



American investors in Burundi



The President of the Republic His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye received on thursday, march 24, 2023 in audience at the Palace of Gitega american investors in order to inquire about investment opportunities in Burundi.

The first delegation received in audience was led by Mr. Anbessie Yitbarek, the Vice-President of the commercial airline Boeing. They discussed on the investment and cooperation opportunities offered by Burundi in the field of transport.

The other Personality is Mr. Jeff Wilson, Professor and President of the american company of environmental

techniques. He came to inquire about investment opportunities in the agricultural sector in Burundi. He appreciated the beautiful climate, human strength, fertile soil, water, as important factors in the success of their project to increase organic products.

According to the designers of the project, they will have to share their expertise and thus increase food security.

The President of the Republic of Burundi thanked his visitors for very good initiatives that come at the right time, when the country needs to produce to meet the needs of Burundians. (www.presidency.gov.bi)

In this Edition:	page
American investors in Burundi	1
The United Nations, alongside Burundi in its development	2
The Head of State announces innovations in the field of agriculture	2
The chinese Government grants a donation to the Government of Burundi	3
Isare: the Minister in charge of solidarity flies to the aid of landslide victims	3
Adoption of children must be done legally	4
CVR: Towards the re-writing of the history of Burundi	5
University governance is complex in French-speaking Africa	6
A Call to the Government to mitigate the rise in the prices of essential products	7

The United Nations, alongside Burundi in its development



The President of the Republic of Burundi His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye received in audience,

on Tuesday, March 21, 2023 at the Gitega Palace, two great United Nations Personalities, who came as part of the strengthening of development links.

The first Personality received on this occasion is Mr. Tyler Beckelman from the United States Agency for International Development, USAID. He appreciated the efforts of the Burundian Head of State in terms of development, his very important role in peacekeeping missions in Somalia, the Central African Republic, etc., and Burundi's commitment to restoring peace and stability in the east of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

They agreed that relations between Burundi and the United States Agency for International Development, USAID, often experienced through the Embassy of the United States of America, are good and have been remarkable in many areas such as health and others

aimed at social development.

"Respect for human rights is most remarkable through mobilization to change mentalities, good governance and the strengthening of justice," said President Ndayishimiye, stressing that the development initiatives visible on the ground are a sign eloquent that the investment environment is favorable.

The second Personality received in audience is Mr. Abdou Abarry, the new Special Representative of the Secretary General for Central Africa Head of the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa, UNOCA. He, too, appreciated the development initiatives of the Head of State and the rehabilitated confidence on the diplomatic scene." Burundi has only one enemy which is poverty. We have noticed that Africa is rich, only the various conflicts maintained from outside are the source of difficulties", President Ndayishimiye told him, reassuring his host that even the East of the Democratic Republic of Congo, currently in difficulty, will experience its stability. "We are used to working with United Nations' missions, but we would ask for your support", wished the Burundian Number One; and this wish saw the approval of Ambassador Abdou Abarry who promised the support of his office to achieve sustainable development. (www.presidency.gov.bi)

The Head of State announces innovations in the field of agriculture



On Tuesday March 21, 2023, the President of the Republic H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye joined together in the capital of Ruyigi province, the heads of the various sectors of the Ministries in charge of agriculture and the interior to discuss the mecha-

nisms to be undertaken. to increase agro-pastoral production.

At the end of the meeting which was held behind closed doors, the Spokesperson for the President of the Republic, Mrs. Rosine Guilène Gatoni, indicated that the Head of State H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye indicated that Burundi is full of potentialities which would allow for good agro-pastoral production. He called on the administrators to get involved by actively mobilizing the population in agricultural work in order to have a large production and thus overcome the famine in the country.

For the Spokesman of the President of the Republic, it was also an opportunity to assess the current situation in order to identify the challenges that hinder the achievement of the objective that the Government has

set itself through the slogan that every mouth has something to eat and every pocket has money.

According to the Spokesman of the President of the Republic, after the exchanges, a new start was announced by the President of the Republic in order to prepare consequently especially for the agricultural season A which wants to be "without error".

Among the commitments that have been made according to the Spokesperson of the Head of State, there is particularly the support of farmers through the work in synergy of the heads of the Ministries in charge of agriculture and the interior. so that each farmer can have a supervisor. The President of the Republic Evariste Ndayishimiye encouraged the practice of irrigation techniques especially during the dry season, the use of organic fertilizers so that Burundi can reach the stage of self-sufficiency in

the taming of fertilizers required.

Still according to the Spokesman of the President of the Republic, the Head of State Evariste Ndayishimiye also sensitized the entire Burundian population to undertake at least one agro-pastoral activity, especially state officials without exception. He also reminded administrative and agricultural officials to continue to raise public awareness of rabbit breeding.

After the meeting, the President of the Republic H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye made a field visit to inquire about the state of the works on an irrigation site under construction and which will cover an area of more than 90 hectares including a seed center on Kigarika hill, zone, commune and Ruyigi province. (www.rtnb.bi)

The chinese Government grants a donation to the Government of Burundi



The chinese Government granted on Tuesday march 21, 2023, 910 tons of rice to the Government of Burundi. The Minister in charge of national solidarity Honorable Imelde Sabushimike received 591.5 tons of rice constituting the first batch and indicated that there remains a batch of 318.5 tons.

The Chinese Ambassador to Burundi His Excellency ZHAO Jiangping indicated that the chinese Government appreciates the efforts made by the Government of Burundi as a friend and partner and said that this donation was given to accompany the Government of Burundi in the fight against poverty and ensuring food security.

Minister Honorable Imelde Sabushimike said that

this food donation comes at the right time and will lighten the burden on the vulnerable population at a time when food prices are soaring due to poor harvests in recent growing seasons.

This food donation will also allow the vulnerable beneficiaries of this assistance to work with energy and peacefully go about their daily business without worrying about finding enough to feed their families, continued Honorable Imelde Sabushimike.

The Minister of National Solidarity hoped that this collaboration would continue even in the process of delivering this aid to the beneficiaries and invited the Chinese Ambassador to Burundi to the official launch ceremonies for the delivery of this food donation to the beneficiaries at the date and place which will be communicated to them.

Honorable Imelde Sabushimike thanked the Chinese Government which has always responded favorably to all requests for assistance in Burundi in times of disaster. (www.rtnb.bi)

Isare: the Minister in charge of solidarity flies to the aid of landslide victims



The Ministry of National Solidarity, Social Affairs, Human Rights and Gender assisted, on the afternoon of monday, march 20, 2023, 22 households victims of the landslides that occurred in the Kibuye zone of the Isare commune in the province of bujumbura and their host families, in food and non-food.

This assistance provided to landslide victims and their host families in Kibuye consisted of 25 kg of rice, 3 blankets and a tarpaulin for each household victim of

this disaster and 20 kg of rice for each host family.

The Minister in charge of National Solidarity Honorable Imelde Sabushimike said that her visit was intended to bring compassion to these victims who lost everything in this disaster, as it is customary in Burundi to come to the aid of people in distress. Minister Honorable Imelde Sabushimike honored the commendable act of the host families who did everything to accommodate their neighbors as well as the administration which alerted any charitable soul to assist them. The Minister in charge of national solidarity has promised to stay with the victims of the landslides and to grant them sheets once they have started building their houses.

Minister Honorable Imelde Sabushimike also asked the administration and topographical experts to identify the areas at risk for the evacuation of the populations who live there and each time to ensure that the population does not settle in the areas at risk. She finally urged these victims not to sell this assistance even if they lack everything. (www.rtnb.bi)

Adoption of children must be done legally



The Ministry of Social Affairs, Human Rights, National Solidarity and Gender organized from march 21 to 22, 2023 in bujumbura, an information and awareness workshop on adoption in Burundi.

This workshop was organized in collaboration with some organizations involved in the adoption of children at the international level such as, Wide Horizons for Children (Broad horizons for children) and All God's Children International (the international of all the children of God).

The participants received and exchanged experiences and information on the procedures and the legal framework for the adoption of children at the national and international level.

At the international level, the adoption of children is governed by the Hague Convention of 1993 which Burundi ratified in 1998. This convention was adopted to curb all the irregularities recorded in previous years and to finally guarantee the traceability of the adoption.

At the national level, the adoption of children is provided for in certain legal texts such as the personal and family code.

According to the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Social Affairs, Human Rights and Gender, Mr. Pontien Hatungimana, who opened the workshop, the adoption of children at national or international level is one of the ways of protection of children without families.

Mr. Pontien Hatungimana specified that the adop-

tion of children must be done legally and following eminent procedures, at the national or international level, and the adoption of children must be done in strict compliance with the interests of children.

The objective of this workshop was to build the capacities of those involved in the adoption process, to exchange experiences and testimonies from orphanages, to outbuilding light on the problem of adoption in Burundi and to present post-monitoring mechanisms of adoption. (www.rtnb.bi)

CVR: Towards the rewriting of the history of Burundi



The reports of the Truth-Reconciliation Commission (TRC) at the end of its mandate on the violence of the tragic years experienced by Burundi, will be used to rewrite the "best shared history" of the country. This declaration was made by the president of the CVR Mr. Pierre Claver Ndayicariye on tuesday march 21, 2023, during the presentation of the report of the achievements of this commission in front of the executives, the civil servants and the educated and non-educated young people of the various socio-professional sectors of the province of Gitega.

After exchanges and debates on the results of four years of investigations into the tragic events that left Burundi during the period 1885-1973, the President of the TRC let it be understood that three main concerns of the participants in the meetings held the attention of this committee.

The first obsessions concerns a long-hidden story according to the president of the CVR. For Mr.

Pierre Claver Ndayicariye, it is first necessary to disseminate the information relating to the violence of the dark years of the history of Burundi to the base, because for him, the CVR is in the process of discovering a truth of the violence that the former times powers have hidden from the Burundian nation. He explained that this dissemination of information from the CVR reports must leave the summit to reach the hill via the province and the commune, specifying that this activity has just started in the province of Gitega. The second main concern was about the rewriting of "the best shared history" according to Pierre Claver Ndayicariye. For the President of the CVR, there are no books by Burundian or foreign historians that speak of mass graves or books that detail the violence of the 60s, 65s, 69s, 72s and 73s.

On this subject, Mr. Pierre Claver Ndayicariye suggested that the CVR will produce part of the truth that it will reach thanks to the archives, thanks to hearings and various investigations. And to specify that the documents containing the reports that will be produced will be used, for the team that will be appointed, for the rewriting of "the best shared history" because, he explained, today we have a manipulated and hidden history.

The third concern which is the most relevant according to Mr. Pierre Claver Ndayicariye concerns widows who express themselves in relation to their looted property. For him, there are people who were deprived of their houses, their vehicles or their accounts in 1972 and even in the years before or after, because someone decided to own them.

The complaints are legitimate," declared Mr. Pierre Claver Ndayicariye, who also asserts that the wait is long to rehabilitate these victims, but who also recommends patience because the work of truth and reconciliation has several facets. According to the President of the TRC, the mechanism of transitional justice affects reparations, reconciliation, compensation, etc.

The president of the CVR specified that for this project to be useful to the nation, it must be a site of truth at the service of reconciliation.

Finally, the president of the CVR Mr. Pierre Claver Ndayicariye asked Burundians to teach people love, patriotism and truth, to refuse all hatred, all division, all lies and to preach living together and surviving. together. (www.rtnb.bi)

University governance is complex in French-speaking Africa



University governance is complex in French-speaking Africa.

Some higher education institutions, including the University of Burundi, encounter multifaceted challenges that need to be addressed to improve academic governance. This was learned from Professor Gélase Nimbona, a teacher-researcher at the University of Burundi (UB), during a conference-debate organized during the celebration of the International Week of La Francophonie on March 22, 2023 in Bujumbura town.

According to Professor Nimbona, some higher education institutions are without research policies and research evaluation mechanisms. This is particularly the case of the Abolou Moumouni University of Niamey. Other higher education institutions, such as the University of Burundi, have research governance structures, but without governance tools. There are still others who have established well-developed institutional steering, academic governance and research governance mechanisms that can serve as a model for others. This is the case of the Cheikh Anta Diop University of Dakar (UCAD), the Cameroonian, Moroccan, Beninese public universities and the University of Ouagadougou, he said.

Professor Nimbona also notes that the reforms undertaken in particular in Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Morocco and Senegal were born of specific contexts of economic and socio-political crisis, but that they were well thought out and brought hope to society. If there are problems that were specific to this or that other country, many problems were shared. Everywhere in these

countries, the universities faced the problems of an amount of the workforce and, consequently, the rate of supervision of students who exceed the capacities of the available resources as a consequence the drop of the quality of education and the elasticity of academic years.

In Cameroon and Burkina Faso, there was also the economic problem related to structural adjustment, which did not allow the recruitment of new teachers or the satisfaction of the social needs of students, which required large budgets, unemployment among university graduates, strikes students for the demand for more freedom and the maintenance of social advantages. The recovery measures taken generally aimed to decentralize the universities to cope with the demographic explosion and preserve quality, to professionalize teaching to improve the external performance of the system, to regionalize to anchor the new universities in their socio-economic reality, granting pedagogical and administrative autonomy to the Universities and Higher Education Institutions, improving management efficiency, enabling better adaptation of the training offer to the specific needs of the local environment, promote innovation and the transfer of innovative technologies and knowledge, etc.

The professionalization of teaching is also one of the projects recently implemented in Burundi by the Francophonie University Agency (FUA). The head of the FUA in Burundi, Professor Fulgence Nahayo notes the "APPRENDRE" (LEARN) project, to support the professionalization of seven courses in six Universities and the creation of a Master's degree in Translation and Interpreting at the University of Burundi as well as the project support for the professionalization of teaching practices and the development of resources. Measurements for transformation were also recorded at the Cheikh Anta Diop University of Dakar (UCAD). These have essen-

tially focused on the creation of the Polytechnic University of Thiès from existing Institutions, the strengthening of the autonomy and accountability of new entities for their better integration into their regional and socio-economic environment. These

measures also aimed to relieve congestion at Cheikh-Anta-Diop University (UCAD), allow easy access to higher education in the regions and obtain an appropriate distribution of training across Senegalese territories. **(ABP)**

A call to the Government to mitigate the rise in the prices of essential products



On tuesday march 22, 2023, the President of the Observatoire for the Fight against Corruption and Economic Mismanagement (OLUCOME) Mr. Gabriel Rufyiri hosted a press conference that aimed at requesting the Government of Burundi to take urgent measures to mitigate the general increase prices of basic necessities in Burundi.

According to Mr. Gabriel Rufyiri the issue of inflation in Burundi has become very worrying. It can be seen on all imported and local products, especially food products such as beans, rice, corn flour, to name a few. Mr. Gabriel indicated that inflation has risen exponentially in recent months since the year

2022. "A large part of the civil servants can no longer make ends meet for the month," he said.

He also underlined that alongside this problem of food inflation there is repetitive shortage of fuel, which causes enormous financial losses for the country, more particularly public revenues, not forgetting in particular the rise in the price of transport tickets to inside the country.

He said that low production could be the main endogenous cause of the said inflation. To get out of this situation, Mr. Gabriel Rufyiri requests the Government of Burundi to build up strategic stocks of fuel and to initiate a policy of regrouping Burundians in villages to free up arable land, plan urbanization to avoid natural disasters and also to irrigate so that all the cultivable space of the country is exploitable during all the seasons. **(ABP)**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation

Department of Communication

www.mae.gov.bi

Twitter: [@MAEBurundi](https://twitter.com/MAEBurundi)