



Burunga: The Head of Burundian State calls for rigorous implementation of the indicators for the pillars of the 2040-2060 vision



The Head of Burundian State, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, convened in Rutana, Burunga Province local administrators and heads of decentralized and deconcentrated services of various ministries operating in the province. The meeting aimed at achieving the indicators for the pillars of the Burundi Vision 2040-2060 through the rigorous implementation of the Annual Work Plans and Budgets (AWPBs).

During the discussions, the President of the Republic of Burundi congratulated the participants for their commitment to fulfilling their missions. He reiterated that building the Burundian nation is a long-term process that is constructed daily through the combined efforts of all.

The Head of State emphasized that the Annual Work Plans and Budgets

(AWPBs), already developed, must be rigorously implemented. He encouraged participants to refer to them constantly, to demonstrate initiative, and to target the key indicators of the pillars of the Burundi Vision 2040-2060. President Ndayishimiye also emphasized the individual responsibility of each manager. He reminded them that everyone must demonstrate leadership, be fully aware of the scope of their responsibilities, and implement them without waiting for directives from the ministries, once the necessary powers have been delegated to them.

It is worth recalling that the Head of State emphasized the central role of the Provincial Governor, who is responsible for rigorously overseeing the implementation of projects and programs included in the Annual Work Plans and Budgets (AWPBs). He

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specified that evaluation sessions must be regularly organized to measure achievements and assess the

growth recorded at the provincial level. **(Presidency)**

Bill on the plant seed sector: elected representatives adopt certain amendments proposed by the Senate



The Right Honourable Daniel Gélase Ndabirabe, Speaker of the National Assembly of Burundi, convened in plenary session at Kigobe Congress Palace on Tuesday, May 5, 2026. The pur-

pose of this session was to analyze and adopt the amendments proposed by the Senate to the draft law amending the law on the organization of the plant seed sector. Following the analysis, some amendments were adopted.

During this session, the elected representatives carefully analyzed the amendments proposed by the Burundian Senate to the draft law amending Law Nr. 1/08 of April 23, 2012, on the organization of the plant seed sector. They examined the substance and form of these amendments, making adjustments as needed. **(Le Renouveau)**

The Minister of the Home Affairs reassured the senators: the decentralization process is progressing in a generally satisfactory manner



In plenary session chaired by Senate Speaker Gervais Ndirakobuca on Tuesday, May 5, 2026, the Minister of Home Affairs, Community Development and Public Security, Léonidas Ndaruzaniye, was the guest of the day to respond to the concerns of the senators.

At the heart of the discussions were several issues related to the implementation of the decentralization process, particularly since the new administrative organization came into effect. Senators also addressed the problem of administrative infrastructure, specifically the availability of premises for communal services, the progress of construction and equipping of zonal offices, and collaboration between provincial and sectoral decentralized services.

In his responses, Minister Ndaruzaniye indicated that the decentralization process is progressing satisfactorily overall, despite some difficulties. He specified that these difficulties are largely related to the fact that the 2025-2026 Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWPB) was drawn up before the implementation of the new administrative structure.

The senators also raised the issue of fines for those who violate hygiene and public health regulations. In response, the minister reassured them that awareness campaigns have been widely disseminated through national media. He stated that no one is supposed to be unaware of these regulations, and anyone who disregards them is subject to the prescribed fines, including fines stipulated by joint ministerial decree.

The issue of Congolese refugees living in various camps in Burundi was also raised. Elected officials expressed their concern about unauthorized departures of some refugees who are mingling with the local population. In response, the minister in charge of the issue explained that these movements were primarily related to the search for firewood, while assuring them that the situation is currently under control.

Furthermore, the senators drew attention to the increase in road accidents, often caused by speeding, poor vehicle condition, and overcrowding. They questioned the responsibility of road safety authorities in light of these shortcom-

ings. In response to this concern, Minister Ndaruzaniye denounced certain fraudulent practices by drivers who temporarily drop off passengers before checkpoints and then pick them up again after they have passed through. He called on the public to cooperate with law enforcement by reporting these behaviors.

Regarding the modernization of the transport sector, senators inquired about the progress of the digitalization process, particularly in light of the malfunctions of certain control equipment, such as that used in the city of Bujumbura. The minister indicated that the breathalyzer devices are still operational, while the radar systems require technical updates, often to

be carried out by the suppliers. He reassured them, however, that steps are being taken to acquire new equipment.

Regarding traffic lights, their management falls under the jurisdiction of the Burundi Roads Agency (ARB). As for the digitalization of the transport sector, Mr. Ndaruzaniye announced that a dedicated structure has already been established. A working group composed of fourteen experts from various ministries, the Road Safety Police (PSR), and the Burundi Revenue Authority (OBR) is working to develop the necessary Information Technologies tools and the legal framework governing this system. **(Le Renouveau)**

Gitega province is ahead in implementing hygiene and sanitation regulations



The Senators, meeting on Tuesday, May 5, 2025, in a plenary session in the hemicycle of Gitega (political capital and center of Burundi), under the leadership of the Speaker of the Senate, Mr. Gervais Ndirakobuca, adopted the calendar of activities from May 6 to 19, 2026. They then asked a series of questions to the Minister of the Home Affairs, Community Development and Public Security, Mr. Léonidas Ndaruzaniye. The main activities on this agenda, as the Speaker

of the Senate pointed out, concern committee work, training workshops on diplomacy and parliamentary communication, as well as training on the analysis of the budget law.

Regarding the questions posed to the Minister, some concerned the status of the decentralization process since the implementation of the new administrative structure; the availability of premises housing the services of the various communes; the progress of contracts for the construction and equipment of zonal offices; and the operation and collaboration between decentralized provincial and sectoral services.



Other questions addressed the setting of fines for those who violate regulations concerning hygiene and public health, Congolese refugees who leave their camps without permission and mingle with the Burundian population, and the number of accidents caused by violations of current regulations and observed by road safety officers. All questions were answered satisfactorily.

Regarding hygiene and sanitation, the Minister of

Home Affairs, Mr. Ndaruzaniye, announced that the Burundian Prime Minister, Mr. Nestor Ntahontuye, had visited all provinces of the country to assess the implementation of regulations related to hygiene and public sanitation.

He indicated that Gitega province is ahead, while Bujumbura and Burunga provinces are at the bottom of the rankings.

He indicated that the implementation of Joint Order Nr. 1041 of February 18, 2026 amending Joint Ministerial Order Nr. 540/530/630/210 of August 5, 2025 setting the fines imposed on offenders of regulations relating to hygiene and public health is based on different phases including raising awareness and informing the population and local administration; broadcasts and programs in radio and newspapers.

He also indicated that from May 4 to 9, 2026, the Ministers of Home Affairs, Public Health and Communication, accompanied by their services, the Governors and the Administrators, will make a one-day visit of

their choice to rigorously assess the progress on the ground, strengthen communication with the population on the requirements of the order, improve the quality of works and ensure the effective involvement of the local administration, in particular the hill chiefs.

He announced that, as of May 15, 2026, there will be monitoring and enforcement of sanctions, including the imposition of fines and the closure of commercial activities for offenders, and specified that reopening will take place after fulfilling all the requirements of this order and paying the fines.

The senators also raised the issue of installing public toilets throughout the country. Minister Ndaruzaniye reported that a meeting with the governors had taken place and that they had agreed to look for suitable locations for these toilets. He indicated that each town should have public toilets in designated areas so that all drivers of public transport vehicles would stop there for passengers to use, rather than having them leave in the bush. **(ABP)**

The First Deputy - Speaker of the Senate is flying to the Kingdom of Eswatini



On May 5, 2026, the First Deputy- Speaker of the Senate, the Honorable G  n  rose Ngendanganya flew to the Kingdom of Eswatini, in

the Ezulwini Valley, where she will participate, on Saturday, May 9, 2026, in the meeting of the Parliamentary Group of the African Region of the Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) and in the first Africa-European Union Parliamentary Assembly.

The agenda for this meeting includes discussions on the reform of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States, specifically on the Assembly's structure and independent funding for its work; the review of the recommendation to the African-European Union Council of Ministers; the European Union Gateway; and the implementation of the Samoa Agreement. **(Senate)**

The Burundian government is relying on rigorous budget planning aligned with Vision 2040-2060

The Prime Minister of Burundi, Mr. Nestor Ntahontuye, presided over a meeting on the afternoon of Monday, May 4, 2026, at Ntare. Rushatsi presidential palace, a budget orientation meeting for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, is being held for members of the Burundian government. The annual state budget currently being planned must be fully aligned with Vision 2040-2060.

During this meeting, Mr. Ntahontuye indicated that the main objective was to discuss the progress of the budget planning process. He emphasized that the work had already reached an advanced stage. Stressing the importance of quality planning, Mr. Ntahontuye called on members of the Government to demonstrate rationality, effectiveness, and efficiency in defining budget priorities. He specified that this planning must comply with the new administrative structure, contribute to macroeconomic



stabilization, and take into account the guidelines issued by Parliament. He also highlighted the unique nature of the 2026-2027 budget, which must be per-



fectly aligned with the 2040-2060 Vision. This Vision emphasizes strengthening the dynamics of deconcentration and decentralization, considered essential drivers of the country's development. "Each budget planned for an action must respond to an indicator of the country's Vision" (**Le Renouveau**).

The Prime Minister welcomes the Egyptian Ambassador to Burundi: strengthening bilateral relations at the center of the discussions



The Burundian Prime Minister, Nestor Ntahontuye, received in audience on Thursday, May 7, 2026, at Ntare Rushatsi presidential palace, Amira Abdel Rahim Ali Mostapha, the Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt. The two officials discussed issues of common interest related to strengthening bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

Moïse Nkurunziza, the Prime Minister's spokesperson, indicated that the visitor was paying a courtesy visit and that the two officials discussed issues related to strengthening bilateral relations. It should be noted that the Republic of Burundi and the Arab Republic of Egypt share a common border by the Nile River, with Burundi located upstream and Egypt downstream.

Mr. Nkurunziza indicated that Ambassador Mo-

stapha had come to speak with the Prime Minister in his capacity as Head of the Executive in Burundi to discuss bilateral cooperation, and also to exchange views with the Burundian authorities at a time when Burundi is in the presidency of the African Union, but also that Burundi is initiator of the Nile Basin Initiative. Mr. Nkurunziza noted that Burundi benefits from multifaceted support from Egypt, particularly in the education and health sectors, as well as in capacity building for active civil servants. He added that Mrs. Mostapha stated that her country had taken careful note of this vision, as well as its national development loan, which is aligned with this vision, and that the Arab Republic of Egypt is ready to support Burundi in its key growth sectors.

Mr. Nkurunziza indicated that the two officials also discussed the Léopold Sédar Senghor University, an African institution built in Alexandria, in the Arab Republic of Egypt, at the initiative of the heads of state to promote the vision of their ancestors who fought for the sovereignty of African countries. He explained that Egypt was chosen to host this university because it was the first African country to fight for its independence. Mr. Nkurunziza also noted that Ambassador Mostapha emphasized that this university will offer high-quality training in French, in order to perpetuate the legacy of Léopold Sédar Senghor, who worked to defend the ideals of Senegal as well as those of all of Africa. The two officials concluded their meeting with a

mutual commitment to strengthening exchanges, with a view to promoting harmonious development for the

benefit of the Burundian and Egyptian people. (Le Renouveau)

Cooperation: The Burundian Prime Minister travels to Egypt to participate in the inauguration of the new campus of Senghor University

The Prime Minister of Burundi, Mr. Nestor Ntahontuye, accompanied by his wife, will participate in the opening ceremonies of a new campus of Senghor University in Egypt. He departed on the afternoon of Thursday, May 7, 2026, bound for Cairo, the Egyptian capital. The Burundian Prime Minister will participate in these ceremonies on behalf of the Burundian President. He emphasized the strong relationship between the two countries, particularly in the field of education, where many Burundians have pursued, and others are still pursuing, their studies in Egypt. Senghor University, named after the former Senegalese President Léopold Sédar Senghor, is a French-speaking international university founded in 1990. It offers quality education to students from 25 countries and



currently has twelve campuses in different regions of Africa. (Le Renouveau)

Burundi-Morocco Cooperation: Strengthening Diplomatic Skills



On May 04, 2026, at the Donatus Conference Center, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Ambassador Edouard Bizimana, officially opened a 5-day diplomatic training session for State officials, mainly those from the Ministry in charge of Foreign Affairs and the senior leadership of the Republic of Burundi.

As part of the implementation of the Burundi-Morocco Cooperation Roadmap for the 2025-2027 period, trainers from the Kingdom of Morocco came to Bujumbura to share their extensive knowledge and rich diplomatic experience with young Burundian officials, thanks to the sin-



cere and friendly cooperation between the two countries.

This training specifically aims at strengthening diplomatic skill, encouraging strategic thinking, and promoting professional practice that meets today's challenges.

Indeed, this training is part of a clear commitment to strengthen the capacities of young people, prepare a competent, ethical, and proactive future generation capable of carrying high the values, voice, and interests of Burundi on the regional and international stage. It is not merely a series of lectures; it is a true immersion into the workings of diplomacy, designed to equip participants with the tools and skills needed to excel in a constantly evolving world. Diplomacy is both an art and a science that requires perseverance, finesse, and a deep understanding of global dynamics.

Over these five days, participants will have the opportunity to explore essential areas that form the



foundation of modern and effective diplomacy, including diplomatic writing, specialized protocol practices, and country strategic analyses. These will help them successfully navigate complex global arenas, master the solid foundations of any respectable diplomatic career, address the contemporary challenges of the diplomatic profession, and project a strong and coherent image of their country. . (MFARIDC)

High- Level Forum on the State of Burundi's Integration into the East African Community

On May 5, 2026, at the Best Outlook Hotel, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Ambassador Edouard BIZIMANA, officially launched the Annual High-Level Forum on the state of Burundi's integration into the East African Community.



The Forum on the State of Burundi's Integration within the EAC is an annual event during which the Ministry informs the country's leaders about the current state of regional integration. It is a strategic moment for reflection, evaluation, and guidance, as it offers an opportunity to



review progress made, identify persistent challenges, and, more specifically, to jointly outline future prospects.

In his address, Ambassador Edouard Bizimana stated that Burundi hopes that the relevant institutions and technical ministries will fully embrace the various roadmaps for the EAC's integration projects and programs. All stakeholders in Burundi's integration process within the EAC are urged to take the lead not only in implementing these decisions and directives that facilitate the execution of integration projects and programs, but also in upholding the commitments made to the Community. By following this approach, Burundi will be well-positioned to fully reap the benefits of integration.

He also indicated that regional integration remains the key strategy enabling countries to accelerate the transformation of their economies, thereby maximizing the prosperity of their nations. Furthermore, Burundi hopes that EAC affairs will not be confined to Arusha or the Ministry responsible for EAC affairs, but rather that they will become part of the daily lives of Burundians.

Minister Edouard Bizimana concluded his speech by noting that the Government of Burundi wants EAC affairs to become part of the daily lives of Burundians through their ownership of EAC integration projects and programs. He also asked participants to devote their full attention to the Forum's work, the results of which will shape a new approach coupled with a new dynamic to accelerate the success of regional integration within the EAC. **(MFARIDC)**

The Boulevard du Japon, a road in need of rehabilitation



As part of the monitoring of infrastructure built in Burundi through cooperation between Burundi and its foreign partners, H.E. Ambassador Édouard Bizimana, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation, visited the site this Tuesday, May 5, 2026, to assess the condition of Boulevard du Japon, located on the



shores of Lake Tanganyika. This visit followed the one carried out on the same boulevard jointly with the President of JICA during his visit to Burundi in January 2026.

The Minister's latest visit made it possible to observe considerable damage: the situation has seriously deteriorated, and the road has become almost impassable, posing



serious problems for local residents and economic activities in the area.

The Ministry took note that JICA experts will begin feasibility studies for the rehabilitation of the boulevard at the beginning of June 2026. These studies should make it possible to define the technical solutions needed to restore this strategic road to good condition.

In the meantime, His Excellency Minister Édouard Bizimana encourages the relevant national services to consider emergency short-term measures, within the limits of their means, to limit or mitigate the damage. **(MFARIDC)**

Audience granted to the Secretary in charge of economic relations at the Ministry of External Affairs of India



On Thursday, May 7, 2026, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Ambassador Edouard Bizimana, received Mr. Sudhakar Dalela, Secretary in charge of economic relations at the Ministry of External Affairs of India, accompanied by his delegation as well as His Excellency Mr. Upender Singh Rawat, Ambassador of the Republic of India to Burundi. Mr. Sudhakar Dalela was carrying a message addressed to Minister Edouard Bizimana and to His Excellency Évariste Ndayishimiye, President of the Republic of Burundi and current Chairman of the African Union, regarding the invitation to the work of the 4th India -Africa Summit scheduled for May 28-

31, 2026 in New Delhi.

The discussions between the two officials focused on topics of common interest aimed at strengthening the good relations between the two countries. The talks centered particularly on cooperation in the areas of infrastructure development, energy, health, education, and agriculture.

During the discussions, Mr. Sudhakar Dalela also expressed his appreciation for African culture. It was with this in mind that he requested Burundi's assistance in facilitating progress toward development within the Afri-



can Union, given its current presidency.

Ambassador Edouard Bizimana responded favorably to this request, emphasizing that Burundi is pursuing its vision of becoming "an emerging country by 2040 and a developed country by 2060." He also noted that Africa currently represents a significant area of opportunity for the Indian population. **(MFARIDC)**

Burundi-Turkey Cooperation: TIKA officially opens its office in Bujumbura

On Thursday, May 7, 2026, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Ambassador Edouard Bizimana, received in audience Mr. Alp IŞIK, Ambassador of the Republic of Türkiye to Burundi, accompanied by a delegation from the Turkish Cooperation and Development Agency (TIKA), led by Mr. Murat ÇETİN, Coordinator of the TIKa Office in Kampala. During their discussions, the Turkish Ambassador to Burundi announced good news for Burundi: the TIKa Office, previously based in Kampala, has just

been relocated to Bujumbura. The TIKa Office Coordinator was recently accredited to Burundi, following the official visit of His Excellency the President of the Republic of Burundi to Turkey.

The two officials also discussed the upcoming meeting of the Joint Commission between Burundi and Turkey, which will take place in Turkey. They affirmed that preparations are progressing smoothly on both sides to ensure the success of this meeting.

The Ambassador also mentioned the humanitarian aid provided by Turkey to refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo living in Burundi.



Ambassador Edouard Bizimana warmly thanked Turkey for establishing the TIKA office in Burundi, emphasizing that this presence will significantly contribute to the technical guidance and implementation of numerous development projects. He commended the excellent cooperation between the two countries, appreciating the progress made on projects supported by Turkey in Burundi and the meetings between the leaders



of both nations.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation also thanked Turkey for responding to the Burundian government's appeal for humanitarian aid to Congolese refugees who fled the fighting in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo. He urged Turkey to continue supporting efforts to restore peace in the region. (MFARIDC)

Europe Day: A Strengthened Partnership between the European Union and Burundi

On 8 May 2026, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation graced the Europe Day celebrations with his presence during a reception hosted by Ms. Delphine Van Landschoot Wimmer, Chargée d'Affaires of the European Union, on behalf of Ambassador Elisabetta Pietrobon.

In her address, Ms. Van Landschoot Wimmer reaffirmed the European Union's commitment to a long term, transparent approach focused on the well being of populations. She underscored the EU's role in sustainable development, peace and security, while fully



respecting national ownership.

She also highlighted the robustness of the partnership with Burundi, built on shared values and a common vision. This partnership materialises through concrete projects in strategic sectors such as energy and infrastructure. Currently, EU investments in Burundi amount to €384 million in grants and loans, aimed at creating jobs,

strengthening climate resilience and opening up new economic prospects, all while upholding social and environmental standards.

Taking the floor, Minister Edouard Bizimana welcomed the significance of the celebration and recalled the attachment of the European peoples to the achievements of the 1950 Schuman Declaration. He reaffirmed the vitality of the Burundi EU partnership, which he described as dynamic and mutually benefi-

cial.

The Minister expressed the wish to further consolidate this cooperation by aligning it with the priorities of the “Burundi Vision 2040 2060”. He also stressed the imperative of dialogue and multilateralism to address global challenges, notably climate change and geopolitical tensions. Finally, he reiterated Burundi’s commitment to a shared AU EU vision founded on respect for sovereignty and equality among partners. (MFARIDC)

Burundi alongside Russia to commemorate the 81st anniversary of Victory in the Great Patriotic War against Nazism



On 9 May 2026, in Bujumbura, Burundi joined the Russian Federation in marking the 81st anniversary of the Victory in the Great Patriotic War against Nazism. At the invitation of the Ambassador of the Russian Federation to Burundi, His Excellency Sergey Chernenko, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Ambassador Edouard Bizimana, graced the commemoration with his presence.

In his address, Minister Bizimana expressed his profound emotion at sharing this historic date with the Russian people. Having himself served six years as Ambassador to Moscow, he recalled the sacred significance of 9 May as a symbol of the victory of good over evil and of freedom over hatred.

He paid a solemn tribute to the 27 million victims of

the war, including 18 million civilians, and saluted the bravery of the Soviet army – from its defence against the aggression of 1941 to the capture of the Reichstag in 1945. For the chief of Burundi’s diplomacy, this memory is inseparable from global peace and the fight against the “glorification of Nazism.” He concluded by reaffirming Burundi’s commitment to strengthening its cooperation with Russia for the sake of international security, recalling that for Burundians, “peace is priceless.”

For his part, Ambassador Sergey Chernenko described 9 May as a “sacred date.” He recalled that for 1,418 days and nights, the Soviet people accomplished an immortal feat to save humanity from fascist enslavement.



He further highlighted the importance of the “Immortal Regiment” movement, which perpetuates the bond between generations, as well as the newly established Day of Remembrance for the Victims of the Genocide of the Soviet People, observed for the first time in April 2026.



Beyond the commemoration, this celebration illustrated the strength of the relations between Burundi and Russia. Both countries reaffirmed their resolve to con-



tinue a dialogue based on fraternity and lasting peace, in a global context marked by numerous challenges. (MFARIDC)

Workshop on Raising Awareness of Headquarters Agreements and International Conventions signed Between Burundi and its Partner Countries

An important workshop was held in Gitega on May 6, 2026, under the chairpersonship of Mrs. Council Ancilla Ntakaburimvo Director General in charge of the Programme for Defending the Interests of Burundi and Burundians Abroad within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She was representing the Minister at this event.

This three-day workshop, running from May 6 to 8 2026, brought together a wide range of professionals



and officials: magistrates, prosecutors, court presidents, lawyers, judicial police officers, provincial commissioners, experts from the Ministry of Justice, as well as provincial governors. The diversity of participants reflects the importance of the topic addressed and the determination to involve all stakeholders.

The main objective was to strengthen the knowledge and skills of the actors involved so as to better under-



stand and apply the international conventions and headquarters agreements signed by Burundi. These legal instruments govern cooperation relations with States and international organizations, defining the rights and obligations of each party.

As time passes, several difficulties have been observed in the implementation of these texts: insufficient proficiency, divergent interpretations, abuse in the use of privileges and immunities, and sometimes tensions between these immunities and respect for national sovereignty. These observations prompted the holding of the workshop, in order to provide clarification and promote the harmonious application of international instruments.

The privileges and immunities granted to diplomatic missions and international organizations are not personal advantages, but functional guarantees intended to ensure the independence of their missions. A proper understand-

ing of them is essential to avoid misunderstandings and strengthen cooperation between national institutions and international partners.

The Government of Burundi reaffirms its commitment to respect international law while protecting its sovereign interests and those of its citizens. This workshop marks an important step toward a better

understanding of international legal instruments and toward more effective interministerial cooperation.

All things considered, this initiative will help strengthen Burundi's credibility on the international stage and ensure a more rigorous and balanced application of conventions and headquarters agreements. **(MFARIDC)**

Monitoring and evaluation mission for projects supported by CABI in Burundi



From May 4 to 8, 2026, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation, through its Directorate of International Organizations, conducted a field mission dedicated to monitoring and evaluating projects supported by the International Center for Biosciences and Agriculture (CABI) in the provinces of Bujumbura, Butanyerera, Buhumuza, Gitega, and Burunga. The mission also aimed at strengthening the partnership between the Ministry and CABI and ensure greater visibility of the results achieved.

Led by Mr. Mahoro Anicet, Director of International Organizations, a working session was held with CABI officials in Bujumbura. This meeting provided an opportunity to present the progress of the projects and conduct a general briefing. The delegation then visited the plant production laboratory dedicated to the biological control of harmful plants, before the agronomists began their evaluation activities.

The mission continued in Cibitoke commune, Ndava zone, with a visit to the Plant Clinic. The specialized agents indicated that CABI provides training for agronomists so that they become "plant doctors" capable of diagnosing plant diseases and able to support farmers. This training now makes it possible to identify diseased plants and distinguish them

from healthy ones. Agronomists recommend the early uprooting of plants showing abnormalities and their transfer to the clinic for diagnosis and prescription. The team observed that plant clinics constitute a relevant model for agricultural extension. It would be worthwhile to consider expanding them to other rural areas.

Two other clinics were also visited. The Gatara clinic (Kayanza province) and the Butihinda clinic (Muyinga province) carry out similar activities. The proliferation of these facilities has demonstrated the effectiveness of the model, but requires regular monitoring to guarantee the quality of services provided.



In the Buganda area, the delegation visited the local market where CABI organizes rapid awareness campaigns (rallies) on plant health and protection. It was observed that the population of Buganda is less aware of the importance of CABI's interventions than that of Ndava. Residents were informed of the need to submit plants showing abnormalities to plant doctors for diagnosis. In this locality, the team noted that a strengthened communication campaign is recommended to improve understanding and participation among local populations.

The mission then visited the cooperatives of Ndava (Cibitoke) and Matongo (Kayanza). Members testified to the positive results obtained thanks to the training provided by CABI on plant diseases and agribusiness.

Harvests have improved, and the knowledge acquired is being shared with farmers who are not members of the cooperatives. Here, both teams jointly observed that the cooperatives play a vital role in disseminating best practices. It would be relevant to strengthen their institutional management.

Finally, the delegation visited several Agricultural Technical Institutes of Burundi (ITABU), including Mweya, Gatara, Majombe (Karusi), and Mahwa. The

directors confirmed CABI's contribution to the development of the plant protection module, as well as to the printing and distribution of the manuals in all 47 ITABU institutions across the country.

Each student now has a copy. The observation is that CABI's support in agricultural education is a major achievement, reason why a mechanism should be put in place to regularly update the educational content. (MFARIDC)

Monitoring visit to projects supported by the NGOs Welthungerhilfe and the Collective for Food Strategies



From 6 to 8 May 2026, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation, through the Directorate in charge of International Organizations, conducted a monitoring visit to projects supported by the NGOs Welthungerhilfe (WHH) and the Collective for Food Strategies (CSA) in Buhumuza Province.

On 6 May 2026, a delegation composed of staff from the Directorate in charge of NGOs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation, together with staff from the NGOs WHH and CSA, visited the cooperative "Dushigikirane Twimbure neza," supported by Welthungerhilfe under its project "Twuzuzanye." This cooperative is located in Cankuzo Commune, Kigamba Zone, Rusagara Hill. The impact of this project on the beneficiaries is highly positive, as their living conditions have markedly improved. On the same day, the delegation visited the cooperative "Abезandimo," situated on Humure Hill in Cankuzo Commune, Kigamba Zone, also under the same pro-

ject. The team primarily inspected the contour ridges, which are one of the agricultural techniques promoted. Members of this cooperative have received relevant training to combat erosion.

The team continued its field visit in Gisagara Commune, where it visited the cooperative "Duhuzabarimyi" on Rukwega Hill, Mwiruzi Zone. This cooperative is supported by the NGO Collective for Food Strategies (CSA) under the project "Support for the Improvement of Production and Agro-Ecological Practices." For this project, a clear impact on the beneficiary populations who are members of the cooperative was observed in banana and maize cultivation, as well as in the use of natural manure derived from the composting component (Nyabarega yo kurusi).

On Thursday, 7 May 2026, the team continued its field visits in Cankuzo Province. It visited the cooperative "Dushigikirane Kabuga," located in Cankuzo Zone, Kabuga Hill, under the "Twuzuzanye" project implemented by Welthungerhilfe. This NGO has supported the cooperatives with diversified training in the field of food security.

The team then proceeded to the Busuma site for Congolese refugees, which is supported by Welthungerhilfe. The NGO has provided WASH kits (jerrycans, basins, buckets), a water supply system, public lighting, and latrines.

On the same day, the team continued its visit in Gisuru Commune, Nyabitare Zone. It visited the cooperative "Terimbere," supported by the Collective for Food Strategies. This cooperative possesses machines: one for mill-

ing rice and another for maize. In the same locality, the team visited two households of members of this cooperative who practice livestock rearing (cattle, goats, pigs, and poultry), thanks to the training provided by CSA. Subsequently, in line with monitoring activities, the team visited the cooperative "Kazoza keza" in Rusengo Zone, Ruyigi Commune, supported by CSA. Thanks to the training received, the cooperative's members now own a shop selling agricultural inputs, office equipment (photocopier and com-



puter), and a storage hangar for harvest preservation.

On Friday, 8 May 2026, the team visited a company that processes ripe bananas into banana juice (SOMYA) and banana wine (JAJURA), a product obtained through a modern and ecological technological process. This company is located in Ruyigi Commune,



Ruyigi Zone, Murehe Hill. Overall, the monitoring visit to the projects supported by the NGOs Welthungerhilfe (WHH) and the Collective for Food Strategies (CSA) showed that the beneficiaries are proud, as these NGOs have provided them with selected seeds and taught them agricultural techniques that enable increased crop yields. **(MFARIDC)**

Courtesy visit to the French Council of Investors in Africa 'CIAN'

This Tuesday, May 5, 2026, H.E. Madam Spès -Caritas NJEBARIKANUYE, Ambassador of Burundi to France, paid a courtesy visit to Mr. Etienne GIROS, President of the French Council of Investors in Africa 'CIAN'.

Their discussions focused primarily on how to encourage French companies to establish themselves and develop their activities in various sectors in Burundi. **(Embassy of Burundi in France)**



The rate of 69.9% of the target population has already been vaccinated against cervical cancer



The Minister of Public Health, Fidèle Nkezabahizi, visited the Lycée du Saint-Esprit, located in Gihosha zone of the urban commune of Ntakangwa (northeast of Bujumbura). This visit was part of the follow-up to the cervical cancer vaccination campaign. Minister Nkezabahizi indicated that this campaign, launched on April 29, 2026, in Kibimba, by the First Lady of the Republic of Burundi, Angeline Ndayishimiye, is already registering encouraging results in two days.

To date, 69.9% of the target population has received the vaccine, he specified. Aimed at girls aged 9 to 14, this initiative is strongly supported.

The Minister of Public Health commended the efforts of healthcare workers, particularly vaccinators, and all stakeholders involved in the implementation of the vaccination campaign. He also appreciated the Expanded Program on Immunization for the effective organization of this activity, conducted in collaboration with its partners.

He also noted that vaccination against cervical cancer is now an integral part of the routine immunization schedule in Burundi. He indicated that even after the campaign, girls aged 9 to 14 will be able to continue getting vaccinat-

ed at their nearest health centers.

Encouraging participants to maintain their efforts, Mr. Nkezabahizi urged them to continue mobilizing in order to reach, or even exceed, the country's target. "Given the results recorded during the first two days, we even hope to surpass this threshold," he said.

On this occasion, he called on the entire population to strengthen mobilization, particularly at the community level, in order to encourage more girls to participate in this vaccination campaign.

It should be noted that at the Lycée du Saint-Esprit in Bujumbura, 118 girls were expected to receive the vaccine. (ABP)

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**PRESS RELEASE Nr. 04/2026 OF THE MEETING OF
THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF WEDNESDAY,
MAY 6, 2026**

The Council of Ministers met this Wednesday, May 6, 2026, in Buhumuza Province, under the chairmanship of His Excellency the President of the Republic of Burundi, Major General Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE.

Before the meeting began, His Excellency the President of the Republic congratulated the members of the Executive recently appointed for the trust placed in them. He expressed a wish that the Holy Spirit would guide them in their new responsibilities so that their contribution could effectively help achieve the goals of the Vision that the country has set for itself.

After the presentation and adoption of the agenda, His Excellency the President of the Republic recommended the Prime Minister to present the synthesis of the observations arising from the preparatory meeting of the Council of Ministers, which was held on April 27, 2026 and devoted to the preliminary review of the same items on the agenda.

1. Community Reception Action Plan for Refugees in Burundi 2026, as well as its strategic note,

Presented by the Minister of Home Affairs, Community Development and Public Security

The overall objective of this strategy is to improve the well-being of the host communities, of the repatriates and refugees, and support the progressive empowerment of the latter in order to sustainably strengthen social cohesion.

Indeed, Burundi continues to host a significant number of refugees, returnees and people at risk of statelessness, even though the last update of the strategy dates back to 2023. However, the decrease in humanitarian funding worldwide necessitates a progressive transformation of intervention methods in favor of refugees and host communities.

It becomes since then indispensable to strengthen the approaches focused on autonomy, socio-economic inclusion and local development, for the benefit of the refugees, of the repatriates and of the host communities. This Action Plan aims at supporting the progressive implementation of a community integration approach for refugees, contributing to the gradual reduction of dependence on humanitarian assistance in the context of the camps, and at the improvement of the terms of life of the refugees and host communities.

At the end of the review, the Council of Ministers adopted this file, with, among other

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recommendations, the instruction to ensure that national security remains a priority in the implementation of this strategy.

2. Draft decree establishing the procedures for evaluating the performance of staff in decentralized and deconcentrated structures of the public administration,

Presented by the Minister of Home Affairs, Community Development and Public Security

The executive power of the State is delegated to deconcentrated structures at the provincial and decentralized levels at the communal level. In this framework, officials of the different ministries were deployed in the Provinces and in the Communes.

The General Civil Service Statute specifies that the evaluation of civil servants is a duty for the hierarchical authority. This draft decree is therefore an implementation of the provisions of the general civil service statute.

This draft decree defines the competent hierarchical authorities for evaluating the performance of staff in the deconcentrated and decentralized structures of the public administration under their responsibility, at both the primary and secondary levels, as well as the transmission procedure of the evaluation reports

After discussion and debate, the draft was adopted subject to a few substantive and formal corrections, including, among other recommendations, that this text be made an order of the Minister of Labor, Public Service and Social Security.

3. Draft decree concerning the declassification of part of a parcel of land belonging to the State public domain, with a view to its inclusion in the State private domain and its allocation to Ubuntu Oasis Investment for the construction of a Polytechnic University of Information Technology,

By the Minister of the Infrastructure, Social, Housing, Transportation and Equipment

This decommissioning concerns part of public land located in the northern part of KIGOBE, NTAHANGWA Commune, BUJUMBURA Province. It will make possible the implementation of an educational project by the organization UBUNTU OASIS INVESTMENT, which intends to establish a Polytechnic University of Information

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Technologies there.

This university will provide high-quality knowledge and practical skills, mainly related to the design of information technologies solutions, geomatics, etc.

This educational project brought its contribution in the implementation of the National Development Plan of Burundi and is also part of the realization of the goals of the Burundi Vision: an emerging country by 2040 and a developed country by 2060.

At the end of the review, the project was approved with, among others, the following recommendations:

- 1) Specify a deadline after which the land will be reclaimed by the State if the project is not implemented;
- 2) Only grant final allocation of a plot of land after the construction of the infrastructure necessary for the implementation of the project for which the land was requested;
- 3) Inventory all land belonging to the State in order to preserve it for future projects.

4. Draft public-private partnership contract for the development of a rest and bus station in Bugarama, By the Minister of Infrastructure, Social Housing, Transportation and Equipment

This project falls within the framework of the decision of the Council of Ministers of the member States of the Northern Corridor to support the concept of Stopover and Rest Stations along the Northern Corridor, in order to improve road safety and cross-border trade using road transport, particularly along this Corridor.

This stopover and rest station in Bugarama will improve road safety and security, as many accidents are observed on the MUYINGA–BUGARAMA–BUJUMBURA road section.

After analysis, the project was approved, with, among other recommendations, that it should be carried out in partnership with the State of BURUNDI, which would hold 60% of the shares and the private partner 40%.

5. Draft decree establishing the mission, organization and functioning of the Burundi Capital Market Panel Presented by the Minister of the Finance, Budget and Digital Economy

This draft decree is an implementation of the law governing Burundi's capital market, which provides for the establishment of this panel. It fills a legal gap while aligning the

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Authority with international best practices in governance, dispute resolution, and investor protection. The Panel is indeed an independent appeal mechanism, ensuring a second review of decisions made by the Complaints Committee.

The adoption of this decree will help equip Burundi with an instrument in line with international standards, thereby enhancing the attractiveness of Burundi's capital

Market and making it competitive both regionally and globally.

After discussion and debate, the draft was adopted subject to certain substantive and formal corrections.

6. Draft decree establishing transitional arrangements for the decentralization of budget execution and the establishment of accounting positions within ministries and constitutional institutions,

Presented by the Minister of Finance, Budget and Digital Economy

This project of decree aims at overcoming a technical constraint of the Financial Management Information System (SIGEFI). To work around this difficulty, it is proposed that ministers and the heads of constitutional institutions be authorized to act in SIGEFI under the profile of delegated authorizing officers, on a temporary basis, pending the implementation of the new information system, while retaining their status as principal authorizing officers.

Following the review, the draft was adopted with the recommendation that the respective responsibilities related to the decentralization of budget execution authority at the level of ministries, provinces, and communes be clarified.

The procedures for transferring funds to the Provinces must be simplified so that the Provincial Directorates can play their role.

7. Project of National Charter of Social Dialogue in the World of work,

Presented by the Minister of Labor, Public Services and Social Security

This Charter describes the mechanisms for social dialogue in Burundi to sustain social peace in the workplace. It is designed within a tripartite framework comprising the Government, employers, and workers. Compared with the Charter currently in force, this draft introduces innovations by proposing the appointment of members of the National

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Social Dialogue Committee by decree. It also provides for a permanent framework for social dialogue at the level of each Province and each Commune.

After review, the draft was adopted with the recommendation to avoid considering the State as a party, since it plays the role of regulator.

Done at Buhumuza, on May 07, 2026

The Secretary General of State
Jérôme NIYONZIMA.



Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation

Department of Communication

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