this new bill, new approaches will be put in place including the management structure, regulation in this area. For example, a Burundian Human Medicines and Food Regulation Authority will be set up, there will also be the establishment of a national drug quality assurance agency and health safety which will play the regulatory role between BBN,

ABREMA and ABREVEPA.

After analysis and some amendments made by Members of Parliament, the bill on the regulation of the drug, the practice of pharmacy, the profession of optician and the art of traditional practitioners was adopted 100% by the Members of Parliament. In the event that the project is enacted, a one-year period is required for its implementation.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

Minister of Foreign Affairs attends African Union Summit of Heads of State and Government in Addis Abeba.



In its Speech, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs H.E Ambassador Ezekiel NIBIGIRA first conveyed the greetings of the President of the Republic of Burundi H.E. Pierre NKURUNZIZA.

The Minister went on to point out that after the turbulent period that Burundi has experienced over the past five years, he is proud to participate in this 32nd Conference of Heads of State and Government at a time when peace and security reign over all Burundi's national territory, and the socio-economic and political situation has returned to normal.

He added that this was made possible by the commitment of the Burundian people to their values and

unity and their unwavering determination to defend their sovereignty.

He expressed his thanks to the international community: the African Union and the United Nations, and especially the friendly countries that accompanied Burundi through this difficult period until the satisfactory stage.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs continued his speech by saying that the democratic culture that takes root in Burundi in a satisfactory rhythm has also been a key element in the recovery of the situation as it has allowed the Burundian people to choose themselves itself leaders who have been able to bring peace and stability, and get the country back on track in terms of socio-economic development despite the unfair sanctions that the European Union imposed on Burundi, after the failed attempt to coup d'état of 2015.

He pointed out that thanks to the political stabilisation and resumption of the country's socio-economic development, Burundi is moving towards free, inclusive and transparent elections, and these elections will be fully funded by resources 26 January 2020 , The President of the Republic of Burundi, His President Pierre NKURUNZIZA, honored his commitment and promise to the people of Burundi and the international community to voluntarily renounce their constitutional rights to represent in the 2020 elections.

He said that it was thanks to the keeping of the words of His Excellency Pierre NKURUNZIZA, President of the Republic of Burundi, that the ruling CNDD-FDD nominated a candidate on behalf of General Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE who has so far been Secretary General of the same party and whose good reputation both within the country and beyond its borders is beyond doubt.

The Minister added that Burundians, who are mainly

in Tanzania and Kenya, are voluntarily returning to the country at an accelerated rate and the same phenomenon is being noticed on the side of political exiles because security, peace and stability prevail throughout the territory of the country.

Indeed, the Minister of Foreign Affairs has indicated that the Peace and Security Council, on page 9, where it is talking about the impasse in the inter-Burundian dialogue; the Burundian delegation categorically rejected this erroneous consideration as to why it recommended that this sentence be completely deleted because at every stage, the ruling party and the opposition parties come together to find solutions to problems that arise or even anticipate to prevent.

In conclusion, he reiterated Burundi's readiness and commitment to remain a reliable player in finding solutions to the challenges facing our continent and that Burundi is determined to continue its commitment to contribute effectively in the fight against terrorism in Somalia, the Central African Republic and wherever the need arises.

It should be noted that in the decision on the Peace and Security Council report on its activities and on the state of peace and security in Africa, the Conference of Foreign Ministers had expressed its views on the situation in Burundi. Indeed, the conference said that

it takes note of the measures taken by the Government of Burundi to meet the country's challenges, particularly with regard to the preparation of the next 2020 elections, including the creation, on 31 August 2018, of a Commission Independent National Electoral (CENI), in accordance with Burundi's electoral code and a Truth and Reconciliation Commission (CVR) in accordance with the 2000 Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement.

The Conference congratulated the President of the Republic of Burundi, PIERRE NKURUNZIZA, for honoring his commitment not to run for the next presidential election in 2020 and invited the Government and opposition groups to intensify their efforts to finalize a consensual and inclusive agreement that is consistent with the spirit and content of the Arusha Agreement.

The Conference reiterated his call for the European Union to lift the sanctions imposed on Burundi in order to create favorable conditions to facilitate the country's socio-economic recovery.

(Rédaction-MAE).

Interview given by Gabon 24 to His Excellency Ambassador Ezekiel NIBIGIRA, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Burundi, and President of the Peace and Security Council (SPC) of the African Union for January 2020



In an interview that His Excellency Ambassador Ezekiel NIBIGIRA, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Burundi and President of the Peace and Security Council (SPC) of the African Union for the month of January 2020 granted Gabon 24, he said that three topics were on the agenda. The aim was to address the issue of the African Union's goal of silencing arms by 2020, with a focus on the effects of war on children. The second topic concerned security analysis in the Sahel region, South Sudan, Libya and other coun-

tries where there are security problems. The President of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union (AU) has finally indicated that the third item on the agenda is to get conclusions drawn and take appropriate decisions so that the situation can change on the continent African.

To the question of reproaches addressed to the African Union for being weak because, having watched a lot but without implementing concrete action since the violence continues on the continent, the example being taken on the Central African Republic (CAR), His Excellency Ezekiel NIBIGIRA replied that the African Union was able to do what it could. With regard to what is happening in the Central African Republic, the President of the SPC has indicated that there are many stakeholders in this field and in this country. In relation to security in RCA, the President of the SPC believes that, if it were the African Union alone that was intervening, it could consider appro-

appropriate measures, measures that it could control itself. But in RCA it is not the AU alone that intervenes (as in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Nigeria). Indeed, for His Excellency Ambassador Ezekiel NIBIGIRA, the international community and other European countries are intervening and the African Union has no means to intervene effectively and in real time. The AU is waiting for support from other communities and this means that these communities will want to put their agendas ahead and give aid to the AU, with conditions.

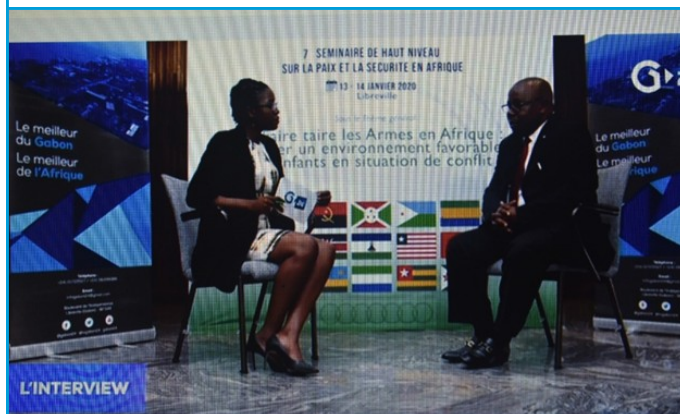
Asked what would be needed to achieve financial autonomy for the African Union, His Excellency Ambassador Ezekiel NIBIGIRA said that the Heads of State and Government met in Addis Ababa at their Summit and noted that if the African Union does not become independent, we will not be able to react in a way to this issue of peace and security. That is why a contribution system has been put in place that will help the African Union to be able to intervene anywhere in countries where there are security and peace problems using African Union specific means.

With regard to the impact of armed conflicts on children and the statement by the Gabonese Prime Minister that 152 million African children die each year as a result of armed conflict, the question that was asked was whether children who are now recruited into armed groups, especially rebels, would not be a problem upstream of governance or lack of schooling. The President of the SPC proclaimed that for him, the problem in Africa is not a problem of governance but rather a problem of means. According to His Excellency Ezekiel NIBIGIRA, in Africa there is poverty. It is true that there are raw materials, natural resources, and in Africa there is everything it takes to develop, but for years Africa's natural resources have been plundered and this has caused African countries to become impoverished. And because of this poverty, countries are failing to create jobs to hire working-age youth. That is why these young people join armed groups and the destabilizing movements of the Nations. But if there could be ways to create jobs, there might not even be these people migrating to Europe or the United States of America in search of work. These young people should be kept on African soil.

The conclusion of the interview with the President

of the SPC was that while waiting for the African Union and the States in their sovereignty to find a way to limit the influx of those countries that come to plunder the wealth of Africa and those children who are affected by the consequences of armed conflict by being victims of war, displaced or bombed, training and employment should be found for these children. For His Excellency Ezekiel NIBIGIRA, accompaniment measures should be initiated because, if as a child had become accustomed to eating without problems, he would have great difficulty if he lacks this bread and will have an attempt to join the rebel groups. You have to find a job creation system because you can give someone bread, but if you don't show them how to get it, the challenge is there. If we can no longer give him this bread, he will look for a way to snatch it. There is also a need for youth banks so that there can be small and medium-sized enterprises and for young people to achieve independence in what they do.

With regard to countries that are plundering mining resources in African countries, the President of the SPC said that now is the time to stop and that it is rather time to come and invest in African countries, if they want to use these resources Mining. The President of the SPC called on them to come and set up their factories in Africa and therefore create jobs.



(Source: Redaction/ Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

A training session on the activities of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission for the staff of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



On Thursday, February 6, 2020, the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Mr. Isidore NTIRAMPEBA officially opened the activities related to a training session on the activities of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. These activities were organized against the staff of the Central Administration of the Minister of Foreign Affairs. This training is the opening of a ministry staff retreat planned in Muyinga province from 7/2/2020.

In his remarks, the expert who had been sent by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Commissioner Aloys BATUNGWANAYO said that the initial mission of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) in Burundi, established in May 2014, was to look at the inter-ethnic conflicts that have battered the country since independence on 1 July 1962, until a cease-fire was signed with the last rebel group on 4 December 2008.

The observation is that the origin of the cyclical violence of a political nature that has bereaved Burundi goes back to the time of colonisation," explained the expert of this Commission who led this science. Burundi has experienced several misfortunes resulting in

trauma," he said. For him, in order for Burundians to heal from these wounds, they must bear witness to what they have seen and experienced.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (CVR) calls for support from provincial and municipal actors by making the public aware of its work and its multiple missions. The TRC also calls on the administrative authorities to prepare the population for testimony, in order to achieve its goal of knowing the truth and achieving reconciliation. Only if the people of Burundi adopt a new behavior of solidarity and give birth to the truth by revealing what they know, they are convinced that the prosperous future we



wish to have in our country will undoubtedly depend on the reconciliation of Burundians.

The staff had time to ask questions about the various activities already carried out or those that are being carried out by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. (Source: Redaction/ Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

Celebrating the Day of the Russian Diplomat

On Monday, 10 February, the Russian Ambassador to Burundi held a press conference to mark the Day of the Russian Diplomat. Despite the fact that the history of the Russian diplomatic service began a few centuries before,



the celebration of this date began in 2003. On this occasion the Russian Embassy held a press conference at which it was discussed on key areas of Russian foreign policy in 2019.

According to Russian Ambassador to Burundi His Excellency Valery A. MIKHAYLOV, Russia is pursuing an independent and multidimensional foreign policy, making efforts to desalinate international tension,

strengthen the legal base and democratic communication of interstate. Russia tries to help promote global and regional security in all dimensions.

Russia considers unilateral sanctions, approved outside the UN Security Council, to be an illegal mechanism that should not be part of the range of measures applied by the global community because these sanctions directly violate international law.

Now Russia testifies to the efforts of the United States and other Western countries to replace international law, on which the current world order is based by rules that are advantageous only to Western countries. Both Russia and Burundi are in favor of absolute respect for all norms of international law.

For Russian-Burundian relations, the two countries continue to improve bilateral relations in the economic, political, security, education, etc. areas. At the level of international organizations, Russia and Burundi supported each other in a beneficial way. Regarding the elections to be held in May 2020, the Russian Ambassador to Burundi has indicated that Russia is confident that the elections will be open and transparent, in a calm and stable climate

without violence. Russia considers the elections to be an internal matter of Burundi and speaks out against all forms of external intervention in the affairs of the sovereign state and will welcome any choice of the people of Burundi.

Among the global challenges that require uniting the efforts of all countries such as epidemics and terrorism, Russia understands the importance of international cooperation in these areas and has already offered China assistance in the fight against Coronavirus. In 2019, the subject of the fight against international terrorism has been the main area of Russia's foreign policy. Only the efforts of all countries and the refusal to apply double standards in this area can lead to victory over international terrorism. Russia votes for joint fight against terrorism. (Source: Redaction/ Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

Mageyo-Kinama-Mubimbi power line opens



The Minister of Hydraulics, Energy and Mines Ir Côme Manirakiza officially inaugurated on Monday, February 10, 2020 the Mageyo-Kinama-Mubimbi power line, which is 22 km long and cost 1 billion 350 million Burundian francs.

The administrator of Mubimbi said that it is joy for the people of his commune especially since the request had just lasted 27 years. He thanked the President of the Republic who had promised them the electricity supply on 17 October 2019 and that the promise had just been fulfilled.

The Governor of Bujumbura Province and Minister

Ir Côme Manirakiza have asked the population benefiting from this electric current to exploit it by creating new jobs using electric power such as welding, moulding, salons hairdressing. This would allow Regideso to recover the funds committed to the construction of this line, they said.

They also asked to contact the Regideso for any possible connection because cheating leads to fatal accidents and the loss of the Regideso.

Minister Ir Côme Manirakiza said that the distribution of electricity within the country is part of the National Development Programme (PND) which will run until 2027. Because electricity is expensive, the country has put in place a programme that it will run with the World Bank, to equip major urban centres, schools and hospitals with solar panels. This program will cost US\$100 million, said Ir Côme Manirakiza

He advised people around the power line not to build under the high-voltage line, to cut down trees that can reach the cables and to properly install the plugs that are perverse when a child fiddles them.

He thanked the people who agreed to allow the power line to pass through their fields and infrastructure before

it received the allowances. The Minister in charge of energy has asked REGIDESO not to abuse the kindness of this population and to resolve this problem as quickly as possible.

(source: www.rtnb.bi)

Burundi, at the headquarters of the UNICEF and UN Women Board of Directors



**ONU
FEMMES**

unicef
for every child

Since 1 January 2020, Burundi has been a member of the Executive Board of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (UN Women) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), for a three-year term. Burundi sincerely thanks all the countries that supported its candidacy. (Source: Redaction/ Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

IGEBU : a highly recommended climate alert system



The period from March to May 2020 commonly known as "IMPESHI" is a season of heavy rains in all natural regions of the country. According to the forecasts of the Geographical Institute of Burundi (IGEBU), it is expected that there will be an increased probability of above normal rainfall in some parts of

the country and near-normal rainfall with excess tendencies in the rest of the country.

This statement comes from the presentation workshop of a briefing note of the seasonal weather forecast valid for the "IMPESHI" crop season: March-May 2020, which was organized in Bujumbura by IGEBU on Tuesday, February 11, 2020.

The presentation of the seasonal weather forecast consisted of a quantitative and qualitative description of the expected rainfall over different regions of the country.

The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock, Mr. Emmanuel Ndorimana who opened this workshop, said that for the agricultural sector, this information is of a special character because, according to him heavy rains or

lack of rainfall can have adverse consequences on crops.

According to seasonal weather forecasts, the actual start of season B commonly known as "IMPESHI" began in January 2020 in most except the Bugesera and part of the Mirwa where the actual start began with the first decade of February 2020.

Weather forecasts also indicate that the end of the "IMPESHI" season is expected at the end of the second decade of May in the Imbo, Moso and Bweru regions. For the rest of the country, the end of the season is scheduled for the end of May 2020.

During this period, according to the WEATHER Services of the IGEBU, above normal rainfall is expected in the regions of Moso, Bututsi, Imbo, Kirimiro, Mugamba, part of Bugesera and near-normal rainfall with a tendency surplus to the rest of the country.

At the meeting, participants had the opportunity to present their views and suggested adapting the weather forecast to agriculture. They therefore recommended the broadcast in on all radio stations broadcasting on Burundian territory, daily and seasonal weather forecasts so that decision-makers and the agricultural population could take strategies and

measures that take into account the expected climate or weather situation.

Workshop participants expressed a desire to hold regular radio and television panels to inform public opinion about what needs to be done to address the adverse effects of climate change.

They also proposed mapping high-risk areas and establishing a climate alert system to avoid material and human losses.

IGEBU officials took note of all the participants' recommendations. They also indicated that the IGEBU forecasting service will continue to monitor the behavior of the season and inform the public about possible changes.

(source: www.rtnb.bi)

There are no locusts in Burundi



During a press briefing hosted on Monday, 10 February 2020 by the Ministry of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock, the Director General of Agriculture Mr J.Claude Mbarushimana denied a video shared on social networks showing crop pest locusts that have appeared in Burundi, especially in Kabezi in the Gakungwe area.

Mr. J.Claude Mbarushimana reported that after receiving this information, the Department sent a team to Kabezi consisting of plant protection technicians, ISABU researchers, staff from the Provincial Bujumbura environment, agriculture and livestock and local government to verify the veracity of the information. Upon arrival at the scene, these technicians were

able to observe that there were locusts on some trees. By analyzing them, these technicians were able to draw the conclusion that they are not harmful because they live on forest trees and rarely in crop fields, said the Director General of Agriculture.

He said the team took the opportunity to raise awareness of the local awareness of picking up these insects and then burying them in a hole or burning them. This type of locust sat scientifically called *Zonocerus Variegatus* is a stinking species with a mixed yellow color of green, red and black. People are not allowed to eat this kind of stinking locusts, said Mr. J.Claude Mbarushimana.

He said that based on information provided by the team of technicians, the Ministry of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock denies the information shared on the various social networks. Locusts found in Kabezi are common in the imbo plain and have no connection to locusts that ravage crops in countries in the region such as Kenya, South Sudan and Ethiopia.

Mr. J.Claude Mbarushimana said that the Ministry of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock is calming the Burundian population especially farmers and urg-

ing them not to rely on these kinds of messages that have no other purpose than to create panic fear among farmers.

The Department is committed to continuing to mentor farmers and provide them with the information they need to increase agricultural production. The Ministry thanks the local government for its prompt and good cooperation in this field information verification operation, stressed the Director General of Agriculture. He took this opportunity to inform farmers that the dead-

line for payment of the balance for fertilizer is Wednesday, February 12, 2020 and asked the micro-finance institutions involved, the provincial environmental directors, to agriculture and livestock to follow the fertilizer distribution operation well so that this season is well organized.

(source: www.rtnb.bi)

CNAP urges people to voluntarily hand over their weapons



The National Permanent Commission to Combat the Proliferation of Small Arms and Small Arms (CNAP) held a coordination meeting of partners in the fight against small arms and small arms on Tuesday, 11 February 2020.

CNAP President, CPP Maurice Mbonimpa said the purpose of the meeting is to implement Decree Law 100/004 of 7 January 2020 in connection with the exemption from prosecution to gun owners who will hand them over until 07 April 2020.

In his welcome note, the President of the CNAP indicated that it is in the context of raising awareness that these weapons should voluntarily be handed over in a timely manner in order to end crime and to analyse together the dangers of illegal detention of these weapons. Weapons.

Although such work has been carried out since 2009, crime persists in the country with firearms or stab-bings, said CPP Maurice Mbonimpa.

Assistant to the Ministry of Public Security Mr. Njeimana Jean Damascene said that fire-arms are plentiful in the sub-region, which is still unstable due to repeated crises and threatens the security and development of the country. That is why Burundi has set up this commission to combat the proliferation and

movement of weapons, especially for illegal gun owners.

The various presentations show that for the period from July 2018 to June 2019, the most frequent cases of crime are related to land conflicts at 27%, followed by drunkenness and 75% of crime is committed with knives, grenades occupy 2nd position with 20% and guns 7%.

Ruyigi province comes out on top with 84 cases, then comes Bujumbura town hall where the men are at the same time criminals and victims. He indicated that the age group that operates these packages ranges from 25-49 years.

Participants asked for the marking of army rifles to identify the weapon that committed the crime as was done for police rifles. The CPP Maurice Mbonimpa indicated that all these activities are included in their 2020 action plan. CPP Maurice Mbonimpa asks participants to raise awareness and coordinate the recovery of these handovered weapons. For a wide circulation, CPP Maurice Mbonimpa says that the commission will send broadcast messages, whoever holds a mobile phone will have a message and other awareness messages will be read in churches of different denominations Religious.

These partners are regional and provincial police commanders, division commanders in the army, provincial governors and focal points of the NAAC.

(source: www.rtnb.bi)

1

REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI**PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC
Secretariat-General of the Government****MEDIA RELEASE CONSECUTIVE TO THE CABINET MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2020**

A Cabinet Meeting was held on Wednesday 12 February 2020 under the chairmanship of His Excellency Pierre Nkurunziza, President of the Republic of Burundi. The following items have been analyzed:

1. Draft decree revising decree n ° 100/39 of 17 February 2016 on the creation, organization, missions and operation of the Burundi National Police Hospital, presented by the Minister of Public Security and Disaster Management.

The Burundi National Police Hospital is currently organized by decree n ° 100/39 of February 17, 2016. Days after this decree, the denomination and the organization of the Ministry responsible for this Hospital have changed, becoming the "Ministry of Public Security and Disaster Management", with the Ministry being currently organized by decree No. 100 / 083 of July 20, 2018.

In addition, the General Direction of the National Police was changed to General Inspection of the National Police of Burundi by organic law n ° 1/03 of February 20, 2017 which governs the National Police of Burundi.

Finally, it is a question that the organization of this Hospital conforms to the organic framework of the personalized Administrations of the State. The revision of this decree is therefore proposed to comply with these texts.

After discussions and debate, the project was adopted.

2. Draft decree establishing the Special Fund for Disaster Risk Reduction, presented by the Minister of Public Security and Disaster Management.

Over the past few decades, the world has experienced an upsurge in disasters of various origins. Losses from these disasters are increasing, with a cohort of severe consequences for human life, people's livelihoods and various infrastructures.

Faced with this situation, the world authorities met in 2005 and in 2015 in Japan to set up a guideline, in order to mitigate losses and risks linked to disasters.

At the regional and sub regional levels, the States have organized themselves to create structures responsible for monitoring the theme of disaster risk reduction on a daily basis in order to comply with the framework drawn up at the global level.

With regard to our country, these structures have existed since October 2007 with the creation of the National Platform for Risk Prevention and Disaster Management, and its branches exist at the level of each Province.

In order to align with the global framework, the National Development Plan provided for the creation of a Fund to finance risk prevention and disaster management activities. This is the purpose of this draft decree.

After analyzing this project, the Council adopted it with a few corrections.

3. Bill establishing the allowances and benefits regime for the President of the Republic, the Vice-President of the Republic, the Prime Minister and other members of the Government as well as their incompatibility and social security regime, presented by the Minister of Justice, Civil Protection and Keeper of the Seals.

Burundi recently adopted a new Constitution resulting from the modification of certain provisions from that of 2005. The configuration of the institutions of the Republic has been modified by this new Constitution. Instead of two vice-presidents, only one was retained and a post of Prime Minister was created. This modification of the field of application automatically leads to a need to modify certain provisions of the texts implementing the Constitution in this regard.

Consequently, a law establishing the allowances and benefits regime for the President of the Republic, the Vice-President of the Republic, the Prime Minister and other members of the Government as well as the incompatibilities and the social security regime linked to these functions must be prepared in application of the constitutional provisions.

This project incorporates certain provisions of Law No. 07/07 of 24 January 2013 establishing the system of allowances and benefits for the President of the Republic, the Vice-Presidents of the Republic and the members of the Government as well as their system of incompatibilities and Social Security with some modifications with regard to the President of the Republic and the other members of the Government.

For the post of Vice-President and Prime Minister, these provisions are new with a reference to the basic elements of the President of the Republic.

A useful clarification has also been made to the scope of the provisions of this law as well as the composition of the executive power for a better understanding.

After analyzing this bill, the Council adopted it with a few corrections.

4. Policy Paper and Strategic Orientations on Good Governance and Fight against Corruption + National Strategy for Good Governance and Fight against Corruption, Second Generation, presented by the Minister to the Presidency in charge of Good Governance

The drafting of the Policy Paper and strategic guidelines on good governance and the fight against corruption and the national strategy of good governance and the fight against corruption, second generation, falls within the general framework of political, administrative and legal reforms, as well as the economic and social measures recommended by the Government to promote the development of the country.

Indeed, on the political level, the end of the period covered by the previous Strategy underwent a process of drafting the new Constitution of the Republic of Burundi promulgated on June 7, 2018. This Constitution gives pride of place to good governance and the fight against corruption.

On the economic and social level, at the end of the implementation period of the second generation poverty reduction strategic framework and the first generation of the national strategy for good governance and the fight against corruption in 2016, the Burundi National Development Plan 2018-2027 was drafted and adopted in 2018.

This plan has, among other axes, the strengthening of democracy, governance, and the rule of law, security and the safeguarding of national sovereignty.

Given the need to put in place mechanisms for implementing the provisions of the Constitution as well as the need to design instruments for the operationalization of the National Development Plan, it is imperative to have these two instruments in place; namely the Policy Paper and strategic orientations in matters of good governance and fight against corruption and the national strategy of good governance and fight against corruption, second generation.

The design of these mechanisms and instruments is also well founded, all the more since the previous national strategy of good governance and the fight against corruption was wrapped up while certain activities included in its operational action plan had not yet been performed.

It should be noted that the policy and strategic guidelines letter outlines a guideline in terms of good governance and the fight against corruption, while the national strategy for good governance and the fight against corruption indicates the lines of intervention, the actors and the ways and means to achieve the objectives set.

The Council of Ministers had analyzed this file and had returned it to be enriched by various ministerial departments. After analyzing these reworked documents, the Council found them to be in conformity with the guidelines which had been given and adopted them.

5. Draft ordinance laying down specifications for the internal control structures of the Burundian public administration in terms of monitoring governance, presented by the Minister to the Presidency in charge of Good Governance.

The promotion of good governance and the fight against corruption are enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of Burundi and other reference documents such as Vision 2025, the National Development Plan and the National Strategy for Good Governance.

In its mission of monitoring Governance in public administration and in order to be more effective, the Ministry to the Presidency in charge of Good Governance intends to collaborate closely with the internal control structures under the authority of public administration.

In addition to the classic missions generally carried out by the General State Inspectorate, sectoral inspections and internal control bodies housed in public entities with autonomous management, this project proposes that these structures also take charge of monitoring governance.

This project defines the specifications for internal control structures in terms of governance in order to harmonize the understanding of this governance monitoring mission.

At the end of the discussions and the debate, the Council noted that it was necessary to draw up a more general draft decree which will serve as a reference in the establishment and organization of internal control structures as well as the sectoral inspections. A team has been appointed to develop this project which shall be ready within two weeks.

6. Planned creation of the Investment and Development Bank for Women, BIDEF, presented by the Minister of Human Rights, Social Affairs and Gender.

The Government of the Republic of Burundi has decided, with regard to gender policy and the empowerment of women, to strengthen its commitment to eliminating inequalities and exclusion linked to gender, by updating the national gender policy in 2003. This is why significant progress has been made in improving the living conditions of women.

Government technical and financial partners also play a significant role in supporting initiatives for Burundian women, in particular by facilitating their access to credit.

Despite all these efforts, challenges persist, and their effects prevent women from participating actively in economic activities. It is for this reason that the Government of Burundi has taken the initiative of creating a bank for women, responsible for facilitating the financing of economic projects initiated by women in businesses, associations and cooperatives.

The creation of a bank for women is one of the beneficial measures to promote their empowerment, their active participation and their contribution to sustainable economic growth in Burundi.

After analysis and discussions, the Council backed the project and recommended to accelerate the establishment of this bank.

7. National child protection policy in Burundi 2020-2024, presented by the Minister of Human Rights, Social Affairs and Gender.

This policy is in line with the commitment of the Government of Burundi, which included in its priorities the best interests of the child when it ratified the International Convention on the Rights of the Child, as well as the other international instruments relating to child protection.

It offers clear solutions to the various problematic situations facing Burundian children. Some are in situations of violence, exploitation, discrimination, abuse and neglect. Reflections and consultations with actors who are in contact with children have been carried out with a view to proposing ways out to improve the situation of children in Burundi.

Thus, this Policy provides a synoptic table of all the obstacles encountered and shows actions to be taken to overcome them.

The vision of this policy is that Burundi offers every child a reassuring political, legal, institutional and community environment through a solid protection system that meets the principles of the International Convention on the Rights of the Child.

It should be noted that this policy is the improved version of the one that was implemented during the period from 2012 to 2016. It was developed based on the recommendations from the evaluation made in 2017.

After analyzing this policy, the Council adopted it.

8. Any Other Business.

- The Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research spoke about the situation of Burundian students in China following the eruption of Corona virus. He reported on the measures that have been taken to protect them, and to date, none of them has been infected.
- The Minister of Human Rights, Social Affairs and Gender spoke of the problem linked to the means of being able to come to the aid of people who have been displaced following the disasters due to the torrential rains of recent days.
- The Minister of Transport, Public Works, Equipment and Land Planning informed that an inventory of the roads which have been damaged in recent days is being made with a view to finding the means to rehabilitate them.

He also informed that within the framework of the sanitation of the City of Bujumbura, all the people having built on manholes or pipes of evacuation of waste water or having carried out unauthorized extensions were warned and that soon, there will be demolitions.

- The Minister of Communication and Media forwarded to the Government the gratitude of the family of the late journalist Athanase NTIYANOGEYE for their support following his death.
- Finally, in order to reduce the cost of vehicles purchased by the state, His Excellency the President of the Republic recommended entering into direct contact with the manufacturer and discussing the terms of payment. The Services of the 2nd Vice Presidency shall follow up this issue.

Done at Bujumbura, February 13, 2020

Prosper NTAHORWAMIYE
Secretary-General and Spokesman
of the Government.-

Statement by H.E.M. Albert SHINGIRO, Burundi's Permanent Representative to the United Nations at the Informal Plenary Session on Intergovernmental Negotiations on the Issue of Fair Representation in the Security Council and increasing the number of its members, and other related issues relating to the Council, item 122 of the agenda of the 74th session of the UN Ga



Ladies co-chairs, distinguished delegates,

- The delegation of Burundi would first like to thank you for the timely organization of this first session of the year on intergovernmental negotiations on the issue of fair representation in the Security Council, increase in the number of its members, and other related issues related to the Board of Directors.
 - My delegation would also like to thank you for your joint letter of 31 January 2020 inviting member states to take part, actively and constructively, in this first meeting.
- While fully aligning itself with the Declaration made by Sierra Leone on behalf of the African Group, the delegation of Burundi wished to make some observations on a national basis.

- **Ladies and gentlemen,** at the outset, my delegation continues to believe that intergovernmental negotiations mandated by the General Assembly are **the only legitimate mechanism for negotiating** the reform of the Security Council. This mechanism must be led and run exclusively by member states on an equal footing.
- As you know, this issue has been on the table in the United Nations for more than a quarter of a century without any significant progress in both substance and form. While this process is stalling, Africa with 1.2 billion people, the only continent not represented among permanent members and underrepresented in the non-permanent membership category, continues to suffer historical injustice exclusion within this extremely important body responsible for world peace and security issues, whose agenda is largely dominated by African issues.
- **Ladies and gentlemen,** in view of this injustice, which no one denies, the delegation of Burundi would like to reiterate once again its unwavering commitment to the integrity of the common African position on the issue of Security Council contained in the Ezulwini consensus and the Sirte Declaration. For us, this is the only viable option that will put an end to the historical injustice against the African continent.

- The main elements of the Common African Position are known to all and enjoy the support of the overwhelming majority of member states. Africa legitimately claims at least two permanent seats with all the prerogatives and privileges of permanent members, including the right of veto. Although Africa opposes the veto in principle, it believes that as long as it exists, it should be made available to all current and new permanent members of the Security Council.
- On the issue of geographical representation, Burundi remains committed to the African position that calls for reform that will guarantee the continent's legitimate right to fair and equitable geographical representation on the Security Council, taking into account the principles, objectives and values conveyed by the United Nations Charter.
- Regarding the size of an expanded security council, Burundi and other African countries are considering a more representative and inclusive council with no less than 26 members.
- On the Council's working methods, Burundi is in favour of a more accessible, democratic, representative, accountable, inclusive and effective security council that meets the demands of the contemporary world.
- It is therefore imperative to increase the number of public meetings for greater transparency, to refrain from misuse in Chapter 7 of the Charter and to add or maintain countries on the board's agenda for situations that do not represent any threat to international peace and security. In the name of transparency, it would also be important to allow the chairmen of the country configurations of the Peacebuilding Commission and the countries concerned to participate in the informal consultations of the Council. We also support greater cooperation between the General Assembly and the Security Council in accordance with the areas of jurisdiction defined by the Charter of the United Nations.
- We also believe that the five issues under negotiation are intimately interconnected and should therefore be addressed without too much fragmentation.
- **Ladies and co-chairs**, in order to move forward, we should avoid getting caught up in problems with the **documentary procedure** and instead focus on the substantive aspect of the negotiations, including the five groups of issues negotiations and the integrity of the common African position.
- Africa's overall position on the five strands of reform, set out in General Assembly Decision 62/557, is clearly reflected in the text and its annex distributed on 31 July 2015 by the President of the 69th session of the General Assembly. We have always advocated that the reform process be guided by the principles set out in Decision 62/557. However, despite the delays in achieving our objective, we have continued to engage resolutely in the reform process, in a spirit of goodwill and mutual trust.
- As far as meetings are concerned, we believe that the **scheduling of meetings** to discuss the reform of the council in all its components should be the subject of consultation and decided on the basis of consensus among member states.

In conclusion, my delegation acknowledges that the ongoing negotiation process on the reform of the Security Council is difficult, but at the same time we deeply believe that it is the peoples who will benefit from its happy outcome or who will lose everything if we fail. We sincerely hope that during this session and the others that will follow, Member States will consolidate their commitment to achieve tangible progress, showing the necessary political will, flexibility and flexibility to make Security Council reform a reality to be bequeathed to future generations.

Thank you for your kind attention!

Ministère des Affaires Etrangères

Direction de la Communication

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