

REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI



Ministry of Foreign Affairs and
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Official launch of release activities for detainees receiving presidential pardon



The Ministry of Justice proceeded on Monday April 26, 2021 to the official launch of the activities marking the beginning of the release of the detainees benefiting from the presidential pardon. In total, 5,000 prisoners will benefit from the presidential pardon throughout the country, including 1,000 from the central prison of Mpimba. The Head of State H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye enhanced these ceremonies with his presence.

In his speech, the President of the Republic H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye indicated that the day has come to release such a number of prisoners, while welcoming the work done by the Ministry of Justice in the release of these prisoners, the struggle against economic embezzlement as well as corruption.

The President of the Republic recalled that the Government is never satisfied

with prison overcrowding because it is extremely expensive for the country. "It is a huge loss of manpower, public expenditure to treat prisoners, feed them, etc.", explained the Head of State H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye who invited the agents of the judicial system to make the decision to imprison people in cases of constraints especially in order to ensure respect of the law. He also asked them to ban favoritism or coinage from litigation.

The Head of State nevertheless deplores the behavior of some prisoners who, once they have received a presidential pardon, always fall back into the same mistakes. He urged them to avoid recurrence, to join cooperatives, to tackle development work on behalf of the country in general and on behalf of their households in particular.



The President of the Republic advised prisoners to display good behavior

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around them. And in the neighborhood of former prisoners, he recommends welcoming them warmly as parents, brothers and sisters who will contribute to the development of the country.

At the same time, the President of the Republic called on foreign countries hosting Burundians who have committed crimes in Burundi to extradite them so that they can be brought to justice.

As for the Minister of Justice, Mrs. Jeanine Nibizi, she indicated that the more the prison houses are cleared, the more the country takes advantage of it to better take care of the remaining prisoners. She praised the Head of State's willingness to release such a large number of prisoners. Mrs. Jeanine Nibizi said that over the past two months, out of more than 12,000 cases pending, 9,000 cases have been executed, whereas previously

only 4,000 cases were closed.

The Minister Jeanine Nibizi indicated that instead of remaining consumers of State resources, the Ministry intends to initiate a program of establishment of community service in order to make prisoners more productive and useful not only to society but also to themselves.

It should be mentioned that these ceremonies saw the participation of the high authorities of the country, namely, the Vice-President of the National Assembly, certain members of the Government, senior officials of the judiciary and the police, members of the diplomatic and consular corps accredited in Burundi, Representatives of international organizations, Representatives of non-profit associations, etc.

(Source: www.presidence.gov.bi)

Filippo Grandi impressed by massive return of Burundian refugees



The President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye received in audience the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Mr. Filippo Grandi, on April 28, 2021 at the Ntare Rushatsi Palace.

Their discussions focused mainly on the massive return of refugees to Burundi, a very impressive situation which motivated the trip of this UN authority, which came precisely to inquire into this situation and to personally realize the actions that the High Commission for Refugees can lead for a better reintegration of returnees into Burundian society. The Head of State presented him the situation that is prevailing in Burundi. He told him about the

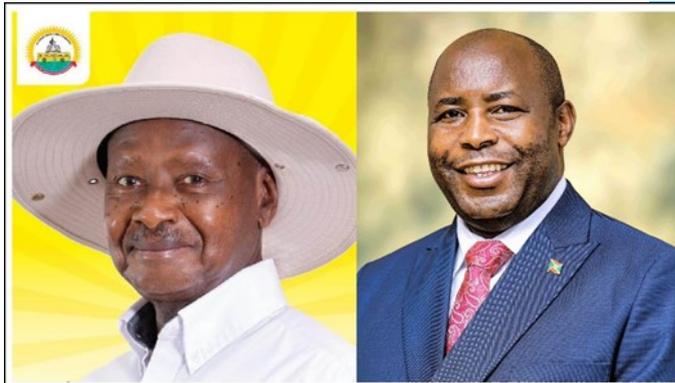
various Government's efforts to stabilize the country, sustain social cohesion, and boost socio-economic development through increased production and the fight against poverty. The President Evariste Ndayishimiye reassured his interlocutor that the cyclical crises which caused the departure of thousands of Burundians into exile belong to the past and that Burundians are now committed to living together and developing their country.

Mr. Filippo Grandi told the Head of State that what he observed, since his arrival in Burundi via the Gasenyi-Nemba border post, encouraged him and that he is an eyewitness to the efforts of the Burundian Authorities. In addition to those who have already returned, he said, there are more than 20,000 registrants awaiting repatriation, not to mention tens of thousands who are returning of their own accord without going through UNHCR services.

Mr. Filippo Grandi promised that the UNHCR will make additional efforts and that it will mobilize other partners to support the Government of Burundi, which spares no effort to create good living conditions for these returning populations.

(Source: www.presidence.gov.bi)

Burundian and Ugandan Heads of State satisfied with agricultural production in their respective countries



vest recorded in the previous agricultural seasons in both Burundi and Uganda.

The Ugandan President has nonetheless mentioned the overflowing of the waters of Lake Victoria in recent weeks. His Burundi counterpart informed that Uganda is not the only country affected, that Burundi is also facing the overflow of Lake Tanganyika, which has caused a lot of damage and caused a significant loss of income for the country.

The President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE spoke by telephone, this Tuesday, April 27, 2021, with his counterpart from the Republic of Uganda, His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta MUSEVENI.

The two Heads of State discussed topics related to the good relations between Burundi and Uganda and also discussed various topics concerning the region, before focusing on trade and the good har-

Before separating, President Yoweri Kaguta MUSEVENI reiterated his invitation to his Burundian counterpart to the inauguration ceremonies scheduled for May in Uganda. The President of the Republic H.E Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE has confirmed that he will pay an official visit to Uganda to participate in these ceremonies.

(Source: www.presidence.gov.bi)

His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye launches a national moralization campaign on good governance



This Wednesday, April 29, 2021, in the forums of the INSP, the President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye led a moralization session on good governance for elected Officials and Administratives, and religious leaders native to Bujumbura, the Economic capital of Burundi.

After the welcome address pronounced by the Chief of Staff of the Mayor of the city of Bujumbura, President Evariste Ndayishimiye, for four hours, instilled

in the participants to this moralization the vision and values of "Responsible and Laborious State". He insisted on the emergency of developing and thoroughly reforming Burundi through the Promotion of Good Governance in the sectors of national life.

The Burundian Head of State pleads for a patriotic leap likely to propel Burundi into a new era of socio-economic progress. His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye pointed out to them that this will necessarily require an evolution of mentalities and a fully awakened and renewed consciousness:

"Burundi suffers from the unconsciousness of its leaders who no longer have a sense of public service and the potential of Burundi, and Burundians in general are limited by a form of wait-and-see policy inherited from the colonial period. The future of Burundi depends on our ability to organize ourselves without waiting for any external aid because we have the natural and human resources".

The President of the Republic of Burundi urged the elected Officials, Administrative and religious Officials of the City of Bujumbura to lead by example by showing themselves worthy of the trust that the Burundian people have placed in them: "Any official of the State must know that he is a servant of the people, who is the only real holder of power. We deplore the behavior of certain Officials who are notable for their absence from work, their incompetence and their corruption. To them, we are announcing the end of laxity".

Indeed, President Evariste Ndayishimiye has pledged, on behalf of the Burundian people, to crack down on all forms of corruption and proven embezzlement. He also indicated that, to guarantee

good governance, the Government of Burundi is scrupulously careful to "place the right men and women in the right place".

In this safe march towards the socio-economic development of Burundi, the Father of the Nation calls for the vigilance of all leaders to face the lack of good citizenship, the challenges in the establishment of social justice and the threats against National Unity, Sovereignty and Dignity.

The President of the Republic of Burundi His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye plans to extend these moralization sessions to all administrative and religious Officials during an upcoming tour in all the provinces of Burundi.

(Source: www.presidence.gov.bi)

The First Lady of Burundi takes part to the 8th edition of MERCK Foundation Africa Asia Luminary



Under the High Patronage of His Excellency Mr. Edgar Lungu, President of the Republic of Zambia, the First Lady of Burundi Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye took part, on April 27, 2021, in the 8th edition of the Annual Conference of the MERCK Foundation, called "Africa Asia Luminary", a conference coupled with the celebration of the 4th anniversary of the MERCK Foundation.

In her speech, Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye, underlined that she is satisfied with the partnership with the MERCK Foundation which brings its added value in the capacity building of health care, in the economic empowerment of girls and women in general, in Burundi. .

She highlighted certain aspects which sufficiently de-

monstrate that this partnership with the MERCK Foundation is very useful for Burundi. These include the "Educate Linda" program to support the education of 20 brightest girls in secondary schools each year, a very important initiative to empower Burundian girls through education.

Also in partnership with the MERCK Foundation, Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye, First Lady of Burundi and President of the Bonne Action-UMUGIRANEZA Foundation, was able to assist 100 families particularly vulnerable to the negative impact of COVID-19, in the Town Hall of Bujumbura, in March 2021. These are mainly women who lived from small businesses or from precarious and informal work, but who, following the COVID-19 pandemic, have been very affected.

The First Lady praised the initiative called "BERNA Empowerment Program" which aims to empower infertile women, and which will be soon implemented thanks to the support of the MERCK Foundation.

As Ambassador of the MERCK Foundation "More Than a Mother", Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye, organized a high-level meeting, with administrative and health Officials, and elected Representatives of the people to have a common understanding on the

issue of infertility and its management approaches. The workshop aimed to break the stigma around infertile couples and empower them through access to information, education, health and mentality change.

She lamented on the fact that it is only women who are held responsible for infertility and that they are constantly subject to physical and psychological violence, although 50% of infertility is due to men. She urged everyone to encourage men to speak up and discuss their infertility issues openly and to know that fertility is a shared responsibility.

The First Lady of Burundi called on the media and those responsible of them to help in raising awareness through traditional and social media in order to create a change of mentality to break the stigma related to infertility and to raise awareness about its prevention.

She further reiterated her commitment to continue to work closely with the MERCK Foundation to promote a culture of respect for women, whether they have children or not, as they are all more than mothers. "Together, we will empower them through access to education, improved health, which are

essential for socio-economic development", she added.

As part of restoring hope to women and working for their dignity, Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye said that in August 2020, she launched a campaign to repair obstetric fistulas. The "Fondation Bonne Action-UMUGIRANEZA" is erecting a three-storey building for the extension of the treatment and care center for women suffering from this disease.

Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye praised the efforts of the Government of the Republic of Burundi in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. To support the Government's action in this fight, she indicated that the "Fondation Bonne Action UMUGIRANEZA", of which she is President, distributed, in certain health establishments in the country, personal protective equipment against COVID-19. This equipment was donated by Her Excellency the First Lady of the People's Republic of China and other partners, to whom she pays a heartfelt tribute.

The First Lady of Burundi finally thanked all those who, from near or far, including the MERCK Foundation, who support her initiatives so that, together, they can overcome the challenges facing populations.

(Source: www.presidence.gov.bi)

Gitega: The First Lady visits centers that house vulnerable children



The First Lady of the country H.E Angeline Ndayishimiye and President of the "Fondation Bonne action Umugiraneza" paid a visit to the KEZAKIMANA orphanage on Monday April 26, 2021, to the MUTWENZU center that is housing children suffering from Cerebral Palsy and to the Urumuri center treating obstetric fistulas which are

all found in the town of Gitega. The visit began in the KEZAKIMANA orphanage of the Congregation of the Missionary Sisters of Mary Mother of Reconciliation which accommodates 86 orphan children.

The First Lady of the country granted this orphanage assistance consisting of rice, beans, sugar, boxes of cookies, lemonades, baby milk, clothes, laundry soaps, and sanitary napkins for girls.

H.E Angéline Ndayishimiye also visited the Mutwenzi Medico-Pedagogical Institute, run by the congregation of the Brothers of Our Lady of Mercy, which takes care of 132 children with psychomotor disabilities. She gave aid to this institute as well as to the Urumuri center which treats women with obstetric fistulas and which is located in the premises of the regional hospital of Gitega.

The First Lady of the country H.E Angeline Ndayimisiye congratulated the managers of this orphanage, thanking them for the charitable actions aimed at the well-being of children in vulnerable situations. She asked them to go ahead while promising them to always be by their side within the limits of her possibilities.

As for the managers of these centers, they expressed their gratitude to the First Lady for her gesture made through her Good Action Umugiraneza Foundation.

They said that the gesture she had just taken towards the vulnerable is a testament to her high sense of compassion.

On the sidelines of these visits, the First Lady of the country paid a visit to the Gitega regional hospital to see the progress of the rehabilitation work of the Urumuri Center which treats women with obstetric fistulas, funded by the "Good Action Umugiraneza Foundation".

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

The Vice-President of the Republic chairs a security meeting in Kayokwe



This Wednesday, April 28, 2021, at the chief town of Kayokwe HE commune the Vice-President of the Republic, Prosper Bazombanza, held a security meeting for the elected representatives of the people, law enforcement Officials, Officials of political parties, as well as Officials of Departments.

In his greeting message, H.E the Vice-President of the Republic specified that the Government remains concerned about the safety of the population. According to him, to preserve security, the primary responsibility rests with the Government and the Authorities in the communes and provinces.

Returning to the carnage that took place in Rusaka commune in recent days, he invited the population to live harmoniously. For the investigations to be successful, he asked the competent services to do so in a technical manner without any consideration and to give the report before the deadline given by H.E. the President of the Republic expires. The revitalization of the joint security committees must be done, the use of household notebooks is necessary, added H.E the Vice-President of the Republic of Burundi.

(Source: www.presidence.gov.bi)

Burundian refugees from Rwanda return home



The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi paid a visit to Burundi from April 27 to 28, 2021. Passing through Rwanda, Mr. Filippo Grandi arrived in Burundi with a convoy of 159 Burundian returnees from the towns of Kigali and Nyamata.

At the Gasenyi-Nemba border, the UNHCR High Commissioner was greeted by the Minister of Home Affairs, Public Security and Community Development CPC Gervais Ndirakobuca. The two personalities

then went to the Musasa Refugee Camp before going to visit the Kinazi transit center, Rugari zone in the commune and Muyinga Province.

In his words of welcome, the Governor of Muyinga province reassured the returnees that the population and the local administration are ready to warmly welcome them, specifying that their property has been safeguarded within the framework of fraternity and good neighborliness.

On behalf of the Government, the Minister in charge of the Home Affairs CPC Gervais Ndirakobuca thanked these returnees who responded positively to the call of the Head of State H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye to return to the fold. He urged them to join the people in the development work in order to respond to the Government's policy "Let every mouth have food and every pocket have money".

The Minister in charge of the Home Affairs CPC Gervais Ndirakobuca reminded the returnees from the cities of Rwanda that the only fight engaged in Burundi is the fight against poverty. "Our differences must constitute our strength to develop the country and consolidate peace and security", he stressed.

Although the third quarter is underway, the Minister of the Home Affairs invited returnees from Kigali and Nyamata to register their children of school age, so that they become familiar with the Burundian school system and prepare for the year school 2021-2022. He also urged them to join cooperatives and join with the people to continue cultivating their fields even during the dry season, thanks to irrigation.

The Minister in charge of Home Affairs CPC Gervais Ndirakobuca also called on returnees to scrupulously follow the barrier measures against COVID-19 and to renounce to idleness. UNHCR High Commissioner Filippo Grandi welcomed the decision of the 159 returnees to return to the country. He thanked Rwanda which welcomed them and Burundi which accepted to welcome them in all dignity. He invited them to have confidence in state institutions and reiterated UNHCR's commitment to always support Burundi.

According to the Head of the Repatriation Directorate General in Muyinga, since January 6, 2021, this branch has registered 14,439 returnees and as of August 27, 2020, it has registered 22,335 returnees grouped into 7,197 households.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

Analysis and adoption of senate amendments on the bill amending the environment code of Burundi



Lower House of Parliament led by the President of the National Assembly, the Right Honorable Daniel Gelase Ndirabire, analyzed and unanimously adopted the substantive amendments that were sent by the Senate which numbered 18.

Regarding the formal amendments, there are 25, and they were also adopted unanimously by the Deputies.

The National Assembly met on April 26, 2021 in Kigobe, in its plenary session to analyze and adopt the Senate's amendments to the bill amending Burundi's environmental code, it was noted on square. During this session, the 103 Deputies of the

(Source: ABPINFOS N ° 12278)

Unanimous adoption of a bill ratifying the visa exemption agreement for holders of diplomatic passports



The National Assembly, meeting in plenary session on Tuesday April 27, 2021, analyzed and unanimously adopted the bill ratifying the visa exemption agreement for holders of diplomatic and service passports between the Government of Burundi and the Republic of Equatorial Guinea, we learned on the spot. During this meeting, the Minister of East African Community Affairs, Youth, Sports and Culture, Ambassador Ezéchiel Nibigira, who represented the Government, in his explanations pointed out that the exemption agreement visa only concerns holders of diplomatic and service passports because, Burundi being in the concert of Nations, it cannot be an exception, adding that in most countries, this exemption is designed as such.

Ambassador Ezéchiel Nibigira also pointed out that diplomatic and service passports are used by holders during official missions organized by States while the

ordinary passport in the context of a private activity does not necessarily have to be sponsored by States, he said. When asked whether Burundi would have an Embassy or a Consulate in the Republic of Equatorial Guinea and vice versa, Minister Ezéchiel Nibigira indicated that the Republic of Burundi has a diplomatic mission to Equatorial Guinea with residence in Abuja in Nigeria, and Equatorial Guinea also has a diplomatic mission to Burundi with residence in Brazzaville in the Republic of Congo.

The Minister in charge of EAC Affairs, Ambassador Ezéchiel Nibigira, pointed out that even if Burundi does not have a diplomatic or consular mission resident in Congo Brazzaville, cooperation with this country is facilitated by our Embassy in Kinshasa given that the Congo is part of the area of jurisdiction.

After having clarified all the questions raised by the Deputies and the Commission in charge of Social Affairs, Gender, Repatriation, Equal opportunities and the Fight against AIDS, this project was adopted at the unanimity with a few technical and substantive amendments. Note that these amendments of form and substance appear on the 3 subjects. These are respectively the level of the 2nd visa, the 3rd and the 4th.

(Source: ABPINFOS N ° 12280)

The National Assembly unanimously adopts the bill ratifying the Agreement for the Promotion and Reciprocal Protection of Investments between the Republic of Burundi and the Republic of Equatorial Guinea



The National Assembly unanimously adopted this Tuesday, April 27, 2021, the law ratifying the Agreement on the promotion and reciprocal protection of investments between the Government of the Republic of Burundi and the Government of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea. According to the Minister of East African Community Affairs, Youth, Sports and Culture, Ambassador Ezéchiel Nibigira

who represented the Government before the plenary of the National Assembly to clarify this bill, Burundi intends to draw huge profits there.

He said that Burundi and Equatorial Guinea are both Members of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and also members of the African Economic Community (ECA). Their membership in these two communities is linked to obligations of community law emanating from the Economic Community of Central African States and the African Economic Community. In view of this Agreement, he also specified that Burundian investors will be able to commit their capital in Equatorial Guinea in various fields including agriculture and livestock, mining and hydrocar-

bons. He pointed out that Equatorial Guinea is a virgin country in the agricultural field and hopes that Burundians will benefit from it if they invest in this field because, the Equatorial Guineans have a great purchasing power (GDP / capita of 21,517 dollars in 2016, according to the UN report).

Ambassador Ezéchiél Nibigira also called on young people to go there to earn a living. As for the President of the National Assembly, the Right Honorable Daniel Gélase Ndirakobuca, he asked the Burundians to accept to take risks, because "whoever risks nothing has nothing". Note that this project was adopted with some substantive and technical amendments.

(Source: ABPINFOS N ° 12281)

Unanimous adoption of the draft organic law on the relocation of the powers of the Anti-Corruption Court



The National Assembly unanimously adopted on Wednesday April 28, 2021 at the Palais des Congrès in Kigobe, the draft organic law reassigning the powers of the Anti-Corruption Court, its General Prosecutor's Office as well as those of the Special Anti-Corruption Brigade.

The Minister of Justice, Mrs. Jeanine Nibizi, in her explanatory memorandum indicated that despite institutional and legal reforms, corruption and related offenses remain a reality in Burundi and this situation cannot continue. "It is therefore time to see the ineffectiveness of the institutions put in place and adopt far-reaching reforms in order to effectively fight against the phenomenon of corruption".

Indeed, she continued, in its current conception, the Anti-Corruption Court and the Anti-Corruption General Prosecutor's Office, whose territorial jurisdiction extends over the entire extent of the country, could not be effective. Their vast field of competence constitutes a major handicap to their effectiveness. For her, restoring the institutions responsible for the fight against corruption and related offenses in order to bring the anti-corruption criminal justice system closer to litigants, such is the Government's new approach in the fight against corruption. The abolition of the anti-corruption court in favor of the high courts and the courts of appeal appears to be a better approach.

The decentralization of the fight against corruption and related offenses promises efficiency since all the high courts and all the courts of appeal in the country will contribute to the fight against crime, a job that was only entrusted to a single jurisdiction.

In the same vein, the specialization of certain magistrates of the courts of first instance and the courts of appeal will make it possible to achieve the objective that the Government has set for itself, that of effectively fighting against corruption which annihilates all

efforts agreed to achieve sustainable development. It is also essential that law enforcement agencies include multidisciplinary skills within them for greater complementarity. Also, the missions entrusted to the Special Anti-Corruption Brigade fall to a specialized anti-corruption unit created within the judicial police.

As an innovation, in this organic bill, in addition to the main penalty, is added the additional penalty of special confiscation of the property of the convicted person, because it is necessary to allow the State to return to its rights as quickly as possible while respecting the law.

The other innovation is that these jurisdictions will have the powers to examine the bank accounts of people investigated for corruption or embezzlement of public funds.

To the question of the Deputies to know the fate of the employees of the Court, the Public Prosecutor's Office and the Anti-Corruption Brigade, the Minister of Justice Mrs Jeanine Nibizi replied that some will return to their original services but that for others, the State will see how to occupy them as much as possible. After analysis, this bill passed 100%.

(Source: ABPINFOS N ° 12283)

Participation of the staff of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation in the ceremonies of the International Labor and Workers' Day.



creation of more jobs for all those who are able to work, have something to do, and that they can develop personally and develop their country.

He indicated that the Government is grateful to the National Social Dialogue Committee, which brings together Government Representatives, Representatives of Trade Unions and employers' Representatives, for the insight and wisdom with which they analyze and deal with conflicting issues and for the solutions they provide to work-related conflicts before the situation escalates.

On Saturday May 1, 2021, the staff of the Central Administration of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation participated in the ceremonies of the celebration of the International Labor and Workers' Day. The ceremonies were marked by a long parade of public and private employees which took place at the Intwari Stadium.

These ceremonies were enhanced by the presence of the Prime Minister, Police Commissioner General Alain Guillaume BUNYONI, the Ombudsman, Deputies and Senators, the Minister in charge of Finance, the Mayor of the City of Bujumbura and some senior Government officials.

In his speech, the Prime Minister gave thanks to Almighty God who granted us good health, wisdom and dynamism. He suggested that this holiday be an opportunity for employers and employees to reflect on the importance of work in the life of the country, and the opportunity to make decisions that facilitate the



He winked at the INSS and the ONPR, reminding them that the means they collect belong to the workers, and that their duty is to manage them and make them profitable in their favor, which is why, in principle, workers should retire by finding their contributions increased. With that, he said that the Go-

vernment will now keep an eye on this money wherever it is placed, so that those who retire can be supported as they should, because they have been useful to the country.



After the ceremonies, the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation who represented the Minister, joined the staff of the said Ministry to share a drink, in the premises of the building of this Ministry located in the INSS district. In his speech the Permanent Secretary thanked the staff of the Ministry for the concentration and professional conscience with which they conduct their work.

He also appreciated the good collaboration and the good climate which has been manifested between the Firm and all the staff.



He encouraged them to continue in this direction and urged them to fight against laziness, so as not to be an adversity in the fight for the economic recovery of the country that our Government is leading. He also further encouraged them to avoid any form of unfairness and not fall into the mistake of neglecting the national interest.

(Source: MFADC-Newsroom)

The Minister in charge of solidarity visits the Uwiragiye Foundation



The Minister in charge of National Solidarity Mrs. Imelde Sabushimike visited this Sunday, April 25, 2021, the Uwiragiye Foundation, located in the premises of the Musumba Steel Company in Bujumbura, and which takes care of blind and visually impaired children.

Through this visit, Minister Imelde Sabushimike

wanted to demonstrate the Government's support for the work of the Uwiragiye Foundation. This care for children with visual impairments is both a divine and Governmental mission, which deserves to be supported, said the Minister Imelde Sabushimike. It is a delicate job which requires a spirit of love and abnegation, she hammered.

According to its founder, Mrs. Sylvie Uwiragiye, the Uwiragiye Foundation currently takes care of 73 children. 29 boys and 40 girls follow primary school education while 4 are at the University of Hope in Africa.

The Founder of the Uwiragiye Foundation asked the Minister in charge of solidarity to transmit her complaints to the highest authorities in the country. In particular, the Foundation wants the Government to be able to pay the water and electricity bills as well

as the salaries of teachers and children's supervisors.

The Uwiragiye Foundation is building a large care center for children with visual impairments in Kabezi commune, Bujumbura province. It plans to welcome 120 children soon.

The Minister in charge of Solidarity was the bearer of assistance consisting of food and non-food intended for the children of the Uwiragiye Foundation, eloquent testimony that the Government supports this philanthropic work of care for blind and visually impaired children, as she concluded.

(Source: www.rtnb.bi)

Burundi Ambassador to Tanzania meets with the Minister in charge of Tanzanian Diplomacy



On April 27, 2021, the Ambassador of Burundi in Tanzania, H.E Gervais ABAYEHO met the new Minister of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation of the United Republic of Tanzania, Ambassador Liberata Mulamula, to discuss issues of common interest focusing on the promotion of trade between Burundi and Tanzania, as well as the implementation of projects related to common infrastructure.

At the beginning of their discussions, they first of all welcomed the excellent bilateral relations and cooperation between the two countries based on political, economic and cultural ties, noting with satisfaction that these relations continue to improve from the pre and post-independence years to the present day.

They evoked and underlined the need for the urgent implementation of the recommendations resulting from the State visit of September 19, 2020 to Kigoma, and from the Burundi-Tanzania Joint Commission which followed, held from 3 to 5 March 2021.

As a reminder, Ambassador Gervais ABAYEHO pointed out that these recommendations concern in particular the improvement and consolidation of cooperation in various sectors such as trade and in-

vestment, minerals, energy, agriculture and livestock, transport (roads, railways, ports, airports, etc.), defense and security.

Regarding the implementation of the "Port Sec Project" in favor of Burundi located in Kwala-Ruvu in the coastal region of Pwani and taking into account the recommendation of the Heads of State, it was proposed that a joint expert meeting is planned for mid-May or early June 2021 (in Burundi or Tanzania) before the ministerial meeting.

They ended by reiterating their commitment to continue to support each other whenever the need arises in regional and international fora.

(Source: [MFADC-Newsroom](#))

Burundi India Ambassador visit Acharya Institute at Bengalore /Karnataka



The Ambassador of Burundi in India, H.E Stella Budiriganya visited Acharya Institutes Campus in Bengaluru in state of Karnataka at south of India on 15th April 2021.

Dr Maneesh Paul; Campus Director along with the Director Admissions Mr Vishesh Chandrashekar along

with their team and head of institutions had discussion with Burundi Ambassador. The discussions were preceded by a tour of the Acharya Institutes campus, during which Ambassador was shown the splendid infrastructure and hi tech laboratories and hostels of Acharya Institutes.

The Ambassador appreciated the efforts of Acharya collaborating with different industries for their pharmacy, engineering, nursing ... programs to give connect the students directly to the relevant industries for knowledge and internship. With an advanced setup of physiotherapy clinic in campus, physiotherapy students get hands on learning on latest machines. During her interactive session with the head of the institutions, Burundi Ambassador briefed him about Burundi ;"the country of honey and milk " with many opportunities of investment.

(Source: Embassy of Burundi in India)

Burundian Women of the Diaspora organize an Interactive Virtual International Conference



This Friday April 23, 2021, under the facilitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, the Burundian Women of the Diaspora organized an Interactive Virtual International Conference under the theme "Connection, Empowerment, Challenge", in the forums of the Ministry of Finance, Budget and Economic Planning.

They organized this conference with the main objective of celebrating International Women's Day in the

company of their sisters from Burundi.

Burundian women from various backgrounds presented their achievements in order to share their experiences in the professional, social, economic, cultural fields, etc.

The speakers, including students, teachers, nurses, General Managers, business founders, were all committed to forming a circle of strong women ready to face challenges together, but above all to be mentors for other women. In addition, they emphasized the challenges they face and the lasting solutions they provide.

Among the participants, some distinguished personalities were present namely among others Reverend Pastor Denise NKURUNZIZA and Honorable Dr. Janvière NDIRAHISHA.

In her message, Reverend Pastor Denise NKURUNZIZA invited the conference participants to practice love for their neighbors, to support each other so that each project initiated by the Burundian woman

bears fruit.

In turn, Honorable Dr. Janvière Ndirahisha urged Burundian women in the diaspora to share their expertise with their sisters living in the country for the building of this Nation. She added that our difference is our strength, and that Burundian women are competent. She called on Burundian women to support each other, to work in union and to work for the development of our country.

The Director General in charge of the Diaspora Mr. Philibert MUREKAMBANZE, for his part, thanked the Burundian women of the Diaspora and those who are in Burundi for the initiative to prepare this very useful activity for development.

He ended his remarks by inviting Burundians in the diaspora to participate in the activities of Diaspora Week, 2021 edition scheduled for July 27 to 30, 2021.

Speaking, the President of the Diaspora Mr. Japhet Legentil NDAYISHIMIYE also thanked these women for this conference and he did not fail to ask the Burundian diaspora to come and bring their children to Burundi in July in the week of the Diaspora to fully discover the beauty of the country.

The conference ended with the sharing of a drink by those who were present.

(Source: MFADC-Newsroom)

A retreat of reflection within the framework of the Development of the Action Plan of the National Regional Integration Strategy



the said Strategy.

In this regard, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation calls on all stakeholders to combine their efforts in order to make Burundian products / services competitive on the regional and African market.

(Source: MFADC-Newsroom)

From April 27 to May 1, 2021, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, in collaboration with Trade Mark East Africa, is organizing a retreat in Ngozi as part of the Development of the Action Plan for the National Strategy for Regional Integration (SNIR 2021-2027).

The SNIR is intended to be a Global Instrument for Regional Integration of Burundi within the Regional Organizations to which Burundi is a member. It also takes into account the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

This retreat saw the participation of members of the Interministerial Committee (from different institutions / public and private sectors) responsible of developing

Humanitarian aid to the survivors of the Gatumba zone



difficult situations.



On Friday April 23, 2021, Burundians living in France provided humanitarian aid to the survivors of the Gatumba Commune in Mutimbuzi Zone, after the floods which caused damage. The Chief of Gatumba Zone warmly thanked the Burundians living in France for having thought of them despite their multiple commitments. He encouraged other burundian diasporas to follow the example of this diaspora of France because the large population of the Gatumba Zone has been affected by these floods and is in very

For the delivering of this aid, the Director of the Framework Project for the Reintegration of disasters victims, Mr. Fabien YAMUREMYE, represented the Ministry of National Solidarity, Social Affairs, Human Rights and Gender. He was accompanied by an Executive from the General Directorate in charge of Diaspora at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, Mr. Tharcisse TUMUKUNDE.

(Source: MFADC-Newsroom)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation

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