



**President Ndayishimiye in St. Petersburg speaks with TASS**



The Head of State of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, visiting the Russian Federal Republic in order to take part in the second edition of the Russia-Africa Summit in Saint Petersburg, met on July 27, 2023 with the Russian Agency, Tribunal of Social Security Affairs (TASS).

President Ndayishimiye first said that Burundi and Africa in general must abandon the posture of the "outstretched hand" and make their voices heard for the partnerships based on mutual respect. This Summit offers, according to the Burundian President, a good opportunity to exchange the national and the African

experiences and to reflect on a future of shared dignity and prosperity.

His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye praised the excellent bilateral, friendly and historical relations that exist between the peoples of Burundi and Russia, as well as the respective Governments; based on shared values of sovereignty, mutual respect, solidarity and sincere friendship.

"Our diplomatic relations are in good shape, both bilaterally and in international bodies," said the President.

"The Relations have been further strengthened by the recent visit to Bujumbura last May by the Russian Foreign Minister His Excellency Ser-

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gei LAVROV.”

The Burundian Number One specified the main areas of cooperation that have seen a great progress such as health, education, justice and defense and hopes that the energy field will experience a leap forward.

President Ndayishimiye pointed to a large energy deficit on industrialization and mining, but he stressed that with nuclear energy, this trend would be reversed in Burundi.

"Burundi, long monopolized by its internal problems, is now an active member of global and regional associations, it is now honored in the concert of Nations", said His Excellency Ndayishimiye reminding that Burundi is actively taking part in the definition and seeking the responses to regional and global challenges.

Responding to the questions from the Editor-in-Chief Mr Mikhail Gusman, the President of the Republic said that Burundi has taken the drastic measures to prevent and control the coronavirus pandemic.

"From the start of the epidemic, Burundi adopted a strategy to combat the spread of the virus which was more based on prevention," he said.

Containment was only required in the event of direct contact or any exposure and there was the introduction of massive screening campaigns and then voluntary vaccines, added the President.

Three years already in power, President Ndayishimiye has drawn up his assessment and his major challenges for the future.

He is proud of having succeeded in uniting a large majority of Burundians around the same ideal.

"In three years, we have been renovated by means of a people. We want the best for our country, regardless of our political, ethnic or regional origins".

As for the challenges, the Burundian President indicates that they remain around a small group of individuals, fishermen in troubled waters who, by their senseless acts, systematically torpedoed the efforts of socio-economic development but who, according to him, it is a question of time because the economy of Burundi will soon restart, he hammered.

"The future of the African continent will depend on the vision of its leaders," said the Burundian Head of State, adding that Africa has several assets.

According to President Ndayishimiye, the unity of Afri-

can leaders will move Africa forward with a win-win partnership.

"Burundi is a hidden paradise" declared the Number One Burundian, highlighting its incredibly beautiful nature, the famous savannahs, the fauna and flora, the fabulous landscapes, its mythical Lake Tanganyika with its fresh waters, Lake Rwihinda and its splendid migratory birds.

According to President Ndayishimiye, the Vision Burundi Emerging in 2040 and developed in 2060, the tourism sector occupies a priority place. "We want to make Burundi the best tourist destination in East Africa."

A still little-known destination, Burundi is a country that has a lot to offer: its mountains and valleys, its wild savannah, its forests, and above all the legendary hospitality of its inhabitants and its cultural diversity. Burundi is also the cradle of the mythical Sacred Royal Drum, classified by Unesco as an intangible heritage of Humanity.

Regarding his overloaded schedule, the President of the Republic said that everything is a question of organization and planning because there is a balance in life to be had, regardless of the functions he occupies.

The exercise of his function and his free time is often devoted to self-development projects which he often does with his family, reading and meeting his compatriots.

Indeed, His Excellency Ndayishimiye recalled that he is human, that he is athletic playing the drum, and that it must be kept in mind that as President of the Republic is a father of a family and Father of a nation he keeps listening to on a daily basis.

The Father of the Burundian nation recalled that the world salutes the works of the First Lady of Burundi through her Umugiraneza foundation, as evidenced by the prize awarded to her by the United Nations for the population 2023 edition.

Through her initiatives and vision, she contributes to the development of the country, said HE Evariste Ndayishimiye.

Responding to the definition of power, President Ndayishimiye said that power is a tacit contract which commits the leader to vouch for the well-being of the people who confer it on him. The leader must know how to lead his people well with vision, he added.

According to the Burundian Head of State, the concept of power is knowing how to protect his people. **(Presidency)**

## The Ambassadors of South Africa, Belgium and Germany bid farewell to President Ndayishimiye



The Head of State His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye received in audience on Tuesday July 25, 2023 at the Ntare Rushatsi Palace, Mrs Kgomotso Nomi Jolobe, Mr Alain Van Gucht, and Mr Dieter REINL, respectively Ambassadors of South Africa, Belgium and of Germany in Burundi who had come to bid him farewell because of the end of their respective mandates in Burundi.

It was an opportunity to discuss the good relations of friendship and cooperation that exist between Burundi and these countries.

"We recognize the key role played by Nelson Mandela from the start of the peace process in Burundi," said the Burundian President, rejoicing that bilateral relations between Burundi and South Africa have continued to be improved.

In their exchanges with the Ambassadors of Bel-

gium and Germany in Burundi who were in turn received after the Ambassador of South Africa, the Head of State thanked them for having contributed to the normalization of relations between Burundi and the European Union.

He took the opportunity to inform them that Burundi, in its process of truth and reconciliation, plans to build a national historical museum and requested the support of these colonizing countries of Burundi in the repatriation of the objects that can help in the reconstruction of the history of Burundi.

"For us, Burundi is not only a country of a thousand and one hills, but also it is a country of a thousand and one experiences, friendships and impressions", indicated the German diplomat before "welcoming the political change instilled by His Excellency President Evariste Ndayishimiye who has led to the improvement of relations between Burundi and the EU as well as the constructive role of Burundi in the region".

Ambassador Dieter REINL also revealed in the framework of partnership with Burundi, Germany intends to release 32 million Euros in the implementation of the Water and Sanitation Project in Rumonge Province which will start at the end of this year 2023.

The President of the Republic asked these three Ambassadors to continue to be Ambassadors of Burundi wherever they are, telling them that Burundi needs multifaceted support, especially at this time when it is experiencing a period of economic recovery. **(Presidency)**

## Soon an ethanol production plant in Rutana



The Vice-President of the Republic H.E Ir. Prosper Bazombanza laid the first stone for the construction of the "Liqueur Burundi" ethanol production plant in Rutana commune and province on Thursday July 28, 2023. This plant will use as raw material the molasses produced by the SOSUMO sugar factory. Currently Liqueur Burundi already has a stock of 1500 tons of molasses. The project promoters are preparing

to install the processing unit. According to forecasts, the first finished products will leave the factory between November and December 2023.

According to Mr. Jean Olivier Irakiza, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Liqueur Burundi, the part of the extra neutral alcohol that will come out of the factory will be used in industries producing alcoholic beverages such as Brarudi, another as medical alcohol, and another in disinfectants.

The Vice-President congratulates the promoters of this Burundi Liqueur factory, because it will create jobs, promote the economy, bring foreign currency to the country, since it will use a local raw material and will be able to export the production.



The Vice-President invited the promoters of the Liqueur Burundi project to ensure quality and know that it will

work in a competitive environment. **(RTNB)**

## The Vice-President believes that the development of the insurance sector contributes to the emergence of Burundi



**T**he Vice-President of the Republic H.E Prosper BAZOMBANZA officially launched, on Wednesday July 26, 2023 in Bujumbura, the second edition of the week dedicated to insurance in Burundi, under the central theme: “Insurance for all a real pillar of development” and whose objective is to raise awareness and educate the population about Insurance. He said that the development of the insurance sector will undoubtedly contribute to the emergence of Burundi.

“Insurance for all will allow the rural world living mainly from agriculture and livestock to easily access bank loans to finance their activities”, he insisted.

The Representative of the Minister in charge of insur-

ance, meanwhile, clarified that their wish is that insurance coverage to be extended to the population in its daily activities including agriculture and livestock. She added that the agricultural insurance will allow the farmers and the breeders to easily access financing through the banking system to which they are currently almost excluded.

The Vice-President of the Republic positively appreciated the work already carried out by the Insurance Regulation and Control Agency (ARCA), in the revitalization and development of the insurance sector in Burundi and also took the opportunity to challenge the insurance industry in Burundi to comply with the provisions relating to solvency, coverage of regulatory commitments and payment of claims within the legal deadlines.

Before starting the visit of the stands - exhibition of insurance products and services offered by insurers, the Vice-President BAZOMBANZA finally called on the Burundian population and foreigners residing in Bujumbura and Gitega, respectively the economic and political capitals of Burundi, to participate massively in the work of this week dedicated to Insurance in order to become aware of the importance of subscribing to the various insurances in order to protect themselves, their families and their well-being against possible risks. **(Presidency)**

## Gitega: Parliamentarians met the representatives of the population



**D**uring their parliamentary holidays, a delegation of Deputies and Senators elected in the constituency of Gitega province met on Wednesday July 26, 2023, the local elected officials, the locality notables, the representatives of the cooperatives and the community development associations of Gitega commune.

The objective of the meeting was to discuss about patriotism, the security situation and the socio-community development of the country.

The Head of the delegation, Honorable Lazare Mvuyekure called on the representatives of the popula-

tion to support the vision of the Head of State Evariste Ndayishimiye to make Burundi an emerging country in 2040 and a developed country in 2060. He also asked them to support in the implementation of the slogan of the Head of State who wants every mouth to have something to eat and every pocket to have money.

For Honorable Venant Sinzinkayo, he urges the grassroots administrators and the representatives of the cooperatives to mobilize the population they represent around the self-development, especially the breeding of small livestock such as rabbits, chickens and the pigs. He asked the inhabitants of Gitega to exploit their land properties well, to avoid the waste of family wealth, the drunkenness, etc.

In her presentation, Senator Spès Caritas Njebarikanuye called on the representatives of the population and grassroots administrators to mobilize the population for the safeguard of

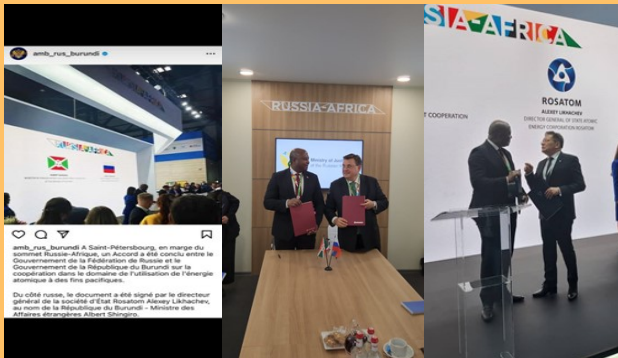
peace and security. And to add that in the absence of these, development is not possible. Spès Caritas Njebarikanuye also advocates the birth control because the overpopulation is also a cause of insecurity in the country.

During the exchanges, the participants evoked the main problems observed in their constituencies. The administrators at the base say they are worried about the cases

of dropping out of school, consumption of very alcoholic drinks, cases of divorce and unwanted pregnancies among young girls.

As for the local notables, they ask for training for capacity building as well as the granting of incentive bonuses for their mediation functions in the event of conflicts within the population. **(RTNB)**

## The Republic of Burundi and the Federal Republic of Russia sign some cooperation agreements



On July 27, 2023, the President of the Republic of Burundi His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye participated in the Russia-Africa Summit held in Saint Petersburg in the Federal Republic of Russia.

On the sidelines of the Russia-Africa Summit, cooperation agreements were concluded between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the Republic of Burundi.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation H.E Albert Shingiro who accompanied the President of the Republic of Burundi His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye on his trip to participate in the Russia-Africa Summit, signed a Cooper-

ation Agreement in the field of the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes with the Director General of the State Company Mr. Rosatom Alexey Likhachev on the Russian side. They also signed a Memorandum of Understanding between the state corporation of atomic energy "Rosatom" (National Society for Atomic Energy) and the Ministry of National Education and Scientific Research of the Republic of Burundi on cooperation in the training of executives in the field of the nuclear energy industry of the Republic of Burundi.

Minister Albert Shingiro also signed with the Russian Minister in charge of the Public Service, a Memorandum of Understanding on issues of labor inspection and employment and population promotion between the Federal Service of Needs and Employment and the Ministry of Public Service, Labor and Employment of the Republic of Burundi.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation H.E Albert Shingiro has finally signed with the Russian Minister of Justice a Cooperation Agreement between the Ministry of Justice of the Russian Federation and the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Burundi. **(MFADC)**

## The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation takes part in the 116<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Council of the Ministers of the Organization of African, the Caribbeans and the Pacific States



From July 18 to 20, 2023, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation His Excellency Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO took part in the 116<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Council of the Ministers of the Organization of African, the Caribbe-

ans and the Pacific States (OACPS) in Brussels as a member of the OACPS Office.

The official opening of the work of the 116<sup>th</sup> Session of the Council of the Ministers of the OACPS was preceded by the meeting of the Office of the Council. This includes Mauritius (current Presidency), Burundi, Senegal, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Zambia, the Dominican Republic, and the Samoa Islands.

The welcoming speech was given by the Secretary

General of the OACPS, H.E. Georges Rebelo Pinto Chikoti. Then the current Chairman of the Council of Ministers, the Honorable Mahen Kumar Seeruttun, the Minister of Financial Services and Good Governance of the Republic of Mauritius delivered his opening speech. He announced himself what was the good news of the session and he will determine himself the continuation of the relations with the European Union, namely the Poland's decision for the reinforcement of its veto on the signing of the Samoa (Partnership agreement between the OACPS and the EU signed in Samoa in 2021).

As it is usual, the actual work of the ministerial Session began with the adoption of the agenda proposed by the Office. Afterwards, the President of the Council of the Ministers and the Secretary General of the OACPS each made a brief statement, before appointing the members of the new Ministerial Office as of August 1, 2023, but also the report and the friends of the protractor (one per region that is 6 in total).

The Council then analyzed and approved the report of

the protractors of the 115<sup>th</sup> hybrid Session of the Council, held on 27 and 28 November 2022.

The participants examined and adopted the report of the Committee of the Ambassadors to the Council and the report of the Secretary General to the Council. They then analyzed the report of the Ministerial Committee for Development Finance Cooperation, the report of the Ministerial Contact Group on the European Union list of the non-cooperative tax jurisdictions and the list of the third countries concerning the fight against money laundering and the financing of terrorism and the report of the Board of Trustees of the OACPS Endowment and the Trust Fund. They also exchanged the points of view on "the OACPS at 50".

In his speech, Minister Shingiro reiterated a full support and cooperation to the Secretary General in the implementation of certain initiatives and priorities announced earlier at the start of the Session.

It should be noted that several decisions and resolutions were taken during the 116<sup>th</sup> Session of the Council of the Ministers of the OACPS. (MFADC)

### The Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation participates in the Celebration of the National Day of the Kingdom of Belgium



which have never been denied but which are expressed evolutionary way. "Today, we can certainly say that our bilateral relations have gradually reopened, that mutual trust is restored," he said.

The Ambassador indicated that in the logic of continuity and enhancement of the already existing

**O**n Friday July 21, 2023, the Embassy of the Kingdom of Belgium in Burundi celebrated the national day of its country. The ceremonies began with the national anthem of Burundi followed by that of Belgium.

According to the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Belgium to Burundi Mr. Alain Van Gucht, this holiday commemorates the swearing in, on July 21, 1831, of the First King of the Belgians, Leopold, a few months after the proclamation of their independence in October 1830.

In his speech, Ambassador Alain Van Gucht welcomed the historical and the interpersonal ties that unite the two countries, Burundi and the Kingdom of Belgium, based on solidarity and reciprocal attention

cooperation, the Government of Burundi and that of the Kingdom of Belgium have confirmed the continuation of their commitment to bilateral governmental cooperation which comes in addition to the cooperation implemented by the numerous Belgian NGOs present in Burundi and other interventions channeled by our multilateral partners. However, he added that there is the possibility of deepening these bilateral relations by entering into a real dialogue on what these two countries want and can do even better together for the common benefit of their populations.

The Kingdom of Belgium has currently drawn up the governmental cooperation program covering the next five years (2024-2028) and it wishes to do so transparently by conducting broad consultations with the Burundian authorities concerned, to reassure itself that the country



is aligned on Burundi's development priorities. The Ambassador ended his speech by emphasizing that the Kingdom of Belgium is very attentive to the investment climate in Burundi and is more and more regularly informed of expressions of interest from operators established in Belgium. It is for this reason in particular that he is appointed two advisors in economic diplomacy.

In his speech, the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation Mr. Ferdinand BASHIKAKO wished a happy National Day to Ambassador Alain Van Gucht. He indicated that Burundi and Belgium share a history which has contributed to mutual knowledge and esteem. The deep bonds of friendship gradually established have been a major asset for the development of the solid and multifaceted cooperation relations. He positively appreciated the partnership between Belgium and Burundi.

According to the report presented by the Ambassador, the Permanent Secretary said that Burundi is delighted with Belgium's recent decision to launch a new program of governmental cooperation with Burundi for the period 2024-2028 within the framework

of the contribution inclusive and resilient to climatic and socio-economic hazards. He expressed the wish of the Burundian Government to find together the ways and means to relaunch the bilateral partnership between these two countries and that the Burundian Government is willing to start the necessary bilateral discussions at the time of the best convenience of the authorized Belgian authorities.

As the Ambassador of Belgium to Burundi informed the participants that this is the last party he is organizing in Burundi as the Head of the Mission in Burundi following the expiration of his mandate, the Permanent Secretary, on behalf of the Government of Burundi appreciated his role in the gradual resumption of Belgian-Burundian relations.

He ended by pointing out that the Ambassador began his mission at a time when Burundi was crumbling under the weight of sanctions from the European Union and its Member States and that he contributed with advice and correct analyzes of the situation, the lifting of these sanctions and the programming, admittedly timid, of new direct bilateral cooperation programs. (MFADC)

### Ngozi: The Ministry in charge of agriculture organizes a two-day retreat



The Ministry of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock organized a two-day retreat in Ngozi (from July 24 to 25, 2023), for

the Directors General, the Administrative and the Financial Directors and the Directors provincial offices of environment, agriculture and animal husbandry. The objective of the retreat was to assess the implementation of the annual action plan 2022-2023 the annual action plan and the appropriation of the annual work program and budget in order to accomplish the mission entrusted to them by the Head of State "Let every mouth have something to eat and every pocket have money".

During this retreat, the Minister of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock Dr. Sanctus Niragira recommended to the Senior Executives of his Ministry to respect the hierarchy, to appropriate the annual action plan and the Fully Spelled out to promote

collaboration, to make a good financial management and to elaborate the projects with objectivity.

At the end of the two-day retreat, the Minister of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock Dr. Sanctus Niragira presented the results of the achievements of the 2022-2023 budget year with an achievement rate of 91.69% in different domains.

Among the challenges encountered in the execution of the fully spelled out 2022-2023 are, among others, the delay in the award of public contracts, the climate change, the consequences of Covid-19, the Russian-Ukrainian conflict and others.

With regard to the future prospects, the Minister Dr. Sanctus Niragira cited the establishment of agropoles, the development of the rabbit sector, the continuation of the irrigation campaign, the creation of the agro-sylvo-pastoral radiation centers and the breeding centers, the importation of thoroughbred breeding animals and the restocking of livestock.

On the sidelines of the retreat, the Minister Dr. Sanctus Niragira visited a model rabbit breeder on the Rusuguti locality of the Ngozi commune in order to

sensitize the population to practice rabbit farming as recommended by the authorities at the High Summit because this breeding is also beneficial as the owner of these rabbits said.

The Minister Dr. Sanctus Niragira then visited the Fathers of the Foyer de Charité of Ngozi on the Rugori locality Rukeco area who practice irrigation during the dry season.

On the same locality, he visited farmers who practice irrigation with a mechanical pump that they intend to popularize.

The Minister in charge of Agriculture also visited the grain harvest storage shed in the Rukeco area in Busiga commune to inquire about the state of the sustainability of the infrastructure built by the development partners.

The Minister of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock Dr. Sanctus Niragira finally visited the Institute Agronomic Sciences of Burundi breeding center of Vyerwa which has relaunched the multiplication of thoroughbred goats, cows and pigs imported into in order to increase the animal production. In the same place, the Minister also visited a modern storage shed for tuber seeds.

## Muyinga: Towards a change in the agricultural system



“We cultivate a lot, but we produce very little, because we cultivate badly”, these are the remarks made on Tuesday July 25, 2023, in Muyinga, by Pastor Johnson Nsabimana, before the administrators and agronomists working in this province. For some time now, Mr. Johnson Nsabimana,

pastor at the Church of the Rock, has been committed to contributing to increasing food production.

For him, this is possible, it is enough that the Burundians agree in changing their mentality, and recognize that the ancestral farming methods have degraded the soils and made them sterile and accept to exploit the land differently.

It is in this perspective that Pastor Johnson Nsabimana led on Tuesday July 25, an awareness workshop on a new cropping system for administrative and agricultural technicians in Muyinga province.

It is a system, he explained, which gives a high yield without degrading the soil and without investing too many resources, particularly in terms of inputs and work to be done on the ground.

After the sensitization session, the administrators, the agronomists and the population met on Mukoni locality in Muyinga commune, where Pastor Johnson Nsabimana and his technicians demonstrated the new farming technique they learned in Zimbabwe.

It was not for the first time that this technique was taught. An experiment has already been done on the

Nkoyoyo and Mageni localities and the results have been convincing.

In this new technique, one put the lime only in the pocket, a week later he put organic manure.

Contrary to the old practices, one does not cultivate by stirring up all the ground of the exploited ground, but one removes the herbs and one makes the mulching.

The technicians have shown that plowing destabilizes the biodiversity of the soil, which is so useful for its fertility. The labor promotes the soil erosion, when it rains for example, the water washes away much of the topsoil from which the plants get most of the water and nutrients, the soil productivity decreases.

They showed the farming population that if you cultivate and apply mulch, the soil erosion does less damage.

And if one doesn't cultivate and sets up the hillocks, after removing the grasses from the field and planting or sowing in rows, mulching, the soil erosion is very minimal, the soil keeps its biodiversity intact and the performance is excellent

In addition, this technique allows a reduction of certain inputs. So traditionally, on one hectare we put a ton and a half of agricultural lime, in this new technique, some 200 kg are enough on the hectare.

The provincial Governor's Chief of Staff recommended that all the administrators find places for an experimental with this technique as of the next growing season.

And for Pastor Johnson Nsabimana, the Burundians should put this technique into practice in order to improve the food production, because, he says, we cannot talk about the development if people do not have enough to eat. **(RTNB)**



# Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation

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