



**The Head of State of Burundi is taking part in the 17<sup>th</sup> edition of the National Prayer Breakfast**



The Head of State of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, accompanied by the First Lady of Burundi, took part on Tuesday, April 14, 2026, in the Kigobe hemicycle at the 17<sup>th</sup> The National Prayer Breakfast, organized under the theme from the book of Romans 13:6: "This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full attention to this task." This event brought together the country's highest political, religious, and diplomatic authorities for a moment of prayer and shared reflection. Inspired by the above-mentioned theme, Father Désiré Yamuremye urged the authorities to lead by example in their daily

lives and to serve with integrity. He emphasized the need to build an environment of trust between the State and citizens in order to encourage the voluntary payment of taxes, which is crucial for the development of the country. Besides, a panel discussion moderated by Bishop Emmanuel Nsinzohagera, Bishop of the United Methodist Church and former President of the Senate of Burundi, and His Excellency Domitien Ndayizeye, former President of the Republic of Burundi, under the supervision of the Secretary General of the State, Mr. Jérôme Niyonzima, highlighted the theme, emphasizing the importance of respecting the law

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and tax compliance, as well as the application of sanctions against offenders. The speakers reiterated that taxes constitute an essential resource for the State and also underscored the growing role of digitalization as a lever for transparency and efficiency in public administration.

In his message, the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, revisited the principles of leadership, mentioning the fourteen (14) qualities of a good leader as taught in 1 Timothy 3:1-7. He particularly emphasized integrity, self-

control, moral uprightness, wisdom, humility as key foundations of responsible leadership.

His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye also highlighted that the authority of the State must always practise servant leadership. He reminded everyone that each citizen, at their own level, participates in the life of the Nation and contributes, particularly through the payment of taxes, to the country's development. Religious songs inspired by the day's theme marked this event, offering moments of sharing a verse and strengthening love to each other as well as the spirit of solidarity among the participants. **(Presidency)**

### President Ndayishimiye meets with the UNFPA Resident Representative in Burundi



**O**n Wednesday, April 15, 2026, the President of the Republic of Burundi and current Chairman of the African Union, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, granted an audience at the Presidential Palace Ntare Rushatsi, the Resident Representative of the United Nations Population Fund in Burundi, Mr. Judicaël Elidjé, who came to bid him farewell at the end of his three-year term.

During their discussions, the outgoing UNFPA Representative in Burundi welcomed the hospitality of Burun-

dian people throughout his mission. He also extended his sincere thanks to the President of the Republic of Burundi for the support during his term.

It was an opportunity for Mr. Judicaël Elidjé to commend the Head of State of Burundi for the ambitious vision of Burundi as an "emerging country by 2040 and a developed country by 2060." He reaffirmed the commitment of the United Nations Population Fund to continue supporting Burundi in achieving this vision, with a view to sustainably improving the well-being of its people. He also requested the support and assistance of the Burundian authorities for the person appointed to serve as interim head of the United Nations Population Fund office.

For his part, President Ndayishimiye congratulated Mr. Judicaël Elidjé for his leadership and professionalism throughout his tenure, marked by close and fruitful collaboration with the Burundian Government. He expressed Burundi's gratitude to UNFPA for its multifaceted contributions, particularly in organizing the general census of population, housing, agriculture and livestock, in the health sector, especially the care of women suffering from obstetric fistula, as well as in supporting the Youth Economic Empowerment and Employment Program (PAEEJ), access to professional internships, and the promotion of tourism.

In summary, the Head of State of Burundi wished the outgoing Resident Representative of the United Nations Population Fund every success in his future role, while calling for the sustainability of achievements and the strengthening of cooperation in new areas and projects, with a view to realizing Burundi's development vision. **(Presidency)**

### President Ndayishimiye took part in the inauguration ceremony of President Denis Sassou N'Guesso

**T**he President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, participated this Thursday, April 16, 2026, in the swearing-

in ceremony of the Congolese President, Mr. Denis Sassou N'Guesso, at the Unity Stadium of the "La Concorde" Omnisports Complex in Kintélé, Brazzaville.

The ceremonies began with the presentation of the prominent figures present to the Congolese people gathered in this large, packed stadium, and in front of an audience of Heads of State and Government and various representatives from countries of the African Union and from around the world.

After the proclamation of the election results by the President of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Congo, the President, re-elected with 94.82%, took the oath of office, pledging to respect the laws in force, to protect, defend and develop his country.

These prominent figures, including the Head of State of Burundi and current Chairperson of the African Union, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, and ten other Presidents, took this opportunity to



cogratulate their counterpart, Mr. Denis Sassou N'Guesso. **(Presidency)**

### The First Lady of the Republic of Burundi is visiting Libreville at the invitation of the First Lady of the Gabonese Republic



The First Lady of the Republic of Burundi flew to Libreville, the Gabonese capital, on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, to participate in the national launch activities of the campaign "Strengthening the Resilience of Women and Girls to Climate Change".

According to the press release, this visit took place at the invitation of the First Lady of the Gabonese Republic, Mrs. Zita Oligui Nguema. Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye reaffirmed her commitment to promoting the resilience of women and girls in the face of the effects of climate change and to strengthening cooperation initiatives among First Ladies on these issues. **(ABP)**

### The President of the Senate returns from a working mission to the Kingdom of Morocco

On Monday, April 13, 2026, the President of the Senate, the Right Honourable Gervais Ndirakobuca, returned from a working mission he had carried out in Rabat, in the Kingdom of Morocco, where he had taken part in the work of the Conference of Presidents of the Senates of African countries under the theme: "The contribution of the Upper Houses of Parliaments to the consolidation of democracy and the preservation of peace in Africa."

At the conclusion of this Conference, the participants reaffirmed their shared commitment to strengthening the role of the upper houses of parliaments in promoting the rule of law, democracy, peace, and stability on the African continent. They also adopted proposed amendments to the Statutes of the Association of African Senates, including setting the term of office for the President of the Association at two years and electing His Excellency Mr. Mohamed Ould Errachid, President of the House of Councillors of the Kingdom of Morocco



co, to serve as President of the Association.

On the sidelines of this Conference, the President of the Senate of Burundi met with the President of the House of Councillors of the Kingdom of Morocco to discuss strengthening the bonds of friendship and cooperation between the Moroccan and Burundian Senates. The two officials agreed to establish a joint commission comprising members of both institutions to determine the priority areas of this cooperation.

Furthermore, the Right Honourable Gervais Ndirakobuca met with the President of the National Assembly and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Morocco to discuss matters of common interest and the friendly relations between the two countries. **(Senate of Burundi)**

### The Government wants to expedite the implementation of projects financed by partners



On Monday, April 13, 2026, in Bujumbura, the Prime Minister of Burundi, Mr. Nestor Ntahontuye, opened a two-day workshop dedicated to strengthening the capacities of project managers for projects funded by development partners. This meeting brought together officials from various ministries, project management teams, and monitoring services from the Prime Minister's office. The workshop's objective was to assess the progress of the projects. Discussions focused on financial implementation,

results achieved, and any delays encountered.

Mr. Ntahontuye also indicated that this workshop would allow for a review of the implementation of recommendations made by partners during supervision missions. He also mentioned difficulties related to recruitment in certain projects and the processing of files. Several challenges were identified, including delays in data processing, slow implementation, and a lack of communication among the stakeholders involved.

According to him, these dysfunctions are hindering projects performance. He called on the projects managers to strengthen collaboration and regularly share information with the relevant ministries and the Prime Minister's office. He stressed the need for better coordination to facilitate rapid decision-making. In case of deadlock, the Prime Minister's office will be contacted for support. The Prime Minister also expressed his concern about the low budget execution rate recorded during the 2024-2025 fiscal year, as well as in previous years. He urged participants to improve performance during the 2025-2026 fiscal year to avoid further hindrances. **(ABP)**

### An audience was granted to the Ambassador of the European Union and the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Burundi

On April 16, 2026, His Excellency Mr. Edouard Bizimana, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation, granted an audience to Her Excellency Mrs. Elisabetta Pietrobon, Ambassador of the European Union to Burundi, and Mrs. Violet Kakyomya, United Nations Resident Coordinator in Burundi. The two diplomats conveyed their message of condolences to the Burundian Government following the

death of one Government member. The discussion then focused on several topics of common interest, including the National Development Cooperation Strategy. This strategy aims to strengthen national leadership, improve the coordination of partner interventions, and optimize resource mobilization and management.

Furthermore, Ms. Kakyomya mentioned the Ambassadors' Platform, which meets every two months. She announced that a meeting is planned between the Ambassadors' Platform, which meets every two months. She announced that a meeting is planned between the Ambassadors' Platform, which meets every two months. She announced that a meeting is planned between the Ambassadors' Platform, which meets every two months.

sadors and the Prime Minister of Burundi to promote sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth for the benefit of the Burundian people, through an effective cooperation system.

Discussions also focused on strengthening the capacity of recruitment agencies, with the aim of improving the quality of employment. Both officials expressed their commitment to supporting Burundi in its role as Chair of the African Union, assisting it in implementing the organization's priorities.

The meeting also provided an opportunity to discuss other matters, including the partnership dialogue between the European Union and Burundi, as well as preparing the next edition of the Diplomatic Week, scheduled for June 2026.

His Excellency Edouard Bizimana reassured the delegation that the Ministry is ready to work in close collaboration with Burundi's partners to contribute to the development of Burundi and the entire African continent. He also emphasized the importance of consultation to jointly define priorities related to pro-



jects implemented by partners. Finally, His Excellency Edouard Bizimana praised the friendship and collaboration with Burundi's partners. **(MAEIRCD)**

### Joint monitoring and evaluation mission: Government of Burundi and IFDC



**F**rom April 13 to 17, 2026, a monitoring and evaluation mission was carried out by a joint delegation from the Government of Burundi and the International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC) in the provinces of Butanyerera and Buhumuza. The delegation was led by Mr. Anicet Mahoro, Director of International Organizations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

This field visit covered the communes of Muramvya, Kayanza, Ngozi, Kirundo, Butihinda, and Musinga, where stakeholders discussed the status of ongoing activities, the consistency of the support provided, and the results already observed on farms.

The main objective of the mission was to qualitatively assess the implementation of activities and gather

beneficiaries' feedback on the support received. In this regard, the Soil Management for Responsible and Integrated Use Support Project (PAGRIS) highlighted notable progress, particularly on the Busimba hill, in the Bugarama area. Beneficiaries welcomed the introduction of FERTIKAL fertilizer, blended with traditional manure for small livestock, which helps improve agricultural yields.

In the commune of Musinga, at Murama, the team also assessed an upgraded site, with progress estimated at



about 90%, including the presence of demonstration plots. Beyond infrastructure development, the project's support also emphasizes the preparation of hill com-



munity visions, through the establishment of nurseries, the intercropping of crops, and the digging of anti-erosion ditches to better cope with climate uncertainties. Through the Private Seed Sector Development Project 2 (PSSD 2), production increased because seed producers benefited from technical support. Seed storage has also improved thanks to the IFDC's cofinancing for the construction of storage sheds (hangars), as evidenced by Nestor (cofinancing of 30%) and Gloriose (cofinancing of 50%), both on

Kavoga hill, in the commune of Muruta.

In the area of irrigation, sites are under construction on MWISURI hill (commune of Kirundo) and Gashoho hill (commune of Butihinda). This will contribute to increased water availability and enable higher agricultural production during the dry season. In Rambo, in the commune of Kirundo, the cooperative Terimbere Mukenzezi received cofinancing to acquire a tricycle. According to beneficiaries, this support facilitates seed transport during harvesting periods and also ensures seed mobility during agricultural fairs.

Despite general satisfaction with the technical and financial support provided by IFDC, several challenges remain. In particular, the lack of FOMI fertilizer intended for fertilization leads to delays in planting and limits the ability of crops to fully benefit from optimal growth periods. For irrigation, beneficiaries request the payment of the cofinancing amount before construction completion, because unforeseen costs related to higher prices of certain equipment have slowed progress due to insufficient funds. **(MFARIDC)**

### Courtesy visit from the President of Solio Group France and Executive Director of GEM e-Mobility Burundi



**O**n Thursday, April 16, 2026, the Ambassador of Burundi to France, Her Excellency Mrs. Spès-Caritas Njebarikanuye, granted an audience to Mr. Evrard Havyarimana, President of Solio Group France and Ex-

ecutive Director of GEM e-Mobility Burundi and member of the Burundian diaspora.

Their discussions focused primarily on promoting innovation, developing investment, and strengthening economic opportunities in Burundi, as well as on prospects for collaboration with the Embassy to support these initiatives. **(Embassy of Burundi in Paris)**

### Courtesy visit of the Head of the Burundian Priests on a study mission in Ile de France



**O**n Friday, April 17, 2026, the Ambassador of Burundi to France, Mrs. Spès-Caritas Njebarikanuye granted an audience to Father Honoré BIGIRIMANA, Phd student in economic and social sciences, Parish Vicar at the

Basilica of Argenteuil and head of Burundian priests on study missions in the Ile de France.

Their meeting consisted of an exchange of suggestions that could help Burundians living in France become more involved in the Burundian Government's vision of Burundi as an "emerging country by 2040 and a developed country by 2060." **(Embassy of Burundi in Paris)**

## The human papillomavirus vaccine, a major tool for eradicating cervical cancer



**T**he Ministry of Public Health, through its Expanded Program on Immunization, officially launched a national mobilization on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, in Bujumbura, with a view to introducing the vaccine against human papillomavirus (HPV) into its routine immunization program.

In her address, the Minister of Public Health, Dr. Lydwine Baradahana, stated that this initiative aims

to significantly reduce the incidence of cervical cancer, which highly causes mortality in the country. She explained that HPV is a widespread viral infection, primarily transmitted through sexual contact, and that some of its types are responsible for cervical cancer. Faced with this critical health challenge, Minister Baradahana emphasized the need for collective action, commending the commitment of partners and community stakeholders.

Dr. Baradahana indicated that the main objective is to achieve vaccination coverage of at least 80%, particularly among girls aged 9 to 14, the primary target group of this campaign. She reiterated that the HPV vaccine is an effective solution against a virus responsible for almost all cases of cervical cancer. It also helps prevent high-risk infections and reduce mortality related to this disease. She specified that the campaign will be rolled out in primary schools and health facilities throughout the country. Beyond vaccination, Dr. Baradahana urged administrative authorities to strengthen communication efforts to combat misinformation and encourage public participation. She emphasized the crucial role of local leaders and healthcare professionals in achieving the established goals. By investing in this preventative strategy, Burundi is laying the groundwork for a future where cervical cancer could gradually disappear. **(ABP)**

## Burunga: The President of the Supreme Court visits Makamba to advocate for local justice



**O**n Thursday, April 16, 2026, the President of the Supreme Court, Mr. Gamaliel Nkurunziza, made a working visit to Makamba, the capital of the province of Burunga, to collect the grievances of litigants with pending cases at the Makamba Court of Appeal, the Makamba and Nyanza High Courts, and the courts of residence that depend on them.

In his welcoming remarks, the Chief of Staff to the



Governor of Burunga Province, Mr. Etienne Mbonihankuye, commended this initiative, noting that some might have abandoned their cases due to the long distances involved or a lack of legal knowledge. There-

fore, they come seeking justice from the Governor and the administrators. Mr. Mbonihankuye then asked the President of the Supreme Court to increase these visits throughout the country, but especially in Burunga Province, given the numerous pending cases.

During his speech, Mr. Gamaliel Nkurunziza announced that the Government of Burundi is seeking to bring judicial institutions closer to the population. This is why there is a proliferation of local courts, with each area having its own local court, thus reducing travel

distances. For cases that would normally only be handled in Bujumbura, Mr. Nkurunziza indicated that field visits will be conducted to resolve these cases on the ground. The population welcomed these innovations and believes that the poor will no longer be underestimated because of their circumstances. Mr. Pierre Manirakiza, who had been pursuing a land dispute in court for five years, was overjoyed because he had exhausted his financial resources, and now a solution has been found. **(Le Renouveau)**

# Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation

## Department of Communication

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