

# REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI



Ministry of Foreign Affairs and  
Development Cooperation

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### The President of the Republic participates in the election of the hill chiefs in Giheta commune



This Monday, August 24, 2020, the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye and his spouse, Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye fulfilled their civic duty to elect hill Councilors, at the polling station of ECOFO Bubu, at Musama hill in Giheta commune of Gitega province.

In an interview with the press, the Head of State invited all Burundians registered as voters to participate massively in these elections because the latter constitute the development centers of the country.

The President of the Republic of Burundi reminded that the current Government attaches great importance to the hills. This is evidenced in particular by the substantial funds it grants to cooperatives located on different hills for promoting the development emerging from basic communities. As the local elected officials have an important

role in the supervision of the population the latter are thus called upon to give great importance to these elections so that they can elect leaders of integrity and responsibility, capable of serving as a model, underlined the President H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye.

The President of the Republic then invited the Hill Councilors who will be elected to be responsible authorities, committed to the development of their respective communities. He warned them, pointing out that no one should pretend that he/she is elected to acquire bribes or to misuse goods allocated to the population. The President H.E Ndayishimiye indicated that those elected to higher institutions will not tolerate anyone who engages in acts of looting or embezzlement of the national heritage.

The Head of State also invited the civil servants, who got the day-off of August 24, 2020 to make it profitable by attending to other extra-professional activities, in favor of their self-development.

(Source: [www.abpinfos.com](http://www.abpinfos.com))

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## Presentation of the new Governor of Bururi province



The Burundian Head of State, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, was on Wednesday August 26, 2020 in Bururi province where he held a meeting with the heads of the decentralized services of this constituency and presented to the population the new Governor of Bururi, Mr. Léonidas Bandenzamaso.

The Deputy Spokesman of the President of the Republic, Mr. Alain Diomède Nzeyimana, told the press that

this meeting was held in order to make those who are in charge of public services be aware that they should serve the population well rather than exploiting them. The investiture ceremonies of Governor Bandenzamaso took place at the Kabuye stadium, capital of Bururi province. The President of the Republic, who explained the meaning of "Responsible and Laborious Government", urged those in charge of public services to always be alongside the population, and to avoid getting involved in corruption and tax evasion. His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye encouraged the people of Bururi to work hard to overcome poverty. He called on the youth to organize themselves in cooperatives and design development projects. To the new Governor, the Head of State asked him to be a good leader, to listen to the grievances of the population and to find solutions to their problems.

(Source: [www.abpinfos.com](http://www.abpinfos.com))

## Senator Emmanuel Sinzohagera elected President of the Senate of Burundi



The 39 Senators, who met on Tuesday August 25 in a plenary session, elected the members of the new office of the upper chamber of Parliament to the hemicycle of Gitega.

There were the Right Emmanuel Sinzohagera, elected President of the Senate, Honorable Spès-Caritas Njebarikanuye, elected 1st Vice-President of the Senate and who held the same functions during the past legislature, and the Right Cyriaque Nshimirimana, who is 2nd Vice-President of the Senate.

These members of the board were elected one by one by an absolute majority of the 39 Senators present. Each member had 38 votes out of the 39 Senators pre-

sent against a single abstention for each of the three ballots. The session was chaired by the Elderly Senator, Honorable Jean Bosco Kurisansuma.

There was also a handover and taking session between the former President, the Right Honorable Révérien Ndikuriyo and the new, the Right Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera.

The new President of the Senate addressed thanks to his counterparts Senators for the confidence invested in him and in the other members of the new office. He congratulated the Members of the office of the past legislature, in this case the former president of the Senate, Honorable Révérien Ndikuriyo, for the positive assessment of the achievements recorded. He asked them to kindly share their experiences with the new members of the board.

The President of the Burundian Senate then promised to work with courage and abnegation in the accomplishment of his mission. He also pledged to take into account the slogan of the President of the Republic which advocates work in synergy of actions, to privilege justice, wisdom and devotion. He invited Senators to combine their efforts in the success of their actions.

(Source: [www.abpinfos.com](http://www.abpinfos.com))

## Legal institutions play a key role in conflict prevention



The Burundian Ombudsman Institution organized on Wednesday August 26, 2020, in the capital of Makamba province, an awareness-raising workshop for legal institutions in Makamba on the role of justice in conflict prevention.

The Burundian Ombudsman, Honorable Edouard Nduwimana, indicated that the workshop was organized while Burundi had just elected leading institutions, from the base to the top, through the electoral process held in May 2020. He said that this activity was organized to remind legal institutions of their preponderant role in safeguarding peace and security through fair, independent and transparent justice as the Burundians in the refugee camps in neighboring countries are returning back to their country.

The Honorable Edouard Nduwimana asked the bodies of justice not to be an obstacle in the implementation of the Government's program under the pretext of being independent. There is a nuance between the work of legal institutions and the office of the Ombudsman because, he stressed, all these institutions are for establishing justice, and the ombudsman has the right to appeal to the Head of State when there is a case of default of a judicial officer.

Ombudsman Edouard Nduwimana advised them to execute judgments rendered on time to avoid possible conflicts. He reminded that judges and magistrates are pillars of the implementation of the Gov-

ernment's program and that they must reduce the grumbling of the population because, he said, the survey showed that more than 60% of the population say that justice is the source of conflicts in Burundian society.

The Inspector of Justice, Mr. Ernest Nyabenda, during his presentation, asked the justice system to put forward the trials of the defendants and detainees because, according to him, the principle is that everyone is free, while detention is an exception. Returning to the presumption of innocence, he urged the authorized bodies not to post photos of the presumed in newspapers. The participants called on the ombudsman's office to ask that working conditions, in particular those of the courts of residence, should be improved in terms of means of travel to speed up the execution of judgments.

The Governor of Makamba, Mrs. Françoise Ngozirazana, indicated that land conflicts are observed in Makamba province. She encourages collaboration between the Administration, the Ombudsman institution and legal institutions.

(Source: [www.abpinfos.com](http://www.abpinfos.com))

## Contact meeting with Representatives of Foreign Non-Governmental Organizations



This Friday, August 28, 2020, His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO held a contact meeting for the Representatives of Foreign Non-Governmental Organizations registered in Burundi.

In his remarks, His Excellency the Minister welcomed the Representatives of foreign NGOs while thanking them for their availability at this meeting. He noted to the audience that Burundi is peaceful and that the priorities of the Government of Burundi are focused on economic development, in particular with the National Development Program (PND) 2018-2027, and that Burundi is open to beneficial mutual partnership.



He then invited Representatives of foreign NGOs to comply with national laws in general, and the law governing foreign NGOs in Burundi, in particular. He also urged them to align with the priorities of the Government of Burundi and asked them to assure that their activities have a real impact on the well-being of the population. He also stressed that foreign NGOs

who do not comply with the legal framework will have to cease their activities on Burundian territory. He did not fail to thank all the foreign NGOs who have contributed to the fight against the Covid-19 pandemic in Burundi. He took the opportunity to reiterate the full commitment of the Government of Burundi, and in particular that of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, to support the efforts of foreign NGOs.

The Representative of foreign NGOs member of RE-SO, Mr. Marcellin KASH, also spoke. He thanked His Excellency the Minister for making contact with the Representatives foreign NGOs. He took the opportunity to raise questions relating to the operation of the one-stop shop for foreign NGOs, and the opening of the Melchior NDADAYE International Airport.



By providing some answers to these questions, His Excellency the Minister said that the single window will allow the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation and foreign NGOs to save time and thus work efficiently. Regarding the opening of the Melchior NDADAYE international airport, he observed that given the health crisis, a 3-month campaign was launched by His Excellency the President of the Republic of Burundi to fight against the Covid-19, and that it will be at the end of this campaign that the question will be evaluated according to the results that will be obtained.

(Source: MFADC-Newsroom)

## 493 Burundian refugees voluntarily returned to their homeland from Rwanda



**4** 93 Burundian refugees who had been living in Mahama camp in Rwanda since 2015, have returned voluntarily to their motherland on August 27, 2020. They were welcomed at the Burundian-Rwandan border of Gasenyi-Nemba in Kirundo province, precisely in Busoni commune.

After the warm welcome of the first inaugural convoy around 5 p.m by the administrative Authorities and the surrounding population, the Minister of the Home Affairs, Community Development and Public Security CPC Gervais Ndirakobuca indicated that the Government of Burundi is proud of the return of these compatriots who have spent so many years in exile. He made a strong appeal to other refugees who have not yet returned to their countries, because peace reigns throughout the territory of Burundi, he said.

The Minister CPC Gervais Ndirakobuca said Burundi does not want its children to live in the misery of exile. He stressed that Burundi has set itself the goal of bringing together the forces of all Burundians, even those in exile, in order to achieve sustainable development.

The Minister CPC Gervais Ndirakobuca asked the Administrators to always be with these returnees, to help them in these first days. He said these returnees will benefit from a return package consist-

ing of food and non-food items as well as a certain amount of money to be able to readjust in their households; this aid is estimated to last three months.

The Minister in charge of Public Health, Dr Thaddée Ndikumana, meanwhile, indicated that these returnees must buy Health Insurance Cards (CAM) with the sum of money received because the Government wants its population to be in good health to be able to develop the country.

A Representative of the returnees, Mr. Adrien Ntawumanya, thanked the Burundian Government for the warm welcome, and asked the Government to support them in the first months. He pledged that they are ready to join with other nationals in community development work and to help build peace and security.

Note that these returnees were all taken to the Songore transit center, in Ngozi province, for three days of registration and testing for Covid-19.

(Source: [www.abpinfos.com](http://www.abpinfos.com))

## Official launch of denunciation boxes in Buhiga



The official launch of the whistleblower boxes took place on Tuesday August 25, 2020 in Buhiga Commune of Karusi province, under the leadership of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Community Development and Public Security.

The ceremonies were chaired by the Spokesperson of the Ministry in charge of Home Affairs, OPP1 Pierre Nkurikiye, who represented the Minister. He pointed out that the President of the Republic promised, during his inauguration, the setting up of denunciation boxes at the provincial and municipal level.

The establishment of these boxes, which is an innova-

tion of His Excellency President Evariste Ndayishimiye, will allow the people to write to the President of the Republic and receive answers, he said. It is an addition to the radio dialogues scheduled periodically to know the grievances of the population, according to the spokesperson for the Ministry in charge of Home Affairs. The provincial and municipal denunciation boxes are not there for false accusations or unworthy remarks to the President of the Republic, he specified, indicating that the problems of the population are first treated at the hill level. .

The Minister in charge of Home Affairs is responsible for installing the denunciation boxes, while the Presidency of the Republic will put padlocks and open them at the appropriate time.

The Governor of Karusi Province, Mrs. Calinie Mbarushimana, asked the people of Karusi to enjoy using these denunciation boxes with honesty and dignity.

(Source: [www.abpinfos.com](http://www.abpinfos.com))

## Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation

Department of Communication

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