



Burundian Head of State receives Kenyan President's special envoy in audience



The President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, received in audience on Monday, February 9, 2026, at the Ntare Rushatsi Presidential Palace, the Honourable Fatuma Zainab Mohammed, Kenyan Member of Parliament elected from the Migori County constituency and Special Envoy of the President of the Republic of Kenya, His Excellency William Ruto.

The Honourable Fatuma Zainab Mohammed brought a message of fraternity from the Kenyan President to his Burundian counterpart, wishing him prosperity and the strengthening of bilateral relations between Burundi and Kenya,

as well as cooperation at the regional level.

In addition to these wishes for fraternity and the consolidation of bilateral and regional relations, the Kenyan President's special envoy also conveyed a message in which His Excellency William Ruto congratulated his Burundian counterpart, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, in anticipation of his assumption of the presidency of the African Union.

Honourable Fatuma Zainab Mohammed said that she had come to draw inspiration from Burundi's experience of political maturity, particularly with

In this Edition:

page

Burundian Head of State receives Kenyan President's special envoy in audience

1

President of Burundi travels to Addis Ababa for the 39th Ordinary Session of the African Union

2

Burundian Head of State has been promised massive international support

2

Burundi participates in the 5th meeting of CDC Africa

3

Towards the renovation of Gitega National Museum

3

President of the Senate receives the President of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in audience

4

Preparations for the 48th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council and the 39th Ordinary Session of the African Union Conference

5

Burundi at a Crossroads: Prospects for the African Union Presidency in 2026

5

Strengthening Diplomatic Ties between Burundi and China: A Promising Collaboration

6

Diplomatic Audience between Burundi and Ethiopia in Preparation for the Presidency of the African Union

6

regard to freedom of expression, the organization of elections and the peaceful coexistence of different political parties, including those in opposition, at a time when Burundi and Kenya are preparing to hold elections next year.

Considering that Burundi is now a stable country, with consolidated leadership and respected for the unity that characterizes its people, the Kenyan leader emphasized the importance of drawing inspiration from the Burundian model based on national cohesion and collective commitment to building a prosperous country.

On his behalf, the Burundian Head of State shared

with his counterpart several experiences drawn from the lives of Burundians, particularly with regard to the national responsibilities of leaders, insisting that all leaders must set an example at the family level.

The Honorable Kenyan MP also praised the Burundian President's policy of giving women an important place in decision-making bodies, an approach clearly enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of Burundi.

This audience thus promises positive outcomes, as Burundi is now seen as a model country whose best practices are inspiring several other nations, thanks to the enlightened leadership of His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye. **(Presidency)**

President of Burundi travels to Addis Ababa for the 39th Ordinary Session of the African Union



The President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, left the country on Thursday, February 12, 2026, for Addis Ababa, the capital of the Federal Republic of Ethiopia, where he took part in the 39th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Govern-

ment of the African Union (AU), scheduled for 14 to 15 February 2026.

An official communiqué from the Office of Information, Communication and Spokesperson for the President of the Republic of Burundi stated that during this session, the Burundian Head of State will take over the presidency of this African organization. The same communiqué specified that the President of the Republic of Burundi will be accompanied by the First Lady of Burundi, H.E. Angeline Ndayishimiye.

It should be noted that this annual AU meeting brings together the continent's leaders to discuss major political, economic and security priorities. It also provides a strategic framework for defining Africa's common orientations. **(ABP)**

Burundian Head of State has been promised massive international support

On the eve of taking office as head of the African Union for the year 2026, the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, met on February 13, 2026 in Addis Ababa at the headquarters of the African Union with several prominent figures who expressed their unwavering support for him as head of this prestigious African institution.

On the sidelines of the 39th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, President Ndayishimiye met with United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres in Addis

Ababa. They emphasized the importance of peace and security in Africa in general, and in the Great Lakes region in particular.

The Burundian Head of State then met with the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Mahamoud Ali Youssouf, who praised Burundi's contribution to stabilization efforts in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo and Somalia.

The Burundian leader also met with Dr Sidi Ould Tah, President of the African Development Bank Group (AfDB), in Addis Ababa, a meeting that provided an opportunity to



celebrate the strong partnership between the AfDB and Burundi.

President Ndayishimiye also received His Eminence

Cardinal Fridolin Ambongo Besungu, President of the Symposium of Episcopal Conferences of Africa and Madagascar (SECAM), who expressed the support of the Catholic Church and promised to visit Burundi in the near future.

He also met with Ms Diene Keita, Ms Nyaradzayi Ngumbonzvanda and Cheik Niang, respectively Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Deputy Director of UN Women and Special Envoy of the President of Senegal.

Finally, President Ndayishimiye took part in the meeting of the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), one of the most ambitious instruments that the African Union has put in place to promote good governance on the continent. **(Presidency)**

Burundi participates in the 5th meeting of CDC Africa



On Monday, February 9, 2026, the Vice-President of the Republic of Burundi, Mr Prosper Bazombanza, chaired the fifth meeting of the Committee of Heads of State and Government of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) via videoconference in the afternoon.

According to the Burundian Vice-President, the purpose of the meeting was to examine ways and means of mobilizing the resources needed to deal with epidemics breaking out across the African conti-

ment. He took the opportunity to warn that Mozambique is currently experiencing high rainfall, a situation that has led to an outbreak of cholera in that country.

Mr Bazombanza reassured that the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is already organizing itself to support Mozambique in the fight against this epidemic. He also expressed his satisfaction with the support provided by this institution to Burundi. He emphasised that this is a source of pride for Burundians, as Burundi has greatly benefited from the support of Africa CDC, particularly in strengthening human resource capacities and equipping district hospitals, institutes and other health facilities.

For his part, the Director General of Africa CDC, Dr Jean Kaseya, said that African states lose more than 50% of their health resources due to several challenges, including inadequate digitalization systems and heavy dependence on imported health products. He called on African countries to join forces to enable the continent to produce its own vaccines and medicines locally. **(Embassy of Burundi in Algeria)**

Towards the renovation of Gitega National Museum

On Thursday, February 12, 2025, Burundian Prime Minister Nestor Ntahontuye received a delegation from UNESCO accompanied by Burundian princess Esther Kamatari. The delegation had just visited the National Museum in Gitega and wished to present the Burundian gov-

ernment with an overview of this tourist site.

During an interview with the press, the spokesperson for the Prime Minister, Mr Moïse Nkurunziza, said that the delegation, led by Ms Krista Pikkat, Director of Culture at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and



Cultural Organization (UNESCO), had come in response to Princess Esther Kamatari's request to UNESCO to promote various tourist sites. UNESCO therefore sent its team to assess the condition of these tourist sites and to discuss their renovation with the

Government of Burundi. Mr Nkurunziza revealed that the Prime Minister warmly thanked Princess Esther Kamatari for this initiative, before expressing his gratitude to UNESCO for sending a delegation of specialists in tourist sites and cultural heritage, as well as for the cooperation that exists between Burundi and UNESCO since 1962.

The Prime Minister of Burundi stated that this delegation's visit was timely, as the Burundian Government had just decided to allocate a budget for the development of five tourist sites, as stipulated in pillar four of the 2040-2060 vision. He asked UNESCO to present a concept note outlining what UNESCO is prepared to do and what it is asking of the Burundian government, so that they can join forces to renovate the National Museum in Gitega. It should be noted that the same delegation was received by the Vice-President of the Republic of Burundi, Mr Prosper Bazombanza. **(ABP)**

President of the Senate receives the President of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in audience



On Monday, February 9, 2026, at the Burundi Senate Liaison Office in Bujumbura, in the Mukaza commune, surrounded by his two Vice-Presidents, the Right Honorable Gervais Ndirakobuca, President of this Institution, received in audience the President of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), Ambassador Pierre Claver Ndayicariye.

The purpose of this audience was to bring to the attention of the Upper House of Parliament the activity report for the 2024-2025 financial year, which focuses on the list of people murdered and disappeared during the 1972 genocide.

Ambassador Ndayicariye pointed out that the list contained in the report is not exhaustive because, on the one hand, some families have disappeared completely



and information about their disappearance is almost impossible to obtain. On the other hand, some people are afraid to testify for fear of intimidation from those around them.

This report will be presented to Parliament in session to better inform Burundian citizens about what happened in 1972. **(Burundi Senate)**

Preparations for the 48th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council and the 39th Ordinary Session of the African Union Conference



As part of preparations for the 48th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council of Ministers and the 39th Ordinary Session of the African Union Conference, His Excellency Ambassador Edouard BIZIMANA, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation, organized a strategic briefing on February 10, 2026 at the Burundi Embassy in Addis Ababa. This event brought together all Burundian diplomats accredited to Addis Ababa as well as members of the national

delegation.

The main objective of this meeting was to harmonize Burundi's positions on the various topics to be addressed at the Summits, while finalizing the agenda for the Summit of Heads of State and the Executive Council.

The meeting also provided an opportunity to strengthen diplomatic coordination and highlight the importance of the African Union's theme for 2026, which is 'Ensuring sustainable availability of water and safe sanitation systems to achieve the goals of Agenda 2063'. This topic is of strategic importance for the sustainable development and prosperity of the entire African continent.

By focusing on these crucial issues, Burundi reaffirms its commitment to contributing to collective solutions to environmental and social challenges, while placing the expectations of its population at the heart of regional discussions. (MFARIDC)

Burundi at a Crossroads: Prospects for the African Union Presidency in 2026



On February 11, 2026, during the 48th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council of the African Union, His Excellency Ambassador Edouard Bizimana had the honor of receiving a delegation led by Her Excellency Ambassador Selma Malika Haddadi, Vice-President of the African Union Commission. This meeting provided an opportunity to discuss several issues of common interest, including strengthening bilateral relations between Burundi and the AU, as well as Burundi's upcoming chairmanship of the African Union.

During the discussions on the AU chairmanship, Her Excellency Ambassador Selma Malika Haddadi expressed the AU organization's satisfaction with this

new milestone represented by Burundi's chairmanship. She emphasized that this moment is crucial and historic, with positive implications for strengthening the friendly and diplomatic relations between Burundi and the African Union Commission. Her unwavering support for Burundi was clearly affirmed, highlighting the importance of this relationship for reinforcing ties within the continent.

For his part, Ambassador Edouard Bizimana emphasized that this presidency will require a full mobilization of resources and efforts from Burundi. He mentioned the need for sacrifices from all sides and pleaded for increased technical and financial support from international partners. The ambassador reassured the members of the delegation that Burundi is determined to work diligently to reform the organization, while maintaining close collaboration with its counterparts. (MFARIDC)

Strengthening Diplomatic Ties between Burundi and China: A Promising Collaboration



On February 11 2026, during the 48th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council of the African Union (AU), a significant audience took place between the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Ambassador Edouard BIZIMANA, and Mr LIU Xianfa, Special Representative of the Chinese Government for African Affairs. This meeting, marked by a spirit of cooperation and friendship, provided an opportunity to assess and strengthen the existing diplomatic relations between Burundi and the People's Republic of China.

The discussions highlighted the importance of friendly relations between the two nations. Both authorities emphasised the progress made thanks to Sino-Burundian cooperation, particularly in the field of infrastructure. These achievements demonstrate China's commitment to Burundi's development and Burundi's willingness to

open its doors to foreign investment and technical expertise.

One of the highlights of the meeting was Burundi's ambitious vision of becoming an emerging country by 2040 and a developed country by 2060. The Minister expressed the need for continued support to achieve these goals, which are in line with the African Union's Agenda, focused on 'Ensuring sustainable availability of water and safe sanitation systems' in order to achieve the targets set for 2060.

The discussions also addressed crucial issues such as social cohesion and peace building in the region. Stability is essential to ensuring a climate conducive to economic and social development, and Burundi, as a key player, is determined to play its part in promoting peace in Africa.

Mr Liu Xianfa expressed his country's commitment to continue to closely collaborate with Burundi, affirming that China will remain a reliable partner during this decisive period of the AU presidency. This reassuring promise is a strong sign of the lasting alliance between the two nations.

In short, this meeting between the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation and the Special Representative Liu Xianfa marks an important step in strengthening ties between Burundi and China. As the two countries strive to consolidate their cooperation, the future looks promising for Burundi, which aspires to shared prosperity in collaboration with its international partners. The desire to build a united and supportive Africa requires such strategic alliances, and Burundi is firmly committed to this path. **(MFARIDC)**

Diplomatic Audience between Burundi and Ethiopia in Preparation for the Presidency of the African Union



the honor to receive his counterpart, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia, H.E. Gedion Timothewos. During this meeting, fruitful discussions took place, focusing in particular on Burundi's presidency of the African Union.

On February 11, 2026, ahead of the 48th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council of the African Union, H.E. Ambassador Edouard BIZIMANA, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation, had

The Burundian Minister emphasized the crucial importance of international partners' support for Burundi. In a context where challenges are numerous, he expressed the hope that his country could count on solid and lasting cooperation with its allies. This presidency represents a significant step for Burundi on the continental stage, and recognition of this role by its peers is essential for strengthening its influence.

On his behalf, the Ethiopian Minister reassured Burundi of his full support, affirming that Ethiopia stood alongside its partner in this endeavour. This statement reflects a shared desire to work together for the well-being of Africa and the promotion of common interests. The two diplomats agreed that peace and development on the continent require greater solidarity and regular dialogue.

This meeting illustrates Burundi's efforts to assert itself on the international stage and strengthen ties with key nations such as Ethiopia. The rich exchanges between the two countries bode well for a fruitful collaboration and a peaceful, prosperous future for Africa." (MFARIDC)

Meeting between the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation and the Chairperson of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (CAEDBE)



On February 11, 2026, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Edouard BIZIMANA, received the Honorable Sabrina Gahar, Chairperson of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (CAEDBE). This meeting allowed the two leaders to evaluate and strengthen the friendly relations between Burundi and this crucial organization for the protection of children's rights.

During the audience, several topics of common interest were discussed. Among these topics, the organization of a statutory meeting in Burundi and the celebration of International Children's Day gave rise to fruitful exchanges. Ms Gahar expressed the wish that Burundi avail Burundian executives available to support CAEDBE in its daily missions. She stressed the importance of this collaboration in achieving the objectives set in the area of children's rights.

Minister Edouard assured Ms Gahar of Burundi's commitment to actively support CAEDBE projects. He affirmed that all the measures would be taken to facilitate the smooth running of the organization's work. In the context of Burundi's current presidency of the African Union, he also recognized the need for administrative support for CAEDBE so that it could be considered on an equal footing with other African Union partners.

This meeting demonstrates a shared desire to work together for the well-being of children in Africa and to lay solid foundations for future cooperation. Burundi thus aspires to play an active role in promoting children's rights on the continent. (MFARIDC)

Strengthening Bilateral Relations between Burundi and Ghana



On February 12, 2026 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on the sidelines of the 48th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council of the African Union, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation, His Excellency

cy Edouard BIZIMANA, held a one-on-one meeting with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ghana, His Excellency Samuel Okudzeto Ablakwa. This exchange was an opportunity for the two leaders to discuss topics of mutual interest and the need to strengthen bilateral relations between their respective countries.

The importance of strengthening these relations is all the more significant given that Burundi, Ghana and Angola are members of the Troika. During their meeting, the two officials agreed to organize a working meeting in Burundi. The purpose of this meeting will be

to establish a cooperation strategy between the African Union, the United Nations and other international organizations. In a context where multilateralism is increasingly being called into question, this initiative aims to consolidate joint efforts to address the global challenges that lie ahead. Ghana, as the future vice-president of the African Union and headquarters of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), aspires to play a central role alongside Burundi.

The two countries committed to work together to promote economic development and stability on the African continent. The constructive dialogue between Ambas-

sador Bizimana and Minister Ablakwa bodes well for promising cooperation, which is essential for addressing Africa's current and future challenges.

This exemplary meeting underscores not only the willingness of African countries to come together to address crucial issues, but also their determination to strengthen partnerships for a better future for the entire continent. In short, the joint initiative between Burundi and Ghana could mark the beginning of a new era in African relations, where partnership and dialogue remain at the heart of priorities. **(MFARIDC)**

Strengthening Diplomatic Relations between Burundi and Algeria: A Shared Vision for Africa



patriotism. He also mentioned the crucial need for increased support from partners, emphasizing that this presidency is a collective responsibility for Africa.

His Excellency Ahmed Attaf assured his Burundian counterpart of Algeria's commitment to supporting this initiative. He stressed that this mission is not that of a single

On February 12, 2026, on the sidelines of the 48th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Edouard BIZIMANA, had a fruitful meeting with his Algerian counterpart, His Excellency Ahmed Attaf. This exchange marks a new stage in the development of historical and diplomatic relations between Burundi and the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria.

The two Ministers expressed their satisfaction with the strength of their bilateral relations, emphasizing the importance of further strengthening these ties for the benefit of both nations. Minister Edouard announced Burundi's upcoming accession to the presidency of the African Union, a role he approaches with humility and

country, but a source of pride shared by the entire African continent. Algeria stands ready to offer Burundi all the assistance it needs to succeed in this task.

In addition, the Algerian Minister expressed his desire to send a team to Burundi to prepare a state visit. This initiative aims to identify new areas of cooperation, thereby strengthening relations between the two countries beyond mere diplomatic exchanges.

This meeting demonstrates the willingness of both nations to work hand in hand for the progress and development of Africa, while highlighting Burundi's key role on the continental stage. Strengthened cooperation between Burundi and Algeria could open up new prospects for sustainable and harmonious development within the African Union. **(MFARIDC)**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation

Department of Communication

www.mae.gov.bi

Twitter: @MAEBurundi