



President Ndayishimiye returns to Bujumbura after the Extraordinary Session of the African Union in Luanda

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The President of the Republic of Burundi and current Chairperson of the African Union, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, returned to Bujumbura on Monday morning, August 31, 2026, at the conclusion of his mission to Luanda, Angola, where he chaired the 21st Extraordinary Session of the African Union Conference of Heads of State and Government.

In her address to the local press, the Spokesperson for the President of the Republic of Burundi, Mrs. Nancy Ninette Mutoni, stated that this extraordinary meeting was organized in a very challenging continental context. President Ndayishimiye acknowledged that the Afri-

can continent is marked by the persistence of conflicts, terrorism, violent extremism, and political crises. He thus called for the strengthening of African mechanisms for conflict prevention and management, as well as for inclusive dialogue and democracy.

He also emphasized the importance of prioritizing African solutions to African crises, while highlighting the link between peace, development, inclusion, and the improvement of people's living conditions.

At the end of the session, the Heads of State and Government adopted

decisions aimed in particular at strengthening early warning, preventive diplomacy, and the African Union's

capacity to respond rapidly to crises. **(Presidency)**

Gitega/ Closing of the obstetric fistula treatment campaign in Burundi: A call to strengthen treatment and prevention



The First Lady of Burundi, Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye, graced with her presence, on Wednesday, September 2, 2026, in Gitega, the closing ceremonies of the obstetric fistula treatment campaign activities in Burundi. This campaign was organized by the Bonne Action Umugiraneza Foundation, in partnership with the Gitega Regional Hospital.

In her speech, Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye warmly welcomed the contribution of medical specialists from Ethiopia and Tanzania who worked alongside their Burundian counterparts. She indicated that this collaboration made it possible to pool knowledge, skills, and experiences to screen, operate on, and treat several women suffering from obstetric fistula.

The First Lady of Burundi emphasized that obstetric fistula is not only a health problem. It also represents a family and social problem that deeply affects the sufferer and has consequences on their socioeconomic development. She thus called on families and the community to support women affected by this disease, notably through encouragement, accompaniment, and affection. Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye encouraged the women treated during this campaign to carefully follow the doctors' advice to consolidate their recovery. She asked them to become, upon their return

to their communities, true witnesses in the fight against obstetric fistula, by sharing their experiences and explaining to other women how they were treated and healed. She also invited anyone who suspects they are affected by this disease to quickly consult the nearest health facility. For the First Lady of Burundi, the fight against obstetric fistula must not be limited to treating already affected women. Prevention is also an essential means of reducing this disease. She thus called on pregnant women to regularly attend prenatal consultations so that their pregnancy is monitored by health professionals until delivery. She also urged parents to have their children's health checked regularly. According to her, certain congenital diseases, particularly those affecting intimate parts, can be detected at a young age and treated in time.

In turn, the Director of the Gitega Regional Hospital, Mr. Eric Ndiokubwayo, indicated that the obstetric fistula treatment campaign began on August 24, 2026. A total of 28 women benefited from surgical intervention as part of this campaign. Their state of health is currently considered satisfactory. Mr. Ndiokubwayo thanked the First Lady of Burundi for having, through the Bonne Action Umugiraneza Foundation, made the treatment of obstetric fistula one of her priorities. He emphasized that this initiative allowed several women who had lost hope because of this disease to regain their dignity and feel valued again within their families.

Finally, to facilitate their social reintegration and enable them to regain their autonomy, Director Ndiokubwayo pleaded for the healed women to benefit from support in various income-generating activities. As part of comforting and encouraging these women suffering from obstetric fistula, Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye came bearing assistance consisting of food and non-food items destined for them. **(Le Renouveau)**

National Assembly: Adoption of the draft activity calendar for August 31 to September 14, 2026

Under the auspices of the President of the National Assembly, the Very Honorable Gélase Daniel Ndabirabe, the deputies met in plenary

session on Tuesday, September 1, 2026, at the Kigobe Congress Palace, to adopt the draft activity calendar for

the ordinary parliamentary session of August 2026, for the period from August 31 to September 14, 2026. The parliamentarians also followed the presentation of mission reports carried out by certain deputies.



In the draft activity calendar for the ordinary parliamentary session of August 2026, covering August 31 to September 14, 2026, quite a few activities are planned. For this purpose, the elected representatives of the people will follow the presentation of the analysis report on the final audit report of public transport management, a presentation that will be followed by oral questions and debate addressed to the Minister of Infrastructure, Social Housing, Transport, and Equipment. They will also follow the

presentation of the analysis report on the final audit report of the management of the Central Purchasing Agency for Essential Medicines, Medical Devices, and Laboratory Products and Materials of Burundi. After this presentation, they will address oral questions to the Minister of Public Health on this report.

In this parliamentary session, the analysis and adoption of the draft law on ratification by the Republic of Burundi of the cooperation agreement between the Government of the Republic of Angola and the Government of the Republic of Burundi relating to visa exemption for holders of diplomatic and service passports, signed in Addis Ababa on February 12, 2026, is also planned.

They will also analyze the draft law amending Decree-Law No. 1/016 of February 23, 1993, establishing offenses for fraud in examinations and pedagogical assessments organized for grade promotion, cycle advancement, or obtaining certificates and diplomas.

In this ordinary parliamentary session, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Burundi will present, before Parliament convened in congress, the implementation report of the Government's Annual Work Plan and Budget (PTBA) for the second half of the 2025-2026 fiscal year. **(Le Renouveau)**

The Government of Burundi to the rescue of recent fire victims in Bujumbura



On the afternoon of Tuesday, September 1, 2026, the Burundian Prime Minister, Mr. Nestor Ntahontuye, accompanied by other Senior State Officials, Administrative Officers, Heads of the Banking Sector, and others, carried out a visit to areas recently affected by fires and to galleries not affected but at high risk due to constructions lacking emergency exits, in order to implement the various recommendations arising from the Council of Ministers and the National Security Council.

This visit began at the KININDO market, where it was noted that most of it had been saved, then at the NDAYIZAMBA gallery and the Parisien shopping center, where significant material damage was recorded. The purpose of this visit was to observe the consequences of the recent fires and assess the situation, in order to take appropriate measures for the traders victimized by these disasters, as recommended by the Council of Ministers and the National Security Council.

These authorities were able to observe the extent of the losses suffered by traders and owners of affected infrastructure. In an interview with the press, the Prime Minister emphasized that a census operation of victims and their losses will begin, as well as the identification of insurance companies to which these victims were affiliated, in order to determine the necessary support measures. Among the support measures envisaged are raising awareness among insurance companies for rapid compensation procedures, revising the repayment deadlines for loans contracted by these

victims, and granting other loans at affordable rates for their recovery.

On the sidelines of this visit, these authorities went to the VILLAGE MARKET and IDEAL galleries to observe the condition of the infrastructure there and their emergency exits and passageways for fire trucks, in order to always think about prevention as well as disaster management. Faced with this situation, the Head

of the Burundian Executive declared that not only are the goods located in these galleries also exposed to great risk, but the people carrying out their activities there are in imminent danger. Furthermore, he promised that through a ministerial committee that will be established, a redevelopment of all places, notably markets and commercial galleries, will soon begin, with the opening of emergency exits and the clearing of passageways for fire trucks. **(Primature)**

Prime Minister's Office: Meeting on the development of the Kaburantwa irrigated perimeter to increase agricultural production



On Tuesday, September 1, 2026, at the Ministry of Finance, Budget, and the Digital Economy, the Burundian Prime Minister, Mr. Nestor Ntahontuye, held a coordination meeting on the interventions of various partners in the hydro-agricultural development of the Kaburantwa irrigated perimeter.

At the end of the exchanges, the stakeholders agreed to develop a roadmap specifying each party's interventions, under the coordination of the Ministry of Environment, Agriculture, and Livestock and the Prime Minister's Office. Mr. Ntahontuye insisted on the need to carry out the various works in a coordinated manner, so that the development of the marshland makes it possible to increase agricultural production while preserving activities related to the Kabu16 hydroelectric dam, built by Regideso.

The objective of this meeting is to ensure that hydro-agricultural development works do not affect the operation or activities of the dam built by Regideso. He specified that the development of the Kaburantwa marshland should allow farmers to exploit their land both during the rainy season and during the dry season. He added that the development of this marshland thus

constitutes an important issue for both the increase of agricultural and energy production.

The Kaburantwa irrigated perimeter is the subject of several interventions financed or implemented by various actors. These include the project financed by the World Bank, that supported by the African Development Bank (AfDB), and Enabel's interventions, in addition to activities carried out by Regideso on the Kaburantwa River as part of the Kabu16 hydroelectric dam. The multiplicity of interventions had created misunderstanding regarding the coordination and articulation of activities between the various stakeholders.

A situation that risked compromising the complementarity of interventions and delaying the start of marshland development works. Faced with this situation, the participants agreed to put in place a common roadmap. This should clearly determine the various activities to be carried out, their articulation, and the responsibilities of the actors concerned.

The implementation of these interventions will be under the coordination of the Ministry with agriculture in its portfolio. Development activities should start soon, under the coordination of the Ministry in charge of Agriculture, with monitoring by the Prime Minister's Office. The expected roadmap should thus serve as a common framework for harmonizing interventions on the Kaburantwa River.

This meeting was part of the restructuring of the Climate Resilience Project for the Hills of Burundi (PRCCB), financed by the World Bank. The exchanges focused particularly on the continuation and effective start of hydro-agricultural development activities of the Kaburantwa perimeter in the Bukinanyana commune of Bujumbura province. **(Le Renouveau)**

Strengthening bilateral cooperation between Burundi and Serbia on the sidelines of the 65th anniversary of the non-aligned Movement



On the sidelines of the commemorative meeting for the 65th anniversary of the Non-Aligned Movement on August 31, 2026, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation of Burundi, His Excellency Ambassador Edouard Bizimana,

and his delegation held discussions with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Serbia.

The two delegations exchanged views on bilateral relations between Burundi and Serbia and both appreciated the state of historical ties between the two countries, marked by permanent high-level contacts, including visits by the highest authorities of both countries. The Burundian MoFA and his Serbian

counterpart exchanged views on areas of cooperation, notably agriculture, education, mining, energy, labor exchange, etc.

The two ministers revisited the significance of the commemoration of the 65th anniversary of the Non-Aligned Movement and both noted the relevance of this commemoration, given that many challenges exist despite the disappearance of the socialist and capitalist blocs that inspired the creation of the movement: these challenges include armed conflicts, unilateralism in the management of global affairs, exclusion of the global south, poverty, climate change, and others that require a synergy of forces and actions to promote sustainable peace and inclusive development.

At the bilateral level, the two authorities agreed to organize bilateral consultations in the coming months to accelerate the implementation of agreements already signed between the two countries. Putting words into action and responding to Minister Bizimana's request, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Serbia organized a meeting between the Burundian delegation and certain Serbian businesspeople working in the energy, defense, and security sectors.

The meeting made it possible to agree on organizing a working visit of these investors to Burundi and that of Burundian investors to Serbia. **(MFARIDC)**

Audience between the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Burundi and his counterpart from Guinea-Bissau on the sidelines of the 65th anniversary of the Non-Aligned Movement



On the sidelines of the commemorative meeting for the 65th anniversary of the Non-Aligned Movement on August 31, 2026, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation of Burundi, His Excellency Ambassador Edouard Bizimana, received in

audience his counterpart from Guinea-Bissau, Mrs. Fatumata Jau. The two authorities exchanged views on subjects of common interest relating to the strengthening of bilateral relations between the two countries.

The two Ministers also exchanged views on the need to implement the agreements signed in Guinea-Bissau. The Minister took this opportunity to share information on the political situation in her country and the efforts made by the transitional authorities to normalize the situation. To this end, she indicated that her country is conducting national consultations to adopt a new constitution and organize elections in the coming months. **(MFARIDC)**

Signature of an exchange of notes on the Japanese rice donation



On September 3, 2026, an Exchange of Notes relating to the granting of a Japanese rice donation to Burundi was signed by His Excellency Ambassador Édouard BIZIMANA, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation, and His Excellency Mr. KAZUYA NAKAJO, Ambassador of Japan to Burundi.

This donation will enable the supply of approximately 2,500 tons of Japanese rice, with an estimated value of 350 million yen (approximately 13,750,000,000 Burundian Francs).

The rice thus provided will be sold, and the proceeds from this sale will be deposited into an account opened at the Bank of the Republic of Burundi (BRB), called the "Counterpart Fund." These funds will be used to finance development projects mutually agreed upon by the two parties.

This donation adds to that already granted by the Government of Japan to Burundi, amounting to 2,053 tons of rice over the past year, thus demonstrating the consistency of Japanese support for Burundi's development.

On this occasion, His Excellency Ambassador Édouard BIZIMANA warmly thanked the Government of the Republic of Japan for this donation. He emphasized that Burundi and Japan maintain long-standing relations of friendship and cooperation, and that Japan has always stood by Burundi through its support for several development projects.

The Minister also indicated that Japan's support contributes to the implementation of Burundi's Vision of becoming an emerging country by 2040 and a developed country by 2060. He also called for accelerating the implementation of projects already agreed upon between the two parties, notably the construction of warehouses as well as the rehabilitation of the Boulevard du Japon road.

For his part, His Excellency Mr. KAZUYA NAKAJO, Ambassador of Japan to Burundi, welcomed the excellence of relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries. He reaffirmed Japan's commitment to continue its support for Burundi, including in other priority sectors of national development. **(MFARIDC)**

Meeting of the Burundian Minister of Foreign Affairs with the Ambassadors of EAC Member Countries



On the morning of September 5, 2026, His Excellency Ambassador Édouard Bizimana, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integra-

tion and Development Cooperation, chaired an urgent meeting with Ambassadors accredited to Burundi representing the member countries of the East African Community (EAC). The purpose of this meeting was to exchange views on the worrying situation concerning certain Burundian citizens engaged in small commercial activities in the region, particularly in Kenya, who have recently been victims of mistreatment and discrimination. His Excellency the Minister recalled that the Government of Burundi received with regret the statements made on June 18, 2026, by a Kenyan Member of Parliament, claiming that Burundians did not have access to petty jobs in Ken-

ya and that they should return to their country. Following these remarks, several Burundian nationals engaged in small-scale trade encountered difficulties in carrying out their activities, even suffering



acts of spoliation and unjustified violence.

The Minister also noted that these statements were followed by a speech by the Kenyan President, which exacerbated tensions and provoked violence targeting Burundian citizens. While reaffirming that Burundi respects the sovereign decisions of the Kenyan authorities regarding trade regulation, His Excellency Édouard Bizimana insisted on the need for these to be implemented in strict compliance with fundamental rights and human dignity. He recalled that the EAC constitutes a family, within which no citizen should be treated with indignity.

The Minister indicated that the main objective of this meeting was to request the Ambassador of Kenya to Burundi, Mr. Henry Wambuma, to transmit this message to the authorities of his country, so that peaceful and diplomatic solutions could be found quickly to put an end to this situation.

In response, the Ambassador of Kenya to Burundi highlighted the strength of bilateral and diplomatic relations between Burundi and Kenya, asserting that no incident could jeopardize them. He assured that his government would actively involve itself to guarantee the dignity and safety of Burundians carrying out their activities on Kenyan territory.

Speaking next, the Ambassador of the Democratic Republic of Congo to Burundi, Mr. Willy Mulamba Mabika, recalled that each EAC member country should act in the spirit of Pan-Africanism. He insisted on the fact that Africa is a space of solidarity, and that neglecting such situations could lead to excesses similar to those observed in South Africa, marked by acts of xenophobia and violence against foreign nationals. He urged African countries to unite in firmly condemning these practices and to build a peaceful and unified community.

In conclusion, His Excellency Minister Édouard Bizimana launched an appeal to all Burundians residing abroad to scrupulously respect the laws and regulations of host countries, particularly regarding travel documents. He reaffirmed the commitment of the Government of Burundi to protect its diaspora and their property, while inviting them to report any criminal act or difficulty encountered, so that appropriate solutions can be provided.

Burundi is preparing to send buses to Kenya, and the Embassy of Burundi in Nairobi will issue free emergency travel passes (*laissez-passer*) to facilitate the return of those wishing to leave Kenya. The Kenyan government will be held responsible for anything that happens to Burundian citizens, and Burundi reserves the right to take the necessary measures within the framework of reciprocity. (MFARIDC)

Strengthening bilateral relations between Burundi and Germany: Audience between the Permanent Secretary and Ambassador Klink



Permanent Secretary in charge of Foreign Affairs

On Tuesday, September 1, 2026, at the headquarters of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation (MEAIRCD), Mr. Sophonie Nitunga,

and Development Cooperation, received in audience His Excellency Mr. Hubertus Ulrich Klink, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Burundi, on a courtesy visit.

During the exchanges, the two personalities welcomed the excellent relations of friendship and cooperation that unite Burundi and Germany. Ambassador Klink expressed his gratitude for the warm welcome given to him by the Burundian Government since his arrival, and reaffirmed his willingness to work actively

towards strengthening the bilateral partnership.

He notably emphasized his country's commitment to supporting the financing of the railway construction project linking Dar es Salaam, Bujumbura, and the Democratic Republic of Congo, a project considered highly strategic and with major economic benefits for the region. The Ambassador also encouraged Burundi, as an active member of the African Union, to intensify its initiatives in favor of the restoration of peace and security in the eastern part of the DRC.

Taking the floor, Mr. Sophonie Nitunga welcomed the Ambassador's dedication, illustrated by his travels within the country upon his arrival. He confirmed the strategic importance of the railway project and insisted

on the need for its completion to stimulate regional integration and economic development.

Concerning the security situation in the eastern DRC, the Permanent Secretary deplored the non-compliance with peace initiatives already undertaken, notably the Washington and Doha agreements. He issued an appeal to Germany and the international community for greater involvement in the effective implementation of these agreements.

In conclusion, Mr. Nitunga reaffirmed Burundi's availability to collaborate closely with the Federal Republic of Germany to consolidate bilateral relations and support German diplomatic missions in the country. **(MFARIDC)**

Audience of the Permanent Secretary with the European Union delegation on the Global Europe regulation (2028–2034)



On September 2, 2026, the Permanent Secretary in charge of Foreign Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation, Mr. Sophonie NITUNGA, received in audience Mrs. Delphine VAN LANDSCHOOT, Deputy Head of Delegation, and Mr. IVA HAEFKENS, Head of Cooperation. This delegation from the European Union came to present the progress of the preparation of the Global Europe Regulation, the main external financing instrument of the 2028–2034 Multiannual Financial Framework.

According to the exchanges, the European Commission's proposal reflects a high ambition to strengthen and better structure the financing of the European Union's external action. The delegation specified that the regulation aims to make this support more coherent, more flexible, and more effective. It also indicated that it has already begun the preparatory steps for the next programming cycle, in order to be ready for implemen-

tation upon adoption of the regulation, notably through a country evaluation followed by consultations.

Taking the floor, Mr. NITUNGA thanked the delegation for its visit and stressed that Burundi attaches great importance to its existing relations with the European Union. He called on the delegation to mobilize further efforts in favor of Burundi, particularly to support an increase in a substantial budget allocated to the country. He recalled the national trajectory, with the ambition of becoming an emerging country by 2040 and a developed country by 2060, and insisted on the need to sustain this momentum.



Finally, the two parties agreed that a meeting of the technical committee would take place on 7 October 2026, in order to allow the European delegation to present Burundi's projects for validation and to strengthen the joint planning and programming of interventions. **(MFARIDC)**

East African business council roundtable on trade and investment



On Friday, September 4, 2026, in Bujumbura, at the Hotel Club du Lac Tanganyika, Mr. Séverin MBARUBUKEYE, Permanent Secretary in charge of East African Community Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation, opened a roundtable of leaders of the East African Business Council (EABC) dedicated to intra- and extra-community trade and investment.

This meeting takes place at a time when the region must strengthen its capacity to face changes in the global economy. It constitutes a privileged opportunity to bring together public authorities and the private

sector, identify constraints that still hinder businesses, and better capitalize on opportunities offered by regional economic integration.

The East African Community has established itself as one of the most dynamic economic integration areas on the continent. Progress made in the free movement of goods, services, and capital, as well as in economic cooperation and regional infrastructure development, constitute important achievements.

However, the potential for intra-EAC trade and investment remains underexploited. Non-tariff barriers, regulatory divergences, infrastructure inadequacies, logistics costs, limited access to financing, and information gaps regarding regional opportunities continue to constitute obstacles. To these challenges are added geopolitical tensions, climate change, and disruptions in global supply chains.

Burundi is convinced that economic transformation cannot be sustainable without a dynamic, competitive, innovative private sector capable of conquering regional and international markets. It is in this perspective that the actions of the Burundi Development Agency fit, whose missions include promoting investment, developing exports, and improving the business climate. **(MFARIDC)**

Courtesy visit of the designated French Ambassador to Burundi



On Thursday, September 3, 2026, the designated French Ambassador to Burundi, Mrs. Caroline VINOT, paid a courtesy visit to the Embassy of Burundi in Paris, where she

was received by the Ambassador of Burundi to France, Mrs. Spès-Caritas NJEBARIKANUYE.

They discussed together the work prospects that will enable them to work together to strengthen bilateral cooperation between France and Burundi. **(Embassy of Burundi in Paris)**

Celebration of the 24th traditional medicine day



Under the theme "Reflection on research and development

efforts in traditional medicine for the achievement of Universal Health Coverage in the African Region," the Ministry of Public Health proceeded, on Monday, August 31, 2026, in Bujumbura, with the celebration of the 24th Traditional Medicine Day 2026. In his opening speech, the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Public Health, Mr. Pierre Sinarinzi, indicat-

ed that although there are not yet research centers on traditional medicine in Burundi, researchers from certain centers such as universities have already conducted research on certain medicinal plants and have shown that they are essential for human health. Mr. Sinarinzi specified that efforts have been made to promote traditional medicine in Burundi. He specified that the Government has already put in place the law governing the protection of traditional practitioners' activities and that a Presidential Decree was signed in 2014, and ministerial orders exist for its implementation.

At the National Institute of Public Health (INSP), Mr. Sinarinzi also made known that there is a center for processing traditional medicines. He invited traditional practitioners to comply with regulations to help the Ministry of Public Health and collaborate with each other. The Representative of the national network of traditional practitioner associations in Burundi, Mr. Jothan Nikora, made known that in Burundi, there are eighteen (18) associations that practice traditional medicine, and 5,021 authorizations have been granted to traditional practitioners.

The Representative of the World Health Organization (WHO), Mr. Alexis Niyomwungere, indicated that this theme invites them to reflect on how research, innova-

tion, and traditional knowledge can contribute to sustainably improving the health of the population. According to him, traditional medicine is an integral part of Africa's cultural and health heritage. For millions of people, traditional medicine remains accessible, trustworthy, and often constitutes the first resort for care. This is why WHO encourages States to strengthen scientific knowledge on its effectiveness, safety, and quality in order to promote informed and evidence-based use. Several countries have also strengthened their regulatory framework, university training, manufacturing standards, and registration mechanisms for plant-based traditional medicines.

According to Mr. Niyomwungere, significant challenges remain. Investments in research on traditional medicine remain insufficient, and many countries, including Burundi, still need to strengthen their regulatory framework and scientific capacity. It is for these two reasons that the WHO Regional Director for Africa, Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, calls on Member States to increase national investments in research and development and to protect traditional knowledge. In Burundi, this vision is of particular importance. The World Health Organization remains fully committed to supporting the country in strengthening research, regulation, and the use of traditional medicine, while complying with the World Health Organization's regional and global strategy for traditional medicine for the period 2025 to 2034. **(Le Renouveau)**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation

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