



## President Ndayishimiye pleads for solidarity and mutual respect between the ICGLR member States



From Bujumbura, the economic capital, the Head of State, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, took part in the 8th Ordinary Summit of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) organized virtually on November 20, 2020 under the theme: "Foster the implementation of the Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region by intensifying cooperation and regional economic development".

The Congolese Head of State HE Denis Sassou Nguesso, current President in exercise of the ICGLR, began the activities of this virtual summit with a silence minute in tribute to the late President Pierre Nkurunziza, former President of the Republic of Burundi whose death unexpectedly occurred in June 2020.

In his speech to launch the 8th Ordinary Summit of the ICGLR, His Excellency Denis Sassou Nguesso hailed the positive political dynamics observed in the Member States, which is the result of

the openness efforts made by the States and Governments.

He also positively appreciated the good conduct of the electoral processes in Burundi and in Tanzania and expressed his wishes for success for the next elections in the Central African Republic. He also welcomed the efforts for peace and fraternization initiated with a view to bringing Burundi and Rwanda closer together: "I form the ardent wish to consolidate these initiatives for the good of all peoples. I take this opportunity to appeal to our partners to promote Peace because certain actions serve interests which are often contrary to the aspirations of our peoples".

Invited to deliver a speech, the United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres praised "the resilience of the ICGLR countries in these difficult times caused by the global pandemic". Regarding security in the sub-region, he called for an immediate ceasefire for all armed groups raging in eastern DRC: "We recognize the progress made but many challenges remain, particularly of a security nature in certain areas. These armed groups profit from the illicit exploitation of natural resources. We urge all actors to prioritize non-military measures in conflict resolution".

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Surrounded by senior Officials of the country including the Burundian Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye spoke in that first summit in which he participates as President of the Republic. He first of all congratulated His Excellency Denis Sassou Nguesso for « his diplomatic elegance, his leadership and his professionalism in the pursuit of the implementation of the Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region».

In this regard, the Head of State urged all Member States of the ICGLR to respect the Agreements and Protocols of which they freely signed and not to use complacency or complicity: “To preserve the gains of Peace and Stability which are observed in general in our Region, and this despite the presence of some residual negative forces in the eastern part of the DRC, We call for respect for the Pact on security, stability and development in the Great Lakes Region, in particular Article

5 of the protocol on non-aggression and mutual defense in the Great Lakes region”.

Therefore, President Ndayishimiye hailed the decision of the MCVE to hand over to the Government of Burundi the criminals who, coming from Rwanda, and retreated to this country after having attacked innocent families.

In concluding his speech, Burundi Head of State endorsed the unwavering attachment of his Congolese counterpart and current President of the ICGLR to the virtues of dialogue and consultation in the search for solutions to the challenges which threaten peace and Security in the Region.

The 8th Ordinary Summit of the ICGLR closed in a fraternal atmosphere and made the Angolan Head of State “President of the ICGLR” for a two-year term.

(Source: [www.presidence.gov.bi](http://www.presidence.gov.bi))

## Burundi and Uganda in search of deep relations



The Head of State, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye received in audience, on Thursday November 19, 2020, the Ugandan Ambassador to Burundi, the retired Major General Mathieu KYALIGONZA.

The dean of the diplomatic corps accredited to Burundi congratulated the President of the Republic for having succeeded in organizing elections in a peaceful climate and without external assistance. He took the opportunity to present his condolences following the unexpected death of the late President NKurunziza, a death which occurred while the Diplomat was at his home in Uganda.

The Ugandan Ambassador also hailed the step already made by Burundi in the fight against COVID-19, and

congratulated the Head of State for the control of this pandemic in calm and serenity.

Regarding bilateral relations, Ambassador KYALIGONZA expressed the wish to see cooperation between Burundi and Uganda strengthened to the point of abolishing visas for nationals of these two countries and for all people of the East African Community.

The President of the Republic, on his part, said Burundi and Uganda have long good relations of friendship and cooperation especially in the economic field. His Excellency also asked the Ugandan Ambassador to convey his gratitude to his Ugandan counterpart for the support of Burundi people in the trade sector.

His Excellency the President of the Republic also granted an audience to the Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China to Burundi, Mr. Li Changlin. Their discussions mainly focused on the cooperative relations between the two countries.

(Source: [www.presidence.gov.bi](http://www.presidence.gov.bi))

## Burundians urged to put their talents at the service of their homeland



The President of the Republic of Burundi His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye joined the Christians of the Parish of Saint François Xavier de Gatumba for the Sunday prayer of November 15, 2020. He was accompanied by the First Lady Her Excellency Madam Angeline Ndayubaha and all his family. He was also surrounded by the administrative authorities of the locality, including the Governor of the Province of Bujumbura.

During his homily, the Parish Priest of St François Xavier de Gatumba insisted on everyone's duty to do God's will, bearing in mind that the day will come when everyone will have to give an account of what they have done of the gift of life and of the talents that God has given us: "The debate on the end of the world is centuries old but no one knows the day or the hour, we are only asked to remain in the fear

and the will of God, making fruitful all the talents that God has given us".

Taking the floor to address the population of Gatumba who had participated massively in the celebration of Mass, the Head of State His Excellency Mr. Evariste Ndayishimiye was delighted to meet his brothers and sisters of the Parish of Gatumba who is also his. He thanked them for their prayers which always accompany him.

Inspired by the word of God of this Sunday, the President of the Republic urged the Burundians to put their talents at the service of God, their families and their country: "We have no excuses before God because he gave us everything. The Burundians have everything they need to develop their homeland, it is time for us to give up the wait-and-see attitude which especially handicaps our youth. Let us stop wanting to be eternally assisted, let us use the many talents and opportunities that the Lord has given us".

Before concluding, His Excellency Mr. Evariste Ndayishimiye also invited his compatriots to be true Ambassadors of God by increasing the works of charity to come to the aid of the most needy.

Indeed, the Mass of November 15, 2020 coincided with the celebration by the Catholic Church of Burundi of the International Day dedicated to charity decreed by His Holiness Pope Francisco.

(Source: [www.presidence.gov.bi](http://www.presidence.gov.bi))

## The CNDD-FDD commemorates the assassination of the Heroes of the struggle for peace and democracy



The CNDD-FDD party proceeded on Monday, November 16, 2020 to commemorate the assassination of the heroes of the struggle for peace

and democracy in Burundi. The opening of the commemorative ceremonies of the disappearance of these heroes perished on the battlefield that took place on Gifurwe Hill in Mpanda Commune in Bubanza Province and began with a prayer of thanksgiving in memory of these heroes, which was celebrated at the Gifurwe Branch which falls under Muzinda Parish.

The First Lady, Her Excellency Madam Angéline Ndayishimiye, the Deputy Secretary General of the CNDD-FDD Party Honorable Joseph NTAKARUTIMANA, the senior officials of this party, the senior officials of the State from the CNDD-FDD and the influential members of this party took part in the prayer of

thanksgiving in memory of these heroes. After the requiem mass in memory of these heroes of the struggle for peace and democracy in Burundi, the time has come to lay wreaths of flowers on the graves of the latter. The First Lady was the first to lay a wreath of flowers on one of the graves of these heroes, followed by the Deputy Secretary General of the CNDD-FDD and senior state officials from this ruling party and senior officials of this party.



In his speech for the occasion, the Deputy Secretary General of the CNDD-FDD, Honorable Joseph Ntakirutimana said that this day is an opportunity to remember the tragedies that the country has gone through since the 1960s. "Many people were killed,

despoiled, or driven into exile because of bad governance", explained Honorable Joseph Ntakirutimana. And to recall, as it is written on the graves of these heroes who fell on the battlefield, that "it is not ethnicity that kills, but bad governance".

He said they were massacred on the same day and were victims of ethnic, regional or political segregation. And the Deputy Secretary General of the CNDD-FDD to ask himself the question: "Where do we come from and where are we going"?

According to Honorable Joseph Ntakirutimana, the CNDD-FDD Party dreams of building and advocates a peaceful country, concerned with the well-being of the population. It is a party that seeks to turn the page of the past to build a country where future generations will recognize that there were Burundians in love with justice, who brought peace and democracy to Burundi.

It should be remembered that this commemoration took place within the framework of the week dedicated to the heroes of the struggle for peace and democracy in Burundi.

(Source: [www.rtnb.bi](http://www.rtnb.bi))

## Mwaro: Gisozi elementary school celebrates its 75th birthday



The Vice-President of the Republic His Excellency Prosper Bazombanza joined on Sunday, November 15, 2020, with the population of Mwaro Province in the celebration of the jubilee of 75 years of existence of the fundamental school of Gisozi.

The primary school of Gisozi has been under a Catholic convention since its creation in 1945. Twelve Directors have headed this school and has already welcomed more than 5,405 students.

The current Headmistress of this school Mrs. Nihoreho Joselyne has requested material and financial support to ensure the proper functioning of the school. Among the challenges facing this school are

the lack of drinking water, insufficient teaching staff and equipment.

Despite its 75 years of existence, the basic school of Gisozi does not go beyond the 6th basic year. The Vicar of the Archdiocese of Gitega and Parish Priest of Kibumbu Parish, Abbot Valentin Nsabimana called for the extension of this school up to the 9th year, to make it a complete fundamental cycle.

According to Mrs. Nihoreho Joselyne, the Fundamental School of Gisozi which already has an electric current, should have a branch of technical education, a complaint that she addressed to the Director of Education in Mwaro Province and to former students of this establishment.

When speaking, the Vice-President of the Republic, His Excellency Mr. Prosper Bazombanza, a native of the Province of Mwaro, asked the administrative authorities of the Gisozi Commune and the officials of the Regideso to look into the drinking water needs issue of this school, to find a solution. The fundamental school of Gisozi being under a Catholic convention, the Vice President asked the Archdiocese of Gitega

via the ODAG (Organization for the Development of the Archdiocese of Gitega) to contribute to the supply of drinking water to this school. He also recalled that schools under Catholic convention are taken as a reference in education, an opportunity to ask the Archdiocese of Gitega to contribute to promote other aspects of education.

Regarding the extension of this school, the Vice-President of the Republic recommended to all stakeholders in education, to give priority to this issue in their planning. As a contribution, Prosper Bazombanza granted this school 325 sheets to ensure its extension and asked the Municipal Administration, the Department of Education in the Province of Mwaro and the population of Gisozi to do everything in their power to provide this school

with new classrooms and organize studies up to the 9th grade.

The Vice-President of the Republic is satisfied with the step already made by the Fundamental School of Gisozi in particular and all the schools of the Provincial Directorate of Education of Mwaro given the results of the state exam 2020 edition.

In conclusion, the Vice-President of the Republic recalled that the Coronavirus pandemic is not over. And to ask the population of Mwaro to scrupulously observe the barrier measures decreed by the Government, so as not to give in to the spread of this disease.

(Source: [www.rtnb.bi](http://www.rtnb.bi))

### ONATEL staff called for behavior change to achieve Government goals



sible, with regard to ONATEL staff. These include, among other things, the establishment of a commission to investigate the ultimate causes of the fall of ONATEL, stressing that accomplices will be punished in accordance with the law. It is also about sensitizing staff to work diligently in accordance with the

**U**nder the high patronage of the Prime Minister of the Republic CPG Alain Guillaume Bunyoni, the Ministry of Communication, Information Technologies and Media organized on Thursday, November 19, 2020, in the forums of the Ministry in charge of Finance, a meeting with the staff of the National Telecommunications Office (ONATEL), in order to analyze together the report on the current situation of this state-owned enterprise and to formulate related recommendations.

CPG Prime Minister Alain Guillaume Bunyoni pointed out that this meeting is part of a general introspection, from the creation of the ONATEL Company to the present day, to see if the targeted objectives are achieved. He called on the staff of this company to change behavior by working hard to achieve the goals of responsible and hard-working Government.

The Prime Minister has made seven recommendations which must be implemented as soon as pos-

law, in order to improve the financial situation of this company.

The supervisory Ministry is called upon to sensitize ONATEL's governing bodies to the development of the Action Plan in each service, including the objectives sought and the results to be achieved. Immediate removal of all unnecessary agreements with other companies, conduct a study on staff salaries and bonuses to ensure that they are performance-based and returned to whom it may concern in accordance with the law. Pay a sufficient return to the public treasury, and finally, disseminate an interim report to the Prime Minister's Office after 30 days. In her opening remarks, the Minister of Communication, Information Technologies and Media Mrs. Marie Chantal Nijimbere, returned to the history of ONATEL which dates from 1979. She specified that the latter was created under Presidential Decree N ° 100/146 with seed capital of two billion Burundian francs from the State alone.

Even if ONATEL is a company which has a commercial character as planned by the State, the observation is that

the trade has experienced a considerable fall, remarked Minister Marie Chantal Nijimbere.

She said that this fall is up to the company by the fact that it did not take the lead in changing the work system when the Government granted the right to private persons to work in the telecommunications and information technology sector. It is also about the new statute of December 26, 2006 governing the staff of ONATEL which increased the staff payroll. The skills of the staff of such a commercial enterprise are not as sufficient to work to the satisfaction of the custo-

mer, continued Minister Marie Chantal Nijimbere, adding that there are also employees who do not work properly, etc.

To remedy this situation, Minister Marie Chantal Nijimbere informed that ONATEL intends to develop flagship projects such as the revitalization of the ONA-MOB network, fixed telephones as well as the dissemination of the Internet through optical fibers.

(Source: [www.abpinfos.com](http://www.abpinfos.com))

### Meeting of the President of the Senate with the heads of services, the Administrators at the base, the Representatives of the Religious Confessions and the elected officials of NGOZI province



The President of the Senate, the Right Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera, gathered on Thursday November 19, 2020, the Heads of Services, the Administrators at the base, the Representatives of the Religious Confessions and the Hills Elected of Ngozi. This meeting, which also saw the presence of parliamentarians elected in the constituency of Ngozi, aimed to discuss the life of the province and the role of local elected officials in the new responsible and laborious Government.

The Right Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera first congratulated the population of Ngozi on their peaceful participation in the 2020 elections. He specified that the Senate began raids in the Communes to sensitize local officials to the reports that must characterize local elected officials and population.

In terms of security, he is pleased that it is generally good. But he asks the administrative Chiefs at the base to strengthen it given that it must be preserved

each time and that it would be absurd to relax. He asked the Administrators at the base to get personally involved in combating the prohibited drinks and the theft that are observed in their respective localities.

According to the President of the Senate, the Heads of Hills who are complicit in the manufacture, consumption and marketing of these drinks should be imprisoned unconditionally. The Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament took the opportunity to warn fraudsters who squander the country's wealth to channel it to other countries.

Concerning justice, the President of the Senate regrets that this Corps currently contains people who put forward individual interests instead of making the profession a vocation. He said that the Head of State has made the issue of justice his own so that every citizen can regain confidence in this body. For this, judges and magistrates who use injustice will also be judged to correct abuses. A law on customary justice known as "Intahe yo kumugina" will soon be set up, which will settle disputes on the site of disputes.

The President of the Senate returned to the prevention of the Covid-19 pandemic. He said that the number of cases tested positive is still on the rise since the opening of Melchior Ndadaye International Airport. He then requested the involvement of all the officials present at that meeting to raise awareness among the population on measures to prevent this pandemic.

(Source: [www.abpinfos.com](http://www.abpinfos.com))

## The Ambassador of Burundi in France speaks on the decision to lift the measure suspending French-speaking multilateral cooperation



Photo: TLMD Magazine

In an exclusive interview he gave to TLMD Magazine (TLMD is a network of Journalists and correspondents based all over Africa, Europe and America), the Ambassador of Burundi in France HE Ernest NIYOKINDI spoke about the recent decision to lift the measure suspending French-speaking multilateral cooperation against Burundi.

The journalist from TLMD Magazine first wanted to know the origin of the sanctions that were taken by the International Organization of Francophonie (OIF). Ambassador NIYOKINDI Ernest said that 2015 was a difficult year for Burundi which had to deal with an insurgency instigated from outside, followed by an attempted coup, all aimed at overthrowing the institutions elected in 2010, by force. The management of this crisis, in particular the clashes between the putschists and the loyalists, resulted in the loss of human life and infrastructure. After having unanimously condemned the attempted coup, the international community in general and Francophonie in particular paradoxically turned to the country's institutions to blame them for the material damage and loss of human life recorded. This is how Francophonie put Burundi under observation before suspending multilate-

ral cooperation with Burundi. What Burundi felt was unfair, said Ambassador NIYOKINDI. He continued to explain that these decisions are all more paradoxical since a very high level mission of the African Union and the Secretary General of the United Nations in person, had just visited Burundi and noted a real normalization of the situation, thus cutting short those who wanted to put the country under control by sending foreign armies to Burundi soil.

Asked how Burundi proceeded to arrive at the lifting of these sanctions, Ambassador NIYOKINDI said that as soon as multilateral cooperation was suspended on April 7, 2016, the Government of Burundi, through the Minister of External Relations and International Cooperation, protested vigorously against these measures, showing that they went against the tide and would be unproductive. He continued to explain that subsequently, the Burundi Representation to Francophonie continued to denounce their unjust nature by demonstrating that the situation was developing positively and that they should be repealed; whether at the top of Antananarivo or that of Yerevan, without forgetting the bodies that prepared them. Ambassador NIYOKINDI added that during his presentation of Letters of Accreditation to Madam the Secretary General, in their subsequent talks, he systematically brought the issue of Burundi's status within Francophone family to the table. During the 110th Session of the CPF, Ambassador NIYOKINDI made, on behalf of the Government, a statement calling for the lifting of these sanctions. He said this statement was welcomed. Out of concern for due process, the President of the CPF approached the Political Committee to prepare the resolution lifting these sanctions. Ambassador NIYOKINDI did not fail to thank all those who contributed to the lifting of these sanctions against Burundi.

Ambassador Ernest NIYOKINDI also spoke about Burundi's expectations after the lifting of these measures. He made it known that the first expectation is political; with this measure, Burundi will no longer be on the agenda of the CPF sessions, which is very important because it proves that the country is no longer on the list of "problem countries". The second expectation that Ambassador NIYOKINDI has shown is the effective resumption of cooperation.

The Ambassador of Burundi in Paris ended by indicating that with this step already made at the level of OIF, Bu-

rundi hopes the lifting of the restrictive measures also taken against it by the countries of the European Union, by not considering Burundi as a threat to international security and therefore not always put it on the agenda of the United Nations Security Council.

Burundi expects the resumption of cooperation with these different States in the dynamics of mutually respectful and beneficial relations, he reiterated.

(Source : MFADC-Newsroom)

## Ruyigi: official launch of the distribution of oil palm plants



The Minister of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock, Dr Déo Guide Rurema made a descent on Tuesday, November 16, 2020 in the Municipality of Kinyinya of Ruyigi Province to officially launch the distribution of seedlings of oil palm trees. As indicated, the oil palm is among the six priority crops of the Government of Burundi.

According to the Minister in charge of Agriculture, the ambition of the so-called Responsible and Laborious Government is to increase the production of all crops so that every mouth has to eat and that every pocket also has money. This oil palm crop is a crop that is beneficial for the country because it stabilizes food security but also brings foreign currency and improves the household income of the population who practices this crop, said Doctor Deo Guide Rurema. For the Minister, he was very happy to have in Ruyigi Province, palm grove plantations are a reality. He congratulated the Palm Oil Office of Burundi (OHP) on doing everything possible to increase palm oil production like other crops. The Minister of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock reported that since 2015, agricultural production has increased. For oil palm, statistics show that in 2014, the production was around 3 and 13 thousand tons, but in 2020 the statistics show that we are at more than 26 thousand tons, which shows that production has increased, the Minister said.

Minister Dr Déo Guide RUREMA took this opportunity to appeal to the OHP to extend this type of planting in other provinces not only in the plains like Rumonge but also in Ruyigi provinces and in the provinces from Cankuzo and Kirundo.

The Government of Burundi is there to support the population to facilitate the acquisition of inputs, Minister Deo Guide Rurema said that for oil palm, this plant is produced at a value of about 12,500 Burundian francs but that it is delivered to the population at a price which is less than 4 000FBU to support the population and in this way to encourage the population to make extensions and to increase production.



He urged the population to always work in cooperatives and also appealed to natives and private individuals to come and support

the burundian population in general so that agricultural production is developed.

Before the official launch of the distribution of oil palm plants, the Minister of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock, Dr Déo Guide Rurema, in the company of OHP executives, visited the farmers of the oil palm tree working on the different hills of the Kinyinya Commune. They visited a modern field of young palm trees owned by Mr. Edmond Bigendako, farmer, multiplier and producer of palm trees on the Karindo Hill. They also visited on the same hill of Karindo, a unit for extracting palm oil of Mr. Jean Marie Manirakiza. After Karindo Hill, they went to Rugoma Hill where they visited the palm nurseries of the OHP and the Savoror company. They appreciated the use of biodegradable bags which protect the soil.

(Source: [www.rtnb.bi](http://www.rtnb.bi))

## CAN 2021: Intamba mu rugamba win against Mauritania



The Intamba mu Rugamba National Team defeated Mauritania (3-1) on Sunday November 15, 2020 and obtained their first victory in the CAN 2021 qualifiers, in a return match in Bujumbura which took place at the INTWARI Stadium because in the first round, both teams had tied a goal everywhere.

The first half was dominated by Intamba mu Rugamba who opened the scoring at the 6th minute with a goal scored by the player Saïdi Ntibazonki-

za. The Mauritanian team did not give up and also equalized in the 27th minute and the two equipped were tied for one goal everywhere at halftime.

The second half was hot at Intwari stadium and the Mauritanian team were upset. On a long free kick from Gaël Bigirimana, the Mauritanian defense remained static, and Youssouf Ndayishimiye took the opportunity to restore the advantage to his team with a plunging header at the 46th minute. Then, with a free kick rolled right at the foot of the post, Saïdi Ntibazonkiza scored the 3rd goal at the 55th minute, thus freeing the public from the Intwari Stadium.

In Team E of the CAN 2021 qualifiers are Burundi, Morocco, Mauritania and the Central African Republic, and Burundi are ranked 3rd with 4 points. The next match is scheduled in Bujumbura in March 2021 between Burundi and the Central African Republic.

(Source: [www.rtnb.bi](http://www.rtnb.bi))

# Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation

## Department of Communication

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