



National Patriotism Day: Burundi pays tribute to the late President Nkurunziza



The President of the Republic of Burundi and current Chairman of the African Union, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, accompanied by his wife, Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye, joined the family of the late President Pierre Nkurunziza on June 8, 2026, on the occasion of the commemoration of the 6th anniversary of the passing of the late President Pierre Nkurunziza, Supreme Guide of Patriotism.

The commemorative ceremonies were also attended by members of both Houses of Parliament, senior government officials, and the diplomatic corps accredited to Burundi. They took place at Pierre Nkurunziza Mausoleum in Gitega, the political capital of Burundi. As a sign of respect and recognition,

the Presidential Couple laid a wreath on the tomb of the late President Pierre Nkurunziza. Members of his family and the diplomatic corps also laid wreaths in his memory.

The ceremonies were also marked by a sermon, tributes to the illustrious deceased, as well as songs from the Komezagusenga choir, of which the late President was the founder.

This celebration concluded with the broadcast of an excerpt from the speech of the late President Pierre Nkurunziza. **(Presidency)**

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Patriotism and good governance: the Head of State urges state officials to serve the people with exemplary conduct



On Monday, June 8, 2026, on the occasion of National Patriotism Day and the 6th anniversary of the passing of His Excellency President Pierre Nkurunziza, the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste, accompanied by the First Lady of Burundi, Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye, led a moral education session at the Ingoma Stadium in Gitega. This session, intended for senior officials and state employees appointed by decree, focused on patriotism, service to the people, and the importance of decentralization and the effective deconcentration of public administration.

This session was held under the theme: "Leaders, let us get closer to the people and be the torch that illuminates the Vision of Burundi."

The Head of State emphasized the crucial role of leadership in strengthening patriotism, national cohesion and the sustainable development of the country, recalling the commitment of the late His Excellency President Pierre Nkurunziza, of blessed memory, whose legacy continues to inspire present and future generations to serve the nation with dedication and to cultivate love of country.

His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye emphasized that love of country is a fundamental value deeply rooted in everyone. He believes that a true leader must constantly place the well-being of the population and the greater good of the nation at the heart of their concerns, while fully embracing their role as a unifier, mediator, and guide. The President of the Republic emphasized that the strength of the State rests first and foremost on hardworking citizens who produce and actively contribute to national prosperity. He stressed that public institutions and their leaders have the mission of uniting efforts, promoting the common good, and supporting citizens in all areas of national life.

The Head of State, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, emphasized that love of country translates into concrete actions for development. He urged officials in various sectors to design and implement innovative initiatives, aligned with their respective missions, to sustainably improve the living conditions of the population. He also stressed the importance of decentralization and deconcentration of the administration.

He also encouraged the leaders to cultivate a deep attachment to their country and to pass on this legacy to future generations. **(Presidency)**

ISCAM officially launches the 2025-2026 academic year

Under the High Patronage of the Head of State of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, Commander-in-Chief of the Defense and Security Forces, the Higher Institute of Military Officers (ISCAM) officially launched the 2025-2026 academic year on Friday, June 12, 2026.

This ceremony was marked by several highlights, including the formal induction of the 55th class of officer cadets, the handover between the 51st and 52nd classes, the presentation of diplomas, and the swearing-in ceremony of the graduates of the 50th class. The event took place in the presence of the Minister of National Defence and Veterans Affairs, high-ranking military officials, and various distinguished guests.



Placed under the theme: "ISCAM, for the training of future"

leaders of men capable of mobilizing knowledge for the benefit of national defense”, these ceremonies, punctuated by a military parade, highlighted the mission of the Higher Institute of Military Officers, which consists of training a competent, disciplined military elite fully capable of serving the Nation, as well as participating in peacekeeping operations on an international scale. During these ceremonies, the Burundian Head of State, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, commended the commitment of Burundian youth to serving the nation. He emphasized that love of country, discipline, a sense of sacrifice, and dedication are essential qualities for an officer, who is called upon to lead his men with discernment, make informed decisions, and effectively meet the challenges of his mission.

The Commander-in-Chief of the Defense and Security Forces, addressing the officer cadets, urged them to cultivate excellence and patriotism, which must be translated into concrete actions, making love of country a daily commitment to the defense, peace, security and development of the country.

President Ndayishimiye also invited them to perpetuate the legacy of bravery of the Burundi Defence Force, a

legacy forged through struggles to defend the homeland and resist colonial penetration, and which must continue to inspire future generations of officers.

The Burundian leader indicated that, beyond its primary mission of defense and security, the Burundi Defense Force is called upon to play an active role in developing the country's natural resources. This contribution will strengthen the fight against poverty, stimulate wealth creation, and support economic growth, while accelerating the realization of Burundi's vision of becoming an “emerging country by 2040 and a developed country by 2060.”

Furthermore, the Minister of National Defence and Veterans Affairs, on behalf of the Burundian Army, presented the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, with three cows in calf as a token of appreciation for the significant and continuous efforts made to promote the Burundi Defence Force.

The ceremonies concluded with the signing of the ISCAM Book of Honour by the Burundian Head of State and Commander-in-Chief of the Defense and Security Forces, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye. **(Presidency)**

OPDD / Audience granted to the British Ambassador to Burundi: Support for educational and health initiatives is coming soon



The First Lady of the Republic of Burundi, Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye, received in audience on Thursday, June 11, 2026, at the Presidential Palace in Ntare Rushatsi, Mrs. Alison Heather Thorpe, and Ambassador of the United Kingdom to Burundi. The two discussed modalities of cooperation between the United Kingdom and Burundi in several areas, including education and health. Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye indicated that among the topics discussed during their meeting was how they could collaborate and support each other in several areas, including education and health. They discussed future projects to be implemented. One of these projects concerned the Socle du Savoir School, so that it could host candidates for international exams, as currently many Burundian students

have to travel to Rwanda, Uganda, Kenya, or Tanzania to take these exams.

Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye indicated that Mrs. Alison Heather Thorpe assured her that she would forward this request to the relevant authorities so that they could send teachers to this school to study the possibilities of collaboration in this area.

She also emphasized that, in the health sector, the United Kingdom will support Burundi in its efforts to prevent the Ebola epidemic. It was also agreed that the UK will support Burundi through its

“Zero Waste” program to combat cholera. Her Excellency Ndayishimiye also confirmed that Ambassador Thorpe has promised to accompany her on a trip she will make to receive the “Global Health” award, which will be presented to her in the United Kingdom. The First Lady of Burundi indicated that they would continue to meet to implement the projects they had discussed. She stated that Mrs. Alison Heather Thorpe had come to strengthen ties of friendship and cooperation with the country, as well as to gain a better understanding of ongoing activities in order to support one another. Angeline Ndayishimiye greatly appreciated this initiative because, according to her, such support motivates one to work more effectively and achieve better results.

(Le Renouveau)

The National Assembly adopts certain amendments proposed by the Senate

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Chaired by the Speaker of the National Assembly, Gélase-Daniel Ndabirabe, the Deputies gathered in plenary session analyzed and adopted, on

Thursday, June 11, 2026, the Senate amendments relating to the bill amending Law No. 1/002 of March 31, 2004 concerning the creation, missions, organization and operation of

the Court of Auditors.

With the exception of two substantive amendments that were rejected, the other amendments were adopted. All fifteen procedural amendments were adopted.

Regarding the substantive amendments, out of twelve, two were rejected and ten others adopted. Of the two rejected amendments, one, according to the report of the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights, was not in conformity with the Burundian Constitution.

The other was rejected in order to comply with standard legal procedures. **(Le Renouveau)**

Presentation of selected reports from working missions carried out by Senate delegations abroad



During the plenary session of June 9, 2026, chaired by the Right Honorable Gervais Ndirakobuca, Speaker of the

Senate, the Senators followed the presentation of the reports of four working missions carried out by delegations of the Senate of Burundi abroad during the months of April and May 2026.

The first mission concerned the participation of the Senate of Burundi in the Annual Conference of the Association of African Senates (ASA), held in the Kingdom of Morocco from April 6 to 13, 2026.

This meeting brought together the Presidents and Representatives of the Upper Houses of many African countries to discuss issues related to strengthening democracy, preventing crises, institutional stability and parliamentary cooperation on the continent.

The proceedings concluded with the adoption of recommendations aimed at consolidating joint parliamentary action, promoting democratic values and supporting peace and development efforts in Africa. On the sidelines of the conference, the President of the Senate of Burundi held talks with the presidents of the two chambers of the Moroccan Parliament in order to strengthen parliamentary diplomacy and cooperative relations between Burundi and Morocco.

The Senators also took note of the report relating to the participation of a Senate delegation in the meetings of the Parliamentary Group of the African Region of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) and in the first Africa-European Union Parliamentary Assembly, organised in the Kingdom of Eswatini from May 07 to 14 2026. The discussions focused on the challenges related to peace and security, regional integration, sustainable devel-

opment and the strengthening of parliamentary cooperation.

The first Africa-European Union Parliamentary Assembly, organised within the framework of the Samoa Agreement, addressed several themes of common interest, including youth mobility, the role of women in agriculture, strategic raw materials, multilateralism and parliamentary diplomacy. The participants adopted joint recommendations reaffirming their commitment to a partnership based on dialogue, respect for human rights, sustainable development and shared prosperity.

The plenary also followed up on the report on the extraordinary session of the Pan-African Parliament, held in Midrand, South Africa, from 28 to 30 April 2026. The main objective of this session was the election of the new Bureau of the Pan-African Parliament for a three-year term. Following the vote, the Honorable Fateh Boutbig, from Algeria, was elected President of the Pan-African Parliament, while the Vice-Presidencies were awarded to Representatives from the different regions of the continent. The participants reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening the role of the Pan-African Parliament in promoting peace, democracy, good governance and African integration, in line with the African Union's Agenda 2063.

Finally, the Senators examined the report of the evaluation meeting of the 15th edition of the Inter-Parliamentary Games of the East African Community (EAC), held in Arusha, Tanzania, from April 28 to 30, 2026.

This meeting made it possible to assess the results of the games held in Kampala in December 2025 and to identify good practices as well as the challenges encountered.

Participants emphasized the importance of these games in strengthening regional integration, cooperation, and parliamentary diplomacy. They also began preparations for the 16th edition by formulating recommendations aimed at further improving the organization of and participation in future competitions.

Through these various missions, the Senate of Burundi continues to actively contribute to strengthening parliamentary diplomacy, promoting regional and continental integration, and developing partnerships that foster peace, cooperation, and sustainable development. **(Senate)**

The Prime Minister Visits rehabilitated and rehabilitated public infrastructure in Gitega: saving degraded infrastructure is essential



Prime Minister Nestor Ntahontuye conducted a field visit on Monday, June 8, 2026, to the communes of Gitega and Muramvya in Gitega Province to assess the condition of public infrastructure under construction, as well as both rehabilitated and unrehabilitated buildings. Mr. Ntahontuye expressed satisfaction with the condition of the rehabilitated buildings but recommended the urgent implementation of sanitation and rehabilitation work on the remaining buildings.

The Prime Minister recalled that the rehabilitation of public infrastructure is part of a vast government program. The visit began at the site designated for the future provincial office in Gitega. The assessment is satisfactory; work is progressing at an encouraging pace since the province received the initial funding allocated to this project. The Governor of Gitega Province, Mr. Liboire Bigirimana indicated that the supply of construction materials is already

underway. He stated that construction work on the building will begin soon, thus paving the way for a return to normal operations.

In Muramvya commune, Prime Minister Nestor Ntahontuye visited the recently renovated former municipal building, now used as a zonal office. He expressed his satisfaction with the condition of the building whose renovation is complete. Only the necessary equipment for its operation is still lacking. He promised that the funds for purchasing this equipment would be allocated very soon.

In the town of Muramvya, the Prime Minister also visited three houses belonging to Muramvya Hospital, as well as others under the jurisdiction of Gitega Main Office of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock (DBPEAE). He deplored the advanced state of disrepair of these buildings and recommended the urgent implementation of sanitation and rehabilitation work.

The Prime Minister reiterated that the rehabilitation of public infrastructure is part of a broad government program launched last October. He also indicated that a third tranche of funds has already been released to continue the work until all of the State's real estate assets have been restored and enhanced.

Prime Minister Nestor Ntahontuye observed that several public infrastructures have been neglected for a long time. They must be restored, given their significant cost to the country and their value as assets that the State needs to provide effective and efficient service to the population. (**Le Renouveau**)

Public broadcast hosted by members of the Government: the 10th grade class is about to be restored

Ingoma stadium in Gitega, on Thursday, June 11, 2026, a public broadcast hosted by members of the Government of Burundi took place to answer questions from journalists and the Burundian population, particularly those relating to alcoholic beverages which harm human health.

In his opening remarks, the Burundian Prime Minister, Mr. Nestor Ntahontuye, first conveyed to the population the greetings of the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye. The President expressed his satisfaction with the efforts made by the population to develop

and achieve the national vision. He called upon everyone in their respective sectors of activity, as well as those who are idle instead of working. He indicated that the Head of State is continuously holding sessions to encourage the population to increase production.

During a press briefing on public complaints about the high cost of living, Mr. Ntahontuye stated that it is not enough to complain but rather to work harder to get out of this situation.

As the harvest of the second growing season approached, he urged the population not to waste their



entire produce by selling it immediately in the markets. He called on parents to be involved in their children's education during the upcoming holidays. He emphasized the vital importance of the education traditionally given around the fire. He encouraged them to dedicate themselves to development projects during this holiday period.

As the election period approaches, Mr. Ntahontuye urged the population to remain calm, noting that this is not the first time the country has gone through such a phase. He encouraged citizens not to be distracted by the elections but to continue their work and strive for development.

Regarding alcoholic beverages that harm human health, Mr. Ntahontuye acknowledged that some consumers have difficulty working or even carrying light loads. He informed the public that the government is working in synergy with the Burundi Bureau of Standards (BBN) and the administration to regularly monitor and eradicate this problem. He specified that the list of all alcoholic beverages that meet standards is posted so that the public can identify them.

In the education sector, Mr. Nestor Ntahontuye announced that, starting with the 2026-2027 school year scheduled for September, sufficient funds have been allocated to all municipalities to manufacture public

benches in order to address the problem of students sitting on the ground. He specified that no child will be sitting on the ground starting this year. He added that the number of students admitted to boarding secondary schools will increase from 5,000 annually. Regarding educational reforms, he also reported that a new curriculum has been introduced in 7th grade this year, to allow for the return of 10th grade. One of the objectives is to raise the academic



level of students, which has declined due to the reduced length of schooling: 12 years now compared to 13 years previously.

For students who began with this new reform, namely the 7th grade, Mr. Ntahontuye informed them that they have now reached the 10th grade. During the selection test for elite schools, those with good scores will be placed in boarding schools according to available spaces. He also announced the upcoming reopening of the University of Burundi's restaurant to improve students' study conditions and contribute to achieving the National Vision.

Regarding free healthcare for pregnant women and children under five, Fidèle Nkezabahizi, the Minister of Public Health, indicated that this program is underway. He reported that containers filled with medications have arrived in Dar es Salaam to support this sector. Regarding the issue of poor internet connectivity, Mr. Alain Ndikumana, Minister of Finance, Budget, and Digital Economy, acknowledged the problem. He reassured the public, however, that the situation would soon be resolved thanks to Starlink, which has already been deployed. **(Le Renouveau)**

Diplomatic meeting between Burundi and Great Britain

On Friday, June 12, 2026, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Ambassador Edouard Bizimana, received in audience Mrs. Alison Heather Thorpe, Ambassador of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to Burundi, residing in Kigali. This courtesy visit provided an opportunity to strengthen diplomatic ties and discuss regional and international issues.

The two officials praised the excellent relations between Burundi and Great Britain. They discussed matters of common interest, including strengthening diplo-

matic relations, scholarships, the security situation in eastern DRC, and the opening of borders with neighboring countries.

Mrs. Thorpe announced a significant contribution from Great Britain to Burundi: one million dollars for the Ebola emergency appeal, delivered through UN agencies, and eight hundred thousand dollars through UNICEF for the fight against cholera. This support demonstrates Britain's commitment to assisting Burundi in its health challenges.

Minister Bizimana expressed his gratitude for this support and outlined Burundi's priorities during its chairmanship of the African Union. He specifically mentioned the organiza-



tion of the Continental Dialogue and invited Great

Britain to support Burundi in successfully fulfilling its AU responsibilities.

Regarding the DRC, Minister Bizimana acknowledged a partial improvement in the situation, with the return of some refugees. However, he stressed that atrocities persist in certain areas and that the implementation of the Washington and Doha agreements remains incomplete. He called on the international community to become more involved in achieving lasting peace. **(MFARIDC)**

Workshop for validating the MAEIRCD's statistical methodology



The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation, through the Directorate of Planning, Statistics and Monitoring-Evaluation, organised from 10 to 11 June 2026, in Cibitoke, on the premises of the Imperial Hotel, a workshop to validate the updated methodology for producing ministerial statistics. This workshop is part of the Ministry's desire to adapt its statistical tools to the new missions and responsibilities entrusted to it.

The work pursued several major objectives, including presenting the main changes made to the existing methodology, examining and validating the indicators selected, ensuring their relevance and compliance with international standards, and harmonizing the mechanisms for collecting, processing and transmitting data in order to guarantee institutional consistency and better reliability of the statistics produced.

The opening ceremony was presided over by Mr. Sophonie Nitunga, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation. In his address, he emphasized the strategic importance of reliable and up-to-date statistics to support planning, monitoring and evaluation, and informed decision-making within the Ministry.

This workshop represents a significant step in the process of modernizing the Ministry's statistical practices. It also reflects a commitment to strengthening transparency, methodological rigor, and efficiency in information management, while consolidating the credibility of the data produced in service of diplomacy, regional integration, and development cooperation. **(MFARIDC)**

The Chargé d' Affaires ad interim of the United States Embassy in Burundi was received in audience

On Friday, June 12, 2026, His Excellency Ambassador Edouard Bizimana, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation, received Mrs. Bridget Premont, Chargé d' Affaires ad interim of the United States Embassy in Burundi. This meeting, part of a courtesy visit, provided an opportunity to discuss several topics of mutual interest.

Minister Bizimana welcomed Mrs. Premont's visit and reiterated the excellent relations of friendship and cooperation between Burundi and the United States. He noted that some projects had not been completed following the departure of the previous Chargé d' Affaires, but expressed his hope that they would be revived. Both officials agreed to further strengthen these initiatives. For her part, Mrs. Premont affirmed her commitment to

working energetically and in close collaboration on the ongoing projects. She proposed holding technical meetings to refine and accelerate their implementation.

Regarding the humanitarian situation in the region, the United States has granted approximately \$4 million to Burundi in response to the emergency appeal against Ebola.

Mrs. Premont also confirmed that the United States will continue to collaborate with Burundi in the areas of peace and security as well as development cooperation.

Another point raised concerned the granting of visas to Burundian citizens. Mrs. Premont clarified that there was no official communication on this subject yet, but that the Embassy would provide clarification through diplomatic channels.

This meeting illustrates the shared desire of Burundi and the United States to strengthen their bilateral cooperation, revive stalled projects, and work together



on the humanitarian and security challenges in the region. Minister Bizimana reaffirmed Burundi's readiness to collaborate closely with the United States for a lasting and active partnership. **(MFARIDC)**

Audience granted to the Chargé d' Affaires of the French Embassy in Burundi



On Friday, June 12, 2026, His Excellency Ambassador Édouard Bizimana, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation, received Mr. Jérémy Grand, Chargé d'affaires of the French Embassy in Burundi, in audience. Discussions focused primarily on the appointment of the new French Ambassador to Burundi, the project to support the strengthening of French in legal, diplomatic, and military matters in Burundi, and support for Congolese refugees in Burundi.

During this meeting, Mr. Jérémy Grand informed the Minister that France had recently appointed a new Ambassador to Burundi.

He presented the letters of request for approval related

to this appointment. Regarding the project to support the strengthening of French in legal, diplomatic, and military matters in Burundi, the Chargé d' Affaires indicated that its overall objective is to promote the French language in Burundi, particularly within the public administration and in the regional and international bodies in which Burundi participates diplomatically and militarily.

His Excellency Ambassador Edouard Bizimana welcomed this initiative, stressing that Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo are among the leading French-speaking countries in the region and that this project will contribute to strengthening the capacities of Burundian managers in various sectors.

Addressing the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mr. Jérémy Grand reiterated that France fully supports United Nations Security Council Resolution 2773 (2025), which reaffirms the sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of the DRC. He also indicated that France has made significant efforts to assist Congolese refugees hosted in Burundi.

In this regard, the Crisis and Support Centre (CDCS) of the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs and the French Development Agency (AFD) recently allocated a total of €601,000 to the French Red Cross and the Burundi Red Cross. This contribution aims at strengthening access to drinking water, hygiene, sanitation, and epidemiological surveillance at the Busema site hosting Congolese refugees. It was specified that this aid is in addition

to the funding already mobilized by France for the end of 2025 to address the Congolese refugee crisis. The chargé d' Affaires also praised Burundi's efforts in welcoming Congolese refugees, highlighting the humanitarian commitment the country is demonstrating in this difficult context. Speaking on the peace process in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, His Excellency Ambassador Edouard Bizimana indi-

cated that progress remains limited. He stated that while the peace agreement signed in the United States of America is certainly a source of hope, more efforts must be made to ensure its effective implementation. He emphasized the need to fully implement the adopted resolutions in order to allow for the restoration of lasting peace in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. **(MFARIDC)**

UNICEF reaffirms its commitment to children



On Thursday, June 11, 2026, the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation, Mr. Sophonie Nitunga, officially launched the evaluation session of the Cooperation Programme between the Government of Burundi and UNICEF for the period 2025-2027. This meeting brought together representatives of the Government, the United Nations System and the various partners involved in the implementation of programmes for children and young people in Burundi.

In his opening remarks, the Permanent Secretary commended the spirit of collaboration, complementarity, transparency, and national ownership that characterized the development and implementation of the program. He stressed the need to maintain rigorous management in order to achieve the objectives set for 2027.

According to him, close consultation among all stakeholders remains essential to ensure the protection of children and foster the development of their full potential. Mr. Nitunga also emphasized the importance of a shared understanding of each actor's roles and responsibilities to guarantee the success of interventions. He noted, however, that a persistent challenge remains: some projects implemented with UNICEF support are still perceived as belonging exclusively to that organization, when they should be

considered achievements of Burundi for the benefit of its people.

The Permanent Secretary also expressed concern about the lack of maintenance of certain infrastructure projects completed under the previous cooperation program. Although these projects were handed over to local authorities in good condition, some have deteriorated due to a lack of proper monitoring and maintenance.

To this end, he recommended that future projects ef-



fectively address the real needs of the population and that a maintenance plan be systematically integrated from the design stage to guarantee their sustainability. Finally, he reaffirmed the Government of Burundi's commitment to further strengthen its collaboration with UNICEF and all development partners to improve the living conditions of Burundian children and youth.

Speaking at the event, Mrs. Violet Kakyomya, UN Resident Coordinator in Burundi, emphasized that projects must now be more closely aligned with national priorities, particularly given the reduced funding from partners. She encouraged participants to analyze the results achieved, identify the challenges encountered, and propose strategies to improve the effectiveness of interventions. **(MFARIDC)**

Monitoring and evaluation: joint mission between the Burundian Government and the NGO SPARK



As part of a joint mission between the Burundian Government and the NGO SPARK, a team from the Ministry led by Mrs. Venantie NKURIKIYE, Head of Decentralised Cooperation Action at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation, carried out a monitoring and evaluation visit on the ground on 9 and 10 June 2026. This mission took place in the communes of Matana,

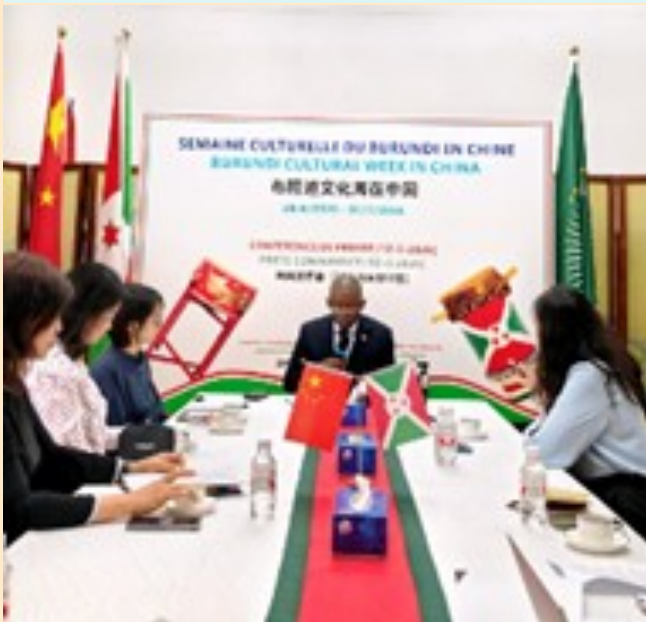
Rutovu, Bururi and Rumonge, all located in the province of Burunga.

Its main objective was to evaluate the UMWUGA-AKAZI project, a multi-faceted program that works to strengthen the professional skills of young graduates with a view to their integration into permanent employment, to develop entrepreneurial capacities promoting self-employment and the creation of start-ups, and to scale up existing businesses. The project also focuses on strengthening the capacities of integration units within vocational training centers, particularly CEMs and CFPs.

Following discussions with various stakeholders, the beneficiaries expressed a pressing need for material and financial support, which would allow them to put their acquired skills into practice and to establish themselves more effectively in the job market.

It should be noted that these field visits continued on June 11 and 12, 2026 in the province of Bujumbura, as part of the monitoring and evaluation of the NGO Kiyoyi, whose action focuses on the area of youth empowerment and school governance. (MFARIDC)

Relations between the Chinese and African peoples are strengthened through their cultural exchanges



On Thursday, June 12, 2026, His Excellency Mr. Telesphore Irambona, Ambassador of the Republic of Burundi to the People's Republic of China, held a press conference at the

chancery to present the program for the Burundi cultural week in China, which will take place from June 28 to July 1, 2026.

Held under the theme "When the sacred drums of Burundi strengthen Sino-African cultural ties", this event is part of the year 2026 dedicated to people-to-people and cultural exchanges between China and Africa, and coincides with the 70th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the People's Republic of China and African countries.

Four major activities will characterize this cultural week: Cultural performances from Burundi, where 2026 is dedicated to people-to-people and cultural exchanges between China and Africa, the first activity will be devoted to Burundian cultural performances. To this end, the Ambassador has invited folk groups from Burundi, including traditional drummers and dancers.

The sacred drum of Burundi (Ingoma), inscribed on UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, a symbol of the identity, unity, and

historical continuity of the Burundian people, will resonate in Beijing alongside the Chinese drum. Cultural exchanges play a vital role in strengthening relations between peoples in general, and between the Chinese and African peoples in particular.

The second activity, scheduled for June 29, 2026, from 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Embassy of Burundi in Beijing, will focus on peace and security. This conference will provide an opportunity to share Burundi's experience in crisis resolution, national reconciliation, and post-conflict reconstruction, in line with the African Union's ambition to silence the guns and consolidate lasting peace in Africa.

The public will discover the Burundian model of Co-sociative democracy, based on the sharing of power, which has allowed Burundi to turn the page on conflict, to consolidate lasting peace and to build a nation-state which, today, participates in the search, consolidation, maintenance and preservation of peace in other countries.

The third activity, scheduled for July 1, 2026, before the celebration of the 64th anniversary of Burundi's independence, will focus on investment opportunities in Burundi.

The Forum will present to the public investment opportunities in Burundi, the advantages offered by the Investment Code as well as priority areas as defined within the framework of the Vision Burundi emerging country in 2040 and developed country in 2060.

Participants will be able to discover opportunities in growth sectors such as agribusiness, mining and natural resources, tourism, the digital economy, infrastructure and renewable energy.

This forum will also be an opportunity to present Burundi as a stable and promising investment destination, at the heart of East Africa and the African market.

The fourth activity, which will mark the closing of Cultural Week, will be the celebration of the 64th anniversary of Burundi's independence, July 1, 2026 at the China World Hotel.

This celebration will be marked by dances of drummers and many other Burundian cultural performanc-

es.

It will also be a special moment to celebrate Burundi's journey since gaining independence and to highlight the progress made towards peace, stability and development.

During the press conference, Ambassador Télesphore Irambona stressed that this cultural week aims at strengthening the relations of friendship and cooperation between Burundi and China, while contributing to the prominence of Burundi, which is holding the presidency of the African Union this year.

He noted that Burundi is a country undergoing profound transformation. It has turned the page on the conflicts that marked certain periods of its history and is now pursuing its development in a climate of stability, peace, and reconciliation.

Burundi is no longer just a beneficiary of international solidarity; it is also an active contributor to the search for solutions to challenges common to humanity, particularly in the areas of international peace and security, the fight against terrorism, sustainable development, environmental protection and climate resilience.

The year 2026, in which Burundi assumes the presidency of the African Union, testifies to the trust placed in it by other African nations and its commitment to a more integrated, prosperous, and influential Africa on the international stage. This reality remains insufficiently recognized internationally.

The Ambassador invited media professionals to help raise awareness of the transformed Burundi: a peaceful, stable Burundi resolutely focused on the future, open to mutually beneficial partnerships and investments, serving shared prosperity between Burundi and China. **(Embassy of Burundi in Beijing)**

REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI

PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC
GENERAL STATE SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE N°06/2026 OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF WEDNESDAY JUNE 10, 2026

The Council of Ministers met on Wednesday June 10, 2026 in Bujumbura, the economic capital of Burundi, chaired by His Excellency the President of the Republic, Major General Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE.

Following the presentation and adoption of the agenda, His Excellency the President of the Republic invited the Prime Minister to present a summary of the observations arising from the preparatory meeting of the Council of Ministers held on June 4, 2026, which had been devoted to a preliminary analysis of the same items on the agenda.

Draft Law on Access to Public Information,

Presented by the Minister of Communication and Media

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This project aims to safeguard the right to information as a fundamental right guaranteed by the Constitution and by the international instruments ratified by Burundi.

It addresses the need to strengthen transparency, good governance, the rule of law and the fight against corruption as fundamental pillars of government action, with a view to achieving the Burundi vision goals to be: An Emerging Country by 2040, and a Developed Country by 2060'

Addressing the existing legal vacuum regarding access to public information, this draft law provides citizens with a legal framework enabling them to obtain the information necessary to live and protect their rights. It also strikes a balance between access to information and the protection of information legally subject to secrecy and confidentiality.

Following discussion and debate, the bill was adopted subject to a number of amendments to both substance and form.

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2. Draft law making offences of misconduct within the Burundian education system and setting out the applicable penalties,

Presented by the Minister of National Education and Scientific Research

Decree-Law No. 1/016 of February 23, 1993, which classifies fraud in examinations and educational assessments organized for the purpose of progression to the next year group or cycle, or for the award of certificates and diplomas, as an offence, no longer reflects the current legal framework and contains shortcomings that need to be addressed.

In fact, it focuses solely on cases of cheating in examinations and educational assessments organized for the purpose of progressing to the next year group or cycle, or of obtaining certificates and diplomas;

However, offences committed within the education system have become increasingly common, and the Criminal Code does not classify them as criminal offences. It is therefore necessary to introduce a legal provision that classifies these other offences as criminal offences, in particular breaches of the regulations governing the opening or closure of private education and training establishments.

Following the review, the project was approved subject to a few minor adjustments.

3. Draft decree on the establishment, organization, remit and operation of the National Qualifications and Certification Commission,

Presented by the Minister of National Education and Scientific Research

The decree establishing the National Qualifications and Certification Framework lists the National Qualifications and Certification Commission among the bodies and departments responsible for implementing the Framework.

This committee has not yet been set up, even though it is a body responsible for overseeing activities relating to the recognition of prior learning and professional experience in terms of knowledge and skills, and which enables

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anyone to obtain a qualification or a certificate of professional competence through lifelong learning.

The draft decree in question is proposed to put this framework into operation. Following review, the draft was adopted subject to a few minor amendments.

4. Draft decree setting out the practical arrangements for increasing the retirement pensions of public sector insured persons,

5. Draft joint order increasing the pensions received by public sector pensioners who retired before January 1st 2020,

6. Draft joint order setting a ceiling on the final net monthly salary used to calculate the pensions of public sector pensioners,

7. Draft joint order setting a ceiling on the pension payable to public sector pensioners

All four of these projects were presented by the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Labor, the Civil Service and Social Security, supported by the Director-General of the ONPR, as the Minister responsible for the civil service was on an official mission abroad.

These texts are issued pursuant to Law No. 1/05 of April 30, 2026 amending Law No. 1/09 of March 14, 2022, which amended certain provisions of Law No. 1/12 of May 12, 2020 on the Social Protection Code in Burundi.

The draft decree setting out the practical arrangements for increasing the retirement pensions of public-sector insured persons lays down the procedures for increasing old-age, disability or early retirement pensions, as well as survivors' pensions, for civil servants, magistrates, political or public office-holders, state seniors or contract staff working in the public sector, judicial officers, and members of the defense and security forces.

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The aim of this draft law is to gradually bring the pension amount closer to the last net monthly salary received before retirement or disability, until a replacement rate of 100 % is reached.

The draft decree proposes that the initial replacement rate be set at 60 per cent of the final net monthly salary.

As for the draft joint order increasing the pensions received by public-sector pensioners who retired before January 1st 2020, it sets the increase at 30% for pre-2020 pensioners, ensuring that no pensioner receives a pension of less than BIF 30,000.

With regard to the draft joint order setting a ceiling on the final net monthly salary for the calculation of pensions for retirees in the public sector, it proposes setting the ceiling on the final net monthly salary at BIF 1 Million seven hundred and fifty thousand (1,750,000).

With regard to the Draft Joint Order setting a ceiling on the pension payable to public sector pensioners, and with reference to the ceiling on the final net monthly salary set at One Million Seven Hundred and Fifty Thousand Burundian Francs (1,750,000) and the initial replacement rate set at 60 %, the ceiling for monthly old-age, disability or early retirement pensions is set at one million and fifty thousand Burundian francs (1,050,000).

Following discussion and debate, the four proposals were adopted, along with a further recommendation that social security bodies be asked to carry out the necessary studies to adjust contributions so that this policy is sustainable, given that the state subsidy provided to enable the increase in retirement pensions will not be permanent.

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8. Draft decree on the provision of utilities through the integration and restructuring of informal settlements,

Presented by the Minister for Infrastructure, Social Housing, Transport and Public Works

The current trend in urbanization reflects unplanned urban development, leading to the emergence of informal settlements characterized by haphazard construction around the cities.

To curb this phenomenon, it is essential to establish a regulatory framework governing the provision of utilities through the integration and restructuring of neighborhoods built without planning permission. This is the purpose of this draft decree.

Its objectives are:

- 1) To manage urbanization and ensure an effective fight against the spread of shanty towns.
- 2) To put the Vision 2040–2060 into practice by increasing the rate of urbanization and through the structured redevelopment of unplanned neighborhoods.
- 3) Establish a system of planned development in consultation with landowners.

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Following the analysis, the project was adopted subject to a number of amendments to both substance and form.

9. Draft decree on the remit, composition, organization and functioning of the National Commission for Town Planning, Housing and Construction,

10. Draft decree on the remit, composition, organization and functioning of the provincial and communal town planning commissions,

These two draft laws were presented by the Minister of Infrastructure, Social Housing, Transport and Public Works.

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The Town and Country Planning, Housing and Building Code provides a legal framework for spatial planning, urban planning, housing provision and building regulations.

It enshrines the principles of planning, cross-sectoral coordination, decentralization and administrative oversight of town and country planning, housing and building operations.

This draft decree concerning the remit, composition, organization and functioning of the National Commission for Town Planning, Housing and Construction is an implementing regulation of the Town Planning, Housing and Construction Code and will, in particular, enable:

- 1) Tighter control over town planning and building operations;
- 2) A reduction in unauthorized building works.

As for the draft order on the remit, composition, organization and functioning of provincial and communal town planning committees, it specifies that these committees have administrative authority under the provincial and communal authorities, with a remit to ensure compliance with urban and peri-urban standards.

Planning committees at provincial and communal authority level act in an advisory capacity to the provinces and local authorities on planning matters.

Following the review, both proposals were adopted, with recommendations including that the remit of these committees be extended to include spatial planning.

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11. Note on the issue of acquiring the site identified for the extraction of black rock to be used in the rehabilitation and upgrading works on the sections of the RN3 Bu Boulevard jumbura–Gitaza (25 km) and Boulevard Mwambutsa (2.4 km) and Boulevard NDADAYE Melchior, starting from the Ruvumera feeder road at the start of the RN3 (Place de l'Indépendance, 1.8 km), selected for the Non-Motorized Transport pilot scheme,

Presented by the Minister of Infrastructure, Social Housing, Transport and Public Works

The Burundi Transport Resilience Project, funded by a grant given by the World Bank, has just signed a contract with China First Highway Engineering Corporation to carry out this work.

The company has identified a site for quarrying the black rock to be used in the rehabilitation and upgrading works on these road sections.

The purpose of this Memorandum is to request that the Government support the Project Management Unit and the Company in acquiring the site already demarcated by the Company on the two hills of Kabezi and Masama, situated on the sub-hills of Ruhana and Cumba respectively, by declaring this site, covering an area of approximately 8 hectares, to be in the public interest.

Following consideration, the Council of Ministers has approved this request to declare the identified site to be in the public interest – a site which will revert to the State upon completion of the Project – and to consider ways of minimizing the costs of road works, in particular by using the crushers acquired by the State.

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12. Note on the relocation of the masonry fence on the south side of the former Royal Palace, currently used as a riot police camp, and the metal fence on Martyrs of Democracy Square running alongside Boulevard NDADAYE Melchior

Presented by the Minister of Infrastructure, Social Housing, Transport and Public Works

This work forms part of the Burundi Transport Resilience Project, funded by the World Bank.

This work will require the demolition of the section of fence on the south side of the former Royal Palace, which is currently used as the riot police camp. The road right-of-way will encroach 3 to 5 meters inwards from the fence. The southern section of the metal fence at the Place des Martyrs de la Démocratie running alongside this boulevard will also be demolished.

The Council of Ministers has given its approval for this project to be carried out, with recommendations including, amongst other things that consideration be given to widening and improving certain boulevards and the main roundabouts in the city of Bujumbura.

13. Draft decree on the return to the State's private domain of a 98-hectare plot of land located in Rubira, Mpanda Commune, Bujumbura Province,

Presented by the Minister for the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock

This land had been requested by Mr Stanislas NKUNZIMANA and granted for pastoral purposes, such as the construction of cattle sheds and the planting of pastureland. However, it was found that the land was being actively farmed by private individuals under seasonal leases. The land has therefore not been used in accordance with the purpose for which it was requested. The purpose of this draft decree is to return the land to the State's private domain.

Following review, the draft was adopted with the recommendation to identify other plots of land that have been transferred but diverted from their original purpose, and to return them to the State's domain.

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14. Draft contracts for the use of state-owned land (49),

These 49 draft contracts were presented by the Minister of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock.

These draft contracts provide for the leasing of state-owned lands to private investors for agricultural or livestock projects.

The implementation of these projects supports the Government's initiative to develop public-private partnerships in the agro-pastoral sector with a view to increasing production and thereby supporting the Government's policy in implementing the Burundi Vision.

The 49 draft contracts were approved, with the following recommendations, amongst others:

- 1) For each contract, clearly specify the activity to be carried out there in order to prevent any attempts to alter what is set out in the contract.
- 2) Carry out an inventory of state-owned lands under concession that is not being used or whose use has been diverted from the original purpose of the concession, with a view to reintegrating them into the state's assets.
- 3) Identify suitable priority projects that could be developed on this reclaimed land and, subsequently, issue calls for expressions of interest to potential investors interested in the activities to be carried out there.
- 4) Invite those who are unlawfully using state-owned lands to address their situation through negotiation and the conclusion of usage contracts or, failing that, to have the land withdrawn from them.

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15. Miscellaneous

The Council of Ministers has asked the Ministers in charge of Home Affairs, Infrastructure, Public Health and Communication to launch a month-long cleanliness campaign with the aim of achieving 'zero waste' across the country.

Within cities, hill leaders will be required to visit households to assess how waste is being managed. Following this period, there will be an evaluation of the achieved results.

Done in Bujumbura, on June 11, 2026
General State Secretary
Jérôme NIYONZIMA.



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Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation

Department of Communication

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