



Burundian Head of State Attends Members of National Ballet Introduction



On October 20, 2026, the Head of State of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, graced with his presence the ceremony of introduction of the members of the National Ballet, organized by the Ministry of Youth, Sports, and Culture to celebrate the richness of Burundi's cultural heritage and highlight the traditions that form the foundation of the nation's identity.

Made of internationally renowned directors and choreographers, playwrights, dancers, actors, poets, and drummers, the National Ballet presented a performance honoring the Ingoma, Burundi's sacred drum and a symbol of Burundi-

an identity and cultural heritage.

Under the admiring gaze of the audience, the young artists delivered a rich and varied performance, blending poetry, traditional dances, and reenactments of historic struggles against colonial invaders, as well as the sacrifice of Bihome. The arsenal produced a harmonious choreography, met with applause from the audience, which included diplomats, senior government officials, and young people.

In his address, the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, emphasized that cultural values and traditions form

In this Edition:

page

Burundian Head of State Attends Members of National Ballet Introduction

1

President Ndayishimiye Initiates a Reflection on the Country's past to strengthen national cohesion

2

Burundi-Turkey: Presentation of letters of credence by the New Turkish Ambassador to Burundi

2

Burundi-Angola: Burundi Vice President represented the Head of State at the 4th edition of the Luanda Biennial on Water Governance

4

Burundi's First Lady Takes Part in the Closing Ceremonies of the Abu Dhabi Health Summit

5

Assessment of budget execution for the first quarter of 2026-2027 and the transfer of funds to provinces and communes

5

Burundi reaffirms its commitment to peace, stability, and development in the Great Lakes Region

7

Meeting between the Burundian Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Burundian diaspora residing in Zambia

8

Burundian Minister of Foreign Affairs Meets with German Minister of State for Consultations on Strengthening Bilateral Cooperation

8

Permanent Secretary Receives a Delegation from UNOCA on a Working Visit to Burundi

9

the foundation of society. He noted that a return to cultural roots enables Burundians to better understand their identity, strengthen their cohesion, and reestablish sound governance.

Furthermore, President Ndayishimiye emphasized the importance of building a national cultural heritage center to preserve and promote Burundian identity. Referring to the wounds inherited from colonization, he called on both colonizing and colonized nations to

move beyond this painful past and join forces to build as one people, an integrated world founded on mutual respect, solidarity, and understanding among peoples.

Through the establishment of the National Ballet, Burundi aims to keep its traditions alive, pass on its cultural heritage to younger generations, and enable every Burundian to better understand and appreciate their cultural identity. **(Presidency)**

President Ndayishimiye Initiates a Reflection on the Country's past to strengthen national cohesion



As Burundi commemorates the 33rd anniversary of the assassination of President Melchior Ndadaye, Hero of Democracy, the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, hosted a conference and panel discussion at the Kiriri Palace under the theme "Healing the Wounds of History." This conference and panel discussion provided a forum for dialogue on the origins of the conflicts that have marked Burundi's history, as well as on ways to better understand the past and strengthen cohesion among Burundians.

In his opening remarks, the Burundian Head of State called for a frank and in-depth exchange on historical events, with the aim of fully uncovering the truth and better understanding the roots of the wounds of the past.

The meeting brought together members of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the National Council for National Unity and Reconciliation (CNUNR), the National Observatory for the Prevention and Eradication of Genocide, War Crimes, and Other Crimes against Humanity (ONPGH), as well as the Ombudsman of Burundi and representatives of the churches. The discussions began with a presentation by Dr. Emmanuel Ndikumana on the topic "Healing the Wounds of the Past: Understanding Burundi's History to Build a Shared Future." His remarks prompted participants to reflect on ways to demystify past events and establish historical truth.

The discussions were enriched by numerous personal accounts in which participants shared their lived experiences. During the discussions, everyone freely expressed their innermost thoughts, promoting the mutual seeking and granting of forgiveness in order to encourage repentance and lay the groundwork for sincere and lasting reconciliation.

Burundi's head of state emphasized the need to implement a strategy to demystify Burundi's history in order to impart to younger generations a thorough understanding of their country's past. He called for a search for the truth regarding the divisions inherited from colonization and the civil wars that have marked Burundi, advocating for a dialogue free of taboos and vindictiveness, in order to foster repentance, forgiveness, and lasting reconciliation among Burundians. **(Presidency)**

Burundi-Turkey: Presentation of letters of credence by the New Turkish Ambassador to Burundi

On October 22, 2026, at the Ntare Rushatsi Palace, the Burundian Head of State, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, received in audience the Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Am-

bassador of the Republic of Türkiye to Burundi, Mr. Haydar Kerem Divanlıoğlu, who had come to present his letters of credence.

On this occasion, the Turkish diplomat conveyed to the

Burundian Head of State the greetings of his Turkish counterpart, His Excellency Recep Tayyip Erdoğan.



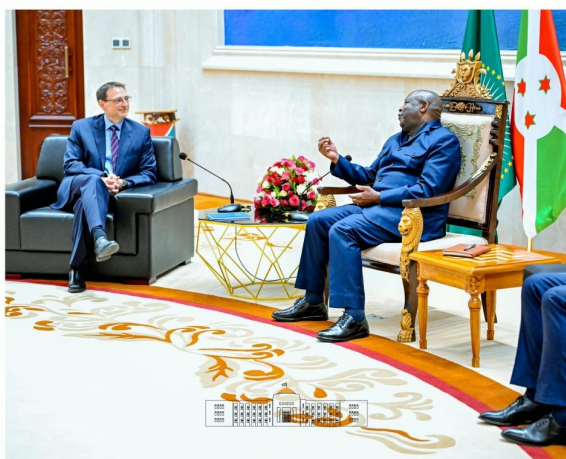
The discussions focused primarily on the excellent

relations of friendship and cooperation between Burundi and Türkiye, as well as on prospects for consolidating and strengthening these ties in various areas of mutual interest, particularly in the fields of trade, transportation, defense, and security.

The two leaders also discussed the Türkiye-Africa Summit, scheduled for this coming December in Tripoli, Libya. This high-level meeting will be co-chaired by His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, President of the Republic of Burundi and current Chairperson of the African Union, and his Turkish counterpart, His Excellency Recep Tayyip Erdoğan.

This summit will provide an important opportunity to strengthen the partnership between Türkiye and African countries, while promoting political dialogue and the development of new avenues for cooperation between the two sides. **(Presidency)**

Burundi-IMF: Strengthening Partnership for Economic Development



The Head of State of Burundi and current Chairperson of the African Union, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, received Mr. Christopher Faircloth, the new Resident Representative of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in Burundi, in an audience on October 22, 2026, at the Ntare Rushatsi Palace. Discussions focused on

the current state of the partnership between the International Monetary Fund and Burundi, as well as on prospects for strengthening this support to help realize the country's economic projects.

During the meeting, President Ndayishimiye briefed his guest on the efforts Burundi has already undertaken to increase domestic production and stimulate economic growth. Among the initiatives mentioned was the promotion of production and diversification of agricultural crops intended for export. These efforts are part of a broader drive for reforms and actions aimed at improving the country's macroeconomic performance.

For his part, Mr. Christopher Faircloth welcomed the progress made on the macroeconomic reforms undertaken by Burundi. He expressed his willingness to work closely with the Burundian government to support the implementation of its economic development policy and the improvement of the population's living conditions. **(Presidency)**

Burundi-Germany: Toward a Renewal of Cooperative Relations



The Head of State of Burundi and current Chairperson of the African Union, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, received

Ms. Serap Güler, a member of the German Bundestag and Germany's Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, who was visiting the sub-region, in an audience on October 22, 2026, at the Ntare Rushatsi Palace. This visit is part of efforts to revitalize Burundian-German cooperative relations.

Discussions between the two leaders focused on cooperative relations between Germany and Burundi, the security situation in the sub-region and across the African continent, the massive influx of Congolese refugees into Burundi, and the country's socioeconomic situation.

From the outset, the Burundian Head of State welcomed Ms. Serap Güler, who was making her very first visit to Burundi. Recalling the historical ties between the two countries, particularly their shared colonial past, he expressed his hope that Germany would revitalize its cooperative relations with Burundi.

President Ndayishimiye emphasized that Burundi has adopted a development vision designed to guide its path toward economic emergence and long-term development. With this in mind, he invited Germany to support the country in implementing priority projects, particularly those aimed at the economic empowerment of young people. He also discussed opportunities for cooperation in the tourism sector, particularly the modernization of the National Museum of Gitega and the development of the historic site of the Failles des Allemands. He also requested support in the area of drinking water supply, the transfer of German expertise in mining, and humanitarian assistance for refugees living in Burundi.

For her part, Ms. Serap Güler noted that her visit was part of efforts to revitalize cooperative relations between Germany and Burundi. She welcomed the progress made by the Burundian people toward reconcili-

ation and congratulated the Head of State for hosting a significant number of refugees, thereby highlighting Burundi's humanitarian commitment.

She also expressed her respect and appreciation for Burundi's role as chair of the African Union and its involvement in seeking peaceful solutions to the crises affecting, in particular, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Sudan, and the Sahel countries. In this regard, she encouraged President Ndayishimiye, in his capacity as Chairperson of the African Union, to continue and intensify his efforts to accelerate the peace process in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

In terms of concrete cooperation, the German Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs announced that Germany would contribute to the modernization of the National Museum in Gitega. She also mentioned a budget of 500,000 euros earmarked to support humanitarian efforts.

Ms. Serap Güler further noted that, thanks to stability and peace, Burundi has significant opportunities for rapid development, similar to certain countries in the Middle East. She emphasized that the country possesses the necessary potential to accelerate its development, provided it can fully harness those resources.

The visit concluded on a positive note, with the German Deputy Minister expressing satisfaction with the quality of the discussions with the Burundian Head of State and the prospects for strengthening cooperation between the two countries. **(Presidency)**

Burundi-Angola: Burundi Vice President represented the Head of State at the 4th edition of the Luanda Biennial on Water Governance



The Vice President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Prosper Bazombanza, flew on Tues-

day, October 20, 2026, to Luanda, Angola, where he represented the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, who is also the current Chairperson of the African Union, at the fourth

edition of the Luanda Biennial. The event took place from October 22 to 23, 2026, and highlighted the role of water governance in conflict prevention, mediation, and resolution in Africa.

Mr. Bazombanza noted that this event provides a framework for discussions on strategies to promote peace and prevent conflicts on the African continent.

For this fourth edition, Mr. Bazombanza noted that participants were focusing on the theme "Strengthening Water Governance in Africa as a Tool for Conflict Prevention, Mediation, and Resolution." This choice highlighted the importance of sustainable and equitable water resource

management to prevent tensions and foster peaceful coexistence among communities. He added that the theme aligns with the African Union's priorities for 2026, which focus on ensuring sustainable access to drinking water and sanitation, with a view to contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals of the African Union's Agenda

2063.

The Luanda conference provided participants with an opportunity to reflect on ways to strengthen water governance in order to make water a force for peace, cooperation, and sustainable development in Africa. (Le Renouveau)

Burundi's First Lady Takes Part in the Closing Ceremonies of the Abu Dhabi Health Summit



On Thursday, October 22, 2026, the First Lady of Burundi, Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye, took part in the closing events of the Abu Dhabi Health Summit. The day

featured important discussions on strategies to improve access to and the quality of in vitro fertilization (IVF) services worldwide.

On this occasion, the First Lady of Burundi, Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye, met with Her Excellency Dr. Noura Khamis Al Ghaithi, deputy secretary of the Abu Dhabi Department of Health.

The discussions focused on ways and means to strengthen bilateral cooperation in the field of health, particularly through the sharing of experiences and best practices with a view to improving health systems. (OPDD)

Assessment of budget execution for the first quarter of 2026–2027 and the transfer of funds to provinces and communes



The Prime Minister of Burundi, His Excellency Nestor Ntahontuye, launched on Monday, October 19, 2026, in Bujumbura, a two-day (2) series of sessions, from October 19 to 20, to assess the status of budget execution and the implementation of activities for the first quarter of the 2026–2027 fiscal year, on a ministry-by-ministry basis, in order to assess progress made, identify any delays, and strengthen the monitoring

of programs across all ministries and affiliated institutions. For each ministry, these working sessions are to bring together all ministers, the permanent secretaries in their capacity as coordinators of ministerial programs, as well as the program managers from all ministries and affiliated institutions.

At the end of the first day, the Prime Minister noted that discussions with the ministries already evaluated had revealed satisfactory progress in budget commitments and the implementation of activities planned for the first quarter. According to him, this level of progress should be assessed while taking into account the fact that the first quarter marks the beginning of the fiscal year. During this period, the number of scheduled activities is generally lower than in subsequent quarters.

Mr. Ntahontuye emphasized that, in their meetings with the ministries they have already visited, they observed a high level of commitment, and that the implementation

and completion of first-quarter activities are well underway. The assessments also revealed that fund transfers to provincial directorates and communal departments are currently being processed.

However, the Burundian Prime Minister noted a slight delay in the transfer of budgetary resources, particularly between the Bank of the Republic of Burundi (BRB), the provincial directorates under the Ministry of Finance, and the National Communal Investment Fund (FONIC). He explained that this delay is a matter of concern, as the actual availability of funds at the local level is essential to enable municipal departments to begin implementing their activities. Beyond budget monitoring, these sessions highlighted the need to strengthen the capacities of administrative and technical officials at the provincial and communal levels.

The Prime Minister emphasized the importance of training and support for the relevant stakeholders to ensure a shared understanding of the reforms undertaken by the government and the practical arrangements for implementing activities in the provinces and communes.

According to the Head of Government Operations, His Excellency Nestor Ntahontuye, the goal is to standardize work methods, improve coordination among the various levels of government, and facilitate the implementation of programs in accordance with budget projections. Through this evaluation exercise, the Head of Government aims to strengthen oversight of budget execution, expedite the allocation of resources to decentralized services, and enhance the effectiveness of public action, with a view to achieving concrete results that benefit the population. **(Prime Minister's Office)**

The Burundian Prime Minister is traveling to Zimbabwe to take part in the COMESA Summit



Accompanied by his wife, Burundian Prime Minister His Excellency Nestor Ntahontuye flew to Harare, Zimbabwe, on Tuesday, October 20, 2026, to represent the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, at the Summit of Heads of State and Government of the 21 member countries of COMESA.

Discussions focused in particular on strengthening trade, removing tariff and non-tariff barriers, and promoting investment in member states. Speaking about

the objectives of the meeting, Mr. Ntahontuye noted that participants were reviewing reports on activities carried out since the beginning of 2025, as well as those of the various commissions, particularly the economic ones. These discussions made it possible to assess the regional organization's progress and identify measures likely to strengthen its economic integration. Among the main items on the agenda was the facilitation of trade among member countries.

The summit was also dedicated to identifying mechanisms to attract more investment, both from member countries and from outside the region. The goal was to mobilize capital in strategic sectors that could support the economic development of member states, including Burundi.

In addition, Mr. Ntahontuye noted that they were examining the prospects for expanding cooperation among member countries, with a particular focus on developing regional trade and strengthening economic relations. It is also an important milestone in the organization's governance.

According to him, the chairmanship of the organization is set to pass from the President of the Republic of Kenya to his counterpart from Zimbabwe, thus marking a new phase in the organization's operations.

Through this participation, Burundi intends to contribute to discussions aimed at consolidating regional integration, facilitating trade, and creating a more

favorable environment for investment within COMESA. **(Le Renouveau)**

Burundi reaffirms its commitment to peace, stability, and development in the Great Lakes Region



Lusaka, October 19, 2026, on the occasion of the 20th Regular Meeting of the Interministerial Committee of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Ambassador Édouard Bizimana, reaffirmed Burundi's commitment to the ideals of peace, security, stability, and sustainable development in the region.

In his remarks, Burundi's Foreign Minister expressed his gratitude to the Government and people of Zambia for the warm welcome extended to the Burundian delegation. He also commended the leadership of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the current Chair of the ICGLR, as well as the work carried out by the National Coordinators and the organization's Executive Secretariat.

The Minister emphasized the strategic importance of the Pact on Security, Stability, and Development in the Great Lakes Region, which he described as an essential framework for the prevention and peaceful resolution of conflicts, the building of trust among states, and the promotion of sustainable development for the benefit of the region's populations.

Referring to the regional security situation, he acknowledged the persistence of certain hotspots of tension while welcoming the progress made toward peace, notably the Doha and Washington Agree-

ments for eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, initiatives aimed at resolving the conflict in Sudan, and the democratic progress observed in several countries in the region.

The Minister reiterated that Burundi remains committed to efforts aimed at restoring lasting peace in eastern DRC and fully supports regional and international mediation initiatives conducted under the auspices of the African Union.

Addressing the humanitarian dimension, he highlighted the assistance provided by Burundi to Congolese refugees, emphasizing that this solidarity reflects the values of fraternity, humanism, and dignity that underpin regional cooperation within the ICGLR.

Regarding the participation of women and youth in peace processes, the Minister noted that Burundi hosted the fifth edition of the Continental Dialogue on the "Youth, Peace, and Security" and "Women, Peace, and Security" agendas from August 10 to 12, 2026.

This meeting, initiated under the leadership of His Excellency President Évariste Ndayishimiye, current Chairperson of the African Union, helped strengthen the continental dialogue on inclusive participation in peacebuilding.

In conclusion, His Excellency Ambassador Édouard Bizimana called on member states to accelerate the implementation of the recommendations arising from statutory meetings and to regularly fulfill their financial obligations to the organization.

He reiterated Burundi's unwavering commitment to the objectives of the ICGLR and expressed his best wishes for the success of the 20th Ordinary Meeting of the Interministerial Committee. **(MFARIDC)**

Meeting between the Burundian Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Burundian diaspora residing in Zambia



On October 19, 2026, in Lusaka, Republic of Zambia, on the sidelines of the activities of the 20th Ordinary Meeting of the Interministerial Committee of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), His Excellency Ambassador Édouard Bizimana, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation, met with representatives of the Burundian diaspora residing in Zambia.

During the meeting, discussions focused on various issues related to the living conditions of the Burundian community in Zambia, as well as the diaspora's contribution to Burundi's socioeconomic development. Participants in the meeting particularly highlighted the essential role that the diaspora plays in achieving the country's development goals and realizing the Vision for Burundi.

Representatives of the diaspora also raised the chal-

lenges faced by some of their compatriots, particularly those related to the lack of valid residency documents. They highlighted the difficulties faced by undocumented individuals, who are sometimes subject to arrest, detention, and other forms of mistreatment.

To this end, representatives of the Burundian community sought the support of the Government of Burundi to identify sustainable solutions to this issue. They also called for increased support for the diaspora through mechanisms to guide, encourage, and support the development initiatives and projects it is implementing in Burundi.

Taking full note of the concerns expressed, His Excellency the Minister reassured his interlocutors of his commitment to faithfully convey their grievances to the relevant authorities. He reaffirmed the Ministry's ongoing willingness to maintain a constructive dialogue with the diaspora and to promote close collaboration in support of national development.

In conclusion, the Minister urged members of the Burundian diaspora to scrupulously respect the laws and regulations of their host country, taking particular care to comply with legal requirements regarding residency and documentation. He also encouraged them to remain exemplary ambassadors for Burundi abroad and to continue contributing to the country's influence and development. (MFARIDC)

Burundian Minister of Foreign Affairs Meets with German Minister of State for Consultations on Strengthening Bilateral Cooperation



On October 21, 2026, His Excellency Ambassador Édouard Bizimana, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation, received Ms. Serap Güler, Minister of State at the Ministry of Foreign Af-

fairs of the Federal Republic of Germany, who was on a working visit to Bujumbura.

On this occasion, Minister Édouard Bizimana welcomed his guest to Burundi, highlighting the country's stability, its legendary hospitality, and the opportunities it offers for cooperation and investment. He also expressed his satisfaction with the excellent relations of friendship and cooperation that have united Burundi and Germany for many years.

Taking the floor, Ms. Serap Güler said she was honored

to be making her first visit to Burundi. She praised the warm welcome she received upon her arrival at Melchior Ndadaye International Airport, as well as the quality of the discussions she had with Burundian officials. The discussions focused primarily on prospects for strengthening bilateral relations and on ways to further revitalize economic and development cooperation between the two countries.

In this regard, Minister Édouard Bizimana called for an intensification of German-Burundian cooperation, particularly through the return of certain German development partners, such as GIZ, as well as the inclusion of Burundi among the priority countries benefiting from cooperation and funding programs.

The Minister also outlined the progress Burundi has made in implementing its development vision, which aims to transform the country into an emerging nation by 2040 and a developed country by 2060. He emphasized that the Government is resolutely pursuing the reforms and investments necessary to achieve these strategic objectives. Addressing the issue of Burundi's international image, His Excellency Édouard Bizimana encouraged European partners to rely primarily on information from official sources and diplomatic missions on the ground in order to gain an objective understanding of the realities of the country. Discussions also focused on the security situation in the Great Lakes region.

The Minister noted that Burundi remains a stabilizing force in the region, while pointing out that the ongoing insecurity in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo continues to hinder regional integration and development efforts. In particular, he highlighted the humanitarian consequences of this situation, especially the movement of refugees and called on Germany to continue supporting the diplomatic initiatives and regional peace mechanisms already underway.

In response, Ms. Serap Güler commended the progress made by Burundi in several areas of national life and reaffirmed the importance of the historic ties of friendship and cooperation between the two countries. She emphasized that her visit sends a strong signal of Germany's commitment to strengthening its partnership with Burundi, both politically and economically.

Regarding development cooperation, the Minister of State expressed her determination to advocate for Burundi within European institutions in order to ensure that its development priorities are better taken into account. She also acknowledged the efforts made by the Government of Burundi, under the enlightened leadership of His Excellency Évariste Ndayishimiye, to promote peace and regional stability, while assuring that Germany will continue to support initiatives undertaken in this area.

Regarding human rights issues, Ms. Serap Güler commended Burundi for the progress it has made on the international stage (renewal of its term on the United Nations Security Council), particularly through its engagement in multilateral forums. She encouraged the government to continue the efforts already underway to consolidate the gains made in this area. She also emphasized the importance of continuing economic reforms aimed at improving the business climate and enhancing Burundi's appeal to foreign investors. In her view, the country possesses significant strengths and numerous opportunities that could foster productive investment.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the two leaders reaffirmed their shared commitment to further strengthening cooperation relations between Burundi and Germany. Minister Édouard Bizimana concluded the discussions by emphasizing that Burundi remains firmly committed to the path of development and stands ready to collaborate closely with Germany in implementing projects and initiatives that contribute to the prosperity of both peoples. (MFARIDC)

Permanent Secretary Receives a Delegation from UNOCA on a Working Visit to Burundi

On Monday, October 19, 2026, the Permanent Secretary in charge of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, Mr. Sophonie NITUNGA, received a delegation from the

United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa (UNOCA), led by Ms. NGUI AKENDENGUE Celia Wilianie, Vice Chair of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Afri-

ca, who was on a working visit to Burundi.



This visit is part of Burundi's mandate as Chair of the Committee, a role it has held since May 2026 and which will conclude at the end of November. In accordance with the Committee's practices, a mission is conducted in one of the member states to assess the implementation of the theme selected for the current chairmanship.

For this term, the chosen theme is: "Conflict Prevention and Peaceful Resolution." The UNOCA mission thus aims to assess the progress made by Burundi in implementing this theme. In receiving the delegation, Mr. Sophonie NITUNGA welcomed its members and highlighted the climate of peace, stability, and security prevailing throughout Burundi. He also wished them every success in carrying out their mission.

Speaking on behalf of the delegation, Ms. NGUI AKENDENGUE Celia Williane expressed her gratitude to the Government of Burundi, as well as to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation, for the warm welcome and the assistance provided since their arrival in the country.

Concluding the discussions, the Permanent Secretary reaffirmed the Ministry's willingness to collaborate fully with the delegation throughout its mission in order to help achieve the objectives of this assessment visit. (MFARIDC)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation

Department of Communication

www.mae.gov.bi

Twitter: @MAEBurundi