



The President of the Republic enhances the start of the judicial year in Gitega



The President of the Republic and Supreme Magistrate His Excellency Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE enhanced his presence on Friday September 1, 2023, in Gitega province, at the Ingoma Stadium, to the ceremonies marking the solemn opening of the 2023-2024 judicial year under the theme: "Judgments well rendered and implemented at the right time constitute the justice which favors the population in the execution of development projects."

Those ceremonies saw the participation of the Vice-President of the Republic Ir Prosper Bazombaza, the Prime Minister Lieutenant General of the Police Gervais Ndirakobuca, the Presidents of the members of the two houses of Parliament, the President of the Supreme Court and other High personalities of the country.

Based on the chosen theme which highlights the importance of fair justice in the socio-economic development of

the country, the Attorney General of the Republic pleaded for the amendment of certain legal texts and the strengthening of the capacities of the Corps' Staff judicial.

To sustainably strengthen the judiciary, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye encouraged the magistrates who conscientiously carry out their work to stand out and dissociate themselves from the magistrates who dishonor the vocation of doing justice. He also insisted that he is opening the start of the judicial year and not the year of injustice. He will do everything possible so that the shortcomings noted in the justice sector can be resolved.

The President of the Republic and Supreme Magistrate said he was in favor of the amendment of legal texts and their readjustment to allow the magistrates to have the suitable tools to properly administer justice. There is no longer any pretext to justify the failings observed in the field of justice.

The judicial start-up ceremonies were also marked by the prizes consisting of the certificates of merit and the envelopes which were offered to the magistrates who stood out in the accomplishment of their tasks during the 2022-2023 judicial year. **(Presidency)**

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President Ndayishimiye determined to correct the imperfections in sugar marketing



As part of improving the country's economy and strengthening the good governance, the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE met, on thursday august 31, 2023, in the localities of the Paramedical School of Gitega, the wholesale traders in sugar who get their supplies from the MOSO Sugar Company (SOSUMO).

That meeting, which also saw the participation of the

provincial Governors, was organized in order to resolve the discontents of the population noted in the marketing of that essential product.

Based on a list of 817 traders who obtain their supplies from SOSUMO Company, 570 traders were present at the meeting.

The President of the Republic demanded that all sugar wholesale traders who were absent without valid justification to be removed from the list of the wholesalers who obtain their supplies from SOSUMO Company.

The Head of State also required the provincial Governors to ensure the regular monitoring of sugar marketing. "You must redouble your vigilance and organize the meetings with all the sugar traders to make the sale of that product fair and equitable in all the entities for which you are responsible," he ordered!

"A register of the entries and exits must also be well maintained by the SOSUMO Company," he added. **(Presidency)**

The Ambassadors of the European Union, the Netherlands and Tanzania bid farewell to the Head of State



On tuesday august 29, 2023, the Representative of the European Union in Burundi, Mr Claude Bochu and the Ambassadors of

the Netherlands and the United Republic of Tanzania respectively His Excellency Jeroen Steeghs and His Excellency Jilly Elibariki Maleko bid farewell to the Head of the State, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, during a series of audience held at the Kiriri Palace.

During their exchanges, the President of the Republic exalted the role played by each of them in strengthening the relations of friendship and cooperation between Burundi and their respective countries. "I congratulate you for having put Burundi back on the international scene", said the Representative of the European Union at the end of his four (4) years mandate in Burundi, by appreciating the cooperative efforts in renormalizing the relations between Burundi and the African Union.

"When we started the peace process, Holland supported us", indicated the Burundian Number One who recognized the role of the Netherlands in inspiring the trust between the population and the police throughout the country. The United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) project funded by the Netherlands.

The Ambassador of the United Republic of Tanzania, for her part, exalted the leadership of the Burundian Head of State and the frank collaboration which characterized the Burundian authorities and which enabled him to carry out his mission successfully.

All the Diplomats thanked the President of the Republic of Burundi for the fight he is leading as President-in-Office of the East African Community (EAC) for the restoration of peace in the region, particularly in the East of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

Returning to the priority programs and the reforms undertaken in Burundi in order to promote the socio-economic development of the country, the Burundian Number One informed that he intends to organize a round table of the Partners of Burundi in order to collect their opinions in relation to the Vision of Burundi emerging in 2040 and developed in 2060. **(Presidency)**

The President of the Republic returns from a State visit to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)



The Head of State His Excellence Evariste Ndayishimiye returned on Monday August 29, 2023 from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) where he made a State visit from August 27 to 28, 2023.

The Spokesperson for the Head of State, Madame Rosine Guilène Gatoni, said that the objective of the visit was the strengthening of the bilateral relations of cooperation, relations of fraternity existing between Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo through the cooperation projects in various fields such as security, defense and trade.

During their discussions, the Burundian Head of State and his Congolese Counterpart discussed about the need to create the Burundian banking agencies in Uvira and Bukavu but also the Congolese banking agencies in Bujumbura as a part of

improving the commercial transactions, said the Spokesperson of the Burundian Head of State.

They also discussed about the security situation prevailing in the East of the Democratic Republic of Congo. The two Heads of State launched an appeal to the region to be vigilant in order to push the M23 into cantonment but also to push all the armed groups, both local and foreign, to lay down their arms and begin the process of demobilization and disarmament and reintegration, said the spokesperson for the Burundian Head of State.

The Congolese Head of State and the Burundian Head of State also discussed about the projects which could strengthen the existing relations, notably the project to construct the railway linking Tanzania, the Democratic Republic of Congo as well as Burundi and the project construction of the bridge linking the province of Cibitoke and South Kivu.

In the area of security, there was the signing of a protocol agreement in the field of defense between the Burundian and the Congolese Governments, an agreement which was signed by the Ministers responsible of Defense in the presence of the two Heads of State, specified the Spokesperson of the Head of State.

During a press briefing which was moderated by the two Heads of State while answering the questions from the journalists on the security situation in the East of the Democratic Republic of Congo, they announced the preparation of a Summit of the Heads of the States and Governments of the East African community very soon in order to review, analyze and make the other commitments in order to achieve the objective that the community has set itself: to support the Congolese Government in its efforts to restore peace and security on Congolese territory, particularly in the East of the Democratic Republic of Congo. **(RTNB)**

The African Union Peace and Security Council is ready to support the peace initiatives of the First Lady H.E Angeline NDAYISHIMIYE

On Monday August 28, 2023, the First Lady of Burundi, H.E Angeline Ndayishimiye, participated as President of the Peace Mission of the First Ladies of the African

Continent (MIPREDA), in the 3rd consultative meeting between the Peace Mission of the First Ladies of the African Continent (MIPREDA) and the Peace Council and Security of the African Union which took place in

Burundi, on the shores of Lake Tanganyika. That meeting, which also brings together the Representatives of the Regional Economic Communities and those of the Regional Mechanisms for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution, was held with the aim of taking the stock of the security situation on the continent.



In her speech, the President of MIPREDA indicated that that institution is determined to “keep permanent contact with the Peace and Security Council as well as with the deliberative bodies of the Regional Economic Communities and Regional Mechanisms in matters of peace and security” and that it is willing to collaborate with those institutions in other areas “such as the humanitarianism”, in order to alleviate “the suffering that the people of Africa are fronting”.

She took the opportunity to welcome the holding of those meetings at a time when her country, Burundi, currently chairs the Peace and Security Council of the African Union before reminding the merits of uniting all the parties stakeholders on the issue of Peace and security. “We are in the process of revitalizing this Mission of the First Ladies, and we can only achieve this with the help of each of you,” she said.

She noted that joining the forces will “build the Africa we want, an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, led by its own sons and daughters and representing a dynamic force on the world stage.”

H.E Angeline NDAYISHIMIYE said that she was concerned about the deterioration of the humanitarian situation experienced by hundreds of thousands of Afri-

cans. “I express my compassion to them and express the hope that the suffering they are enduring will soon end,” she declared before congratulating the role and active involvement of the institutions that were present and wishing them that the efforts that they are currently deploying “are crowned with success, for the interest of our entire continent.”

The President of MIPREDA also spoke on the resurgence of unconstitutional power grabs in Africa. She reminded that five countries are currently suspended from the African Union in that context. “This wind of Coups d’Etat that we believed belonged to the past is resurfacing,” she lamented.

Along the same lines, she spoke about the political and security situation prevailing in Niger. “In my capacity as President of MIPREDA and Mother, I implore that the diplomatic channels be favored to resolve the crisis that Niger is going through”; “both the efforts made by the Community of West African States (ECOWAS), for a rapid return to constitutional order and also congratulates the Peace and Security Council which took up the issue.» During those meetings, the Representatives of various regional bodies and communities, like ECOWAS and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and many others, strongly thanked the First Lady of Burundi for her firm commitment to lasting peace in Africa and Burundi.

Ambassador Willy NYAMITWE, the President of the Peace and Security Council within the African Union, for his part, reiterated the desire and commitment of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) to support the initiatives of the First Ladies, through MIPREDA, in order to establish peace and security on the African continent.

Note that it was the first time that that meeting was held in Burundi and that the First Lady of Burundi has chaired the Peace Mission of the First Ladies of Africa, since May 2023 for a period of two years. **(Presidency)**

The surge in prices of essential products is about a structural nature



The devaluation of the local currency has the repercussions on the surge in prices of basic necessities including sugar, declared on wednesday august 30, 2023 the Minister of Commerce, Transport, Industry and Tourism. During the plenary session devoted to the oral questions with debate, Madame

Marie Chantal Nijimbere was more explicit. In 2017, she reminded, a US dollar which was worth 1,729 BIF is today exchanged at 2,850 BIF, that is, a devaluation rate of 66.33%. In addition, the spare parts imported by the SOSUMO Company are purchased in foreign currency.

However, the Deputies remained on their thirst. "Where exactly is the impasse? They asked.

Regarding the sugar, the Sugar Company of Moso (SOSUMO) is aware of the disparity between supply and demand, which has also pushed it to import 50% of sugar.



Fair sharing remains the crux of the problem for certain Scientific methods and practices (MPs) which have criticized the overlapping of Ministries. Indeed, they explained, the slippages find fertile ground as long as it is the administrative staff at the base who draw up the lists of retailers of sugar delivered by the SOSUMO Company.

Despite the presence of a Representative of the Ministry of Commerce, Transport, Industry and Tourism in each province, Madame Marie Chantal Nijimbere expresses her regret regarding the complicity and cronyism of certain Administrative officials involved in the distribution chain of the sugar. He added that that situation is worrying and requires a particular attention in order to guarantee the integrity and transparency of the distribution processes, by preventing and sanctioning any form of collusion or corruption.

A 25 kg bag does not exceed an amount of 166,000 BIF at SOSUMO Company, analyzed the plenary which cannot believe it when the population buys that product at 8,000 BIF per kilogram. Many people do not even find that rare commodity, a sign of the existence of speculators who hide it. Therefore, the sugar produced at SOSUMO Company does not arrive safely, concluded the plenary which immediately proposed the structural aspect as a way out. The task should be easy with the establishment of the average budget system, commented the Representatives of the people who established a parallelism between the monitoring-evaluation com-

mittee of the sugar distribution chain to the joint security committee has already proven its efficiency.

The change in packaging of the imported sugar sold in SOSUMO bags worried more than one Deputy.

The current operation in terms of trade reassured the government envoy. And the plenary proposed to import the sugar already packaged in bags on which the SOSUMO Company emblem is printed. The country of the origin of that product should also appear on the packaging. In addition to the compliance with the standards, shortfalls will also be avoided in the purchase of the SOSUMO Company bags and their sewing.

Furthermore, it is under the article 82 of the budget law, fiscal year 2023-2024, that the administrative authorities at the base impose the fines on the traders who increase the price, reassured the member of the Government.



But, noted the Deputies that the increase in the official price is sometimes justified by the distance from the supply centers of Brarudi products whose suppliers have assimilated the law of least effort. Result: the periphery is abandoned without any other form of process. If it is the retailer on the periphery which travels to get the supplies at its own expense from a *Solid State Drive* (SSD) or a Mega, it goes without saying that it increases the selling price. The Deputies plead for the variation of Brarudi products according to the location of the trade, like fuel.

Even if the plenary regretted the monopoly nature of Brarudi, it was stung by the rapid deterioration of the health of the population who consume the alcoholic beverages in large quantities in excess of alcohol in that case the KICK Drastic measures should be taken as soon as possible to control the manufacture of these local products which are sold at low prices, suggested the Deputies who also doubted the services of the Burundian Office for Standardization and Quality Control (BBN).

If the latter is not well equipped to live up to its mission, the Government should rectify the situation, they pleaded. **(National Assembly)**

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation receives in audience Madame France Begin, the new United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Representative in Burundi



On August 31, 2023, His Excellency Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation received in audience Madame FRANCE BEGIN, the new Representative of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in Burundi.

After the greetings and a warm welcome by His Excellency the Minister, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Representative in Burundi presented him her letters of appointment to her new position in Burundi.

During their discussions, His Excellency Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO expressed his satisfaction with the good relations that Burundi maintains with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and appreciated

the activities carried out by that Organization in favor of the Burundian population in general and the children in particular. He mentioned that the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) stood by Burundi during the difficult times that the country was undergoing. His Excellency the Minister promised the frank collaboration, indicating that his Office remains open as well as those of other services in order to facilitate the good cooperation.

In turn, Madame FRANCE BEGIN thanked His Excellency the Minister for his warm welcome and promised to work better with her collaborators. She indicated that she will visit the field projects in the country to see the achievements of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in Burundi.

In miscellaneous, His Excellency Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO informed Madame France BEGIN who is of Canadian origin that the country is in the process of strengthening the diplomatic relations which had been suspended at a certain time with Canada. He indicated that the process of reopening the Embassy of Burundi in Canada is underway; which was appreciated by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Representative in Burundi. (MFADC)

Proclamation of the mark set for the competitive examination for admission to the post-basic education



On Thursday August 31, 2023, the Minister of National Education and Scientific Research Dr. François Havyarimana held a press

briefing on preparations for the 2023-2024 school year. A mark greater than or equal to 34% or 68 out of 200

and the mark set for the entrance examination to post-basic education, indicated the Minister in charge of national education Dr. François Havyarimana.

Admission to post-basic education in public schools in technical, scientific, language and educational sectors with a boarding school system as well as public schools in Bujumbura town hall is a subject to obtaining a grade higher or equal 116 out of 200 or 58%, said Dr. François Havyarimana.

Exceptionally, all the winners in the national competition of the Batwa community who scored at least 68 out of 200 will be oriented to boarding schools but can also be oriented to municipal high schools if they wish, added the Minister in charge of national education

A mark of 70% is the mark set to be oriented to a school of excellence, if the winner has the best mark in his municipality or in his province, underlined Dr.François Havyarimana. He added that the 2023-2024 school year is set for September 18, 2023.

For the number of 73,824 candidates who passed the national competition, 21,678 students have a mark greater than or equal to 50%. Out of 126 Batwa candidates, 104 were successful.

Admission to vocational training centers is conditional on passing the certification and orientation competition as well as in other sectors of public schools and in municipal high schools, that is to say having at least 68 out of 200, the students con-

cerned benefit from the day school system.

Taking into account the success rate in the provinces, the province of Karusi is the first with 99.4%, Ruyigi the 2nd with 96.6%, Makamba the 3rd with 95.75% and the province of Bujumbura Mairie the fourth with 74.94%.

In terms of rankings by schools, the top ten schools are as follows: Ngagara School of Excellence at Bujumbura Town, Musinzira School of Excellence in Gitega, Makamba School of Excellence, Rusengo School of Excellence at Ruyigi, the Musenyi School of Excellence at Ngozi, Little Seminar Dutwe at Ruyigi, Muslim Helfen Mairie, St Esprit at Bujumbura Town, St Bernadette Ngozi and ENR Nyabugete at Bujumbura Town. **(RTNB)**

Kigarika seed center about to be rehabilitated



On monday august 28, 2023, two Directors General of the Ministry of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock, the Director General of the Institute of the Agronomic Sciences of Burundi (ISABU) and that of Livestock in the company of technicians from the Burundian Office of Urban Planning, Housing and Construction (OBUHA) visited the Kigarika seed center in Ruyigi province to see how to rehabilitate what can be rehabilitated or build new buildings that will house a rabbit breeding centre, as recommended by the Head of State.

During that visit, the two General Directors affirmed that they are in discussion with the Provincial Director of Environment, Agriculture and

Livestock to reactivate the multiplication of the different seeds at the innovation center of Kigarika starting with the multiplication of rabbits.

After the Kigarika innovation center, the Director General of ISABU Institute and the one in charge of livestock visited the Institute of the Agronomic Sciences of Burundi (ISABU) of Mahwa in Gitega province, to see the progress of the rehabilitation and the extension works of the stable and the pigsty of that Institute.

During the visit to the national zootechnical station of Mahwa, the Director

General of ISABU announced that this Institute is currently reviewing the modalities for granting cattle of high genetic value to the General Directorate in charge of breeding. According to the Director General of ISABU, these cattle will be multiplied at the Karusi multiplication center that the General Directorate of Livestock has just built, to facilitate the breeders' access to the livestock of high genetic value.

In that way, the farmers who need the domestic animals will not always have to resort to ISABU Institute, but will be able to obtain them from the General Directorate of the Livestock, concluded the Director General of ISABU Institute. **(RTNB)**

Creativity is not the exclusive prerogative of Westerners, according to a young manufacturer of various machines



On tuesday 29 august, 2023, a young innovator, by the name of Mr. Claude Bimenyimana living at Songa locality, in Gitega commune and province, is at work in his project of manufacturing the mechanical machines to contribute to the improve-

ment of conditions of life in the rural world. Mr. Bimenyimana therefore has a production center for various machines.

In the agricultural sector, there are, among others, irrigation pumps, hullers for rice, corn, wheat, sorghum, beans, etc. In livestock farming, he manufactures the machines that cut the fodder grasses and the livestock feed mixers.

In the field of infrastructure, he produces the machines that make the quality units. Mr. Bimenyimana also manufactures the carpentry machines. His genius comes from a single year spent in a secondary technical school where he failed, he testified.

He added that the motivation to venture into his field emanated from the messages of the Burundian Head of State, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, in his awareness raising to the young people to be enterprising to join the rest of Burundians on the path to development.

Speaking about the challenges he faces, Mr. Bimenyimana mainly raised the financial inability to obtain a machine called "Tour", which would help him in speeding up his productions. Hence, he asked the public authorities or national and international organizations to visit his production center to assess its condition and be able to lend him a helping hand, if possible, he pleaded.

Note that the same center has a charitable character due to the fact that it provides free supervision to out-of-school children, orphans or destitute children in the manufacture of the machines mentioned above. Mr. Bimenyimana would also like a support for the improving of his production center with a view to welcoming many children in the aforementioned category as well as others who wish to do so. Creativity is not the prerogative of the Westerners only, but it is endowed to every courageous person, he concluded. **(ABP)**

geous person, he concluded. **(ABP)**

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REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI

PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC
Secretariat-General of the State**MEDIA RELEASE N°10 CONSECUTIVE TO THE CABINET MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 30 AUGUST 2023**

A Cabinet meeting was held in Bujumbura on Wednesday 30th of August 2023, under the chairmanship of His Excellency Major General Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE, President of the Republic of Burundi.

After the presentation and adoption of the agenda, His Excellency the President of the Republic invited the Prime Minister to present the summary of the observations resulting from the preparatory meeting of the Council of Ministers which the Prime Minister chaired on Friday 19th of August 2023, and Thursday 04 August 2023, and which was devoted to the analysis of the same files on the agenda.

After restitution by the Prime Minister to the President of the Republic, the following issues were analyzed:

1. “Burundi Emerging Country in 2040 and Developed in 2060” Vision Paper, presented by the Services of the Presidency of the Republic.

The development of the “Vision Burundi Emerging Country in 2040 and Developed in 2060” was initiated following the National Forum on Development, held in Bujumbura in November 2021.

It also takes into account the conclusions as well as the recommendations from the various fora organized with Youth, Women, the Diaspora, the Private Sector, Civil Society, Political Parties and Elected Officials. It also incorporates the fruits of exchanges carried out with Development Partners.

The “Vision Burundi Emerging Country in 2040 and Developed in 2060” is a long-term development planning instrument, which will guide policies and strategies in terms of sustainable development, with the aim of meeting the needs of present and future generations.

The ambition to make Burundi “an emerging country in 2040 and a developed country in 2060” demonstrates the commitment of the Government of Burundi to transform the economic and institutional landscape of Burundi, improve performance in all sectors of activity and the living conditions of the population. To achieve this, the Vision identifies five closely linked pillars, namely:

- i. State commitment;
- ii. Economic efficiency;
- iii. Social equity;
- iv. Sustainable ecology and heritage;
- v. The fruitful partnership.

The planning structures will then have to translate it into programs and projects.

The emergence of Burundi in 2040 will require the achievement of twenty-two (22) strategic objectives.

For its effective implementation, this Vision requires ownership by the population.

Its implementation also requires the promotion of demographic growth compatible with the viable and sustainable management of available resources, but also with the development of efficient human capital, capable of being valued on the job markets at national and international levels.

The Vision Burundi Emerging Country in 2040 is stated as follows: “By 2040, Burundi will be a peaceful country, where everyone lives in decent conditions, where no one dies from an avoidable cause, with a competitive economy driven by the agro-food and industrial sectors with high added value and by mining for the benefit of the society, all in a preserved natural environment and with consideration of gender and equity.

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This document therefore constitutes a road map for sustainable economic and social development.

This Vision is based on three main issues, namely:

- A structural transformation of the economy to stimulate an acceleration of economic growth without hindering ecological balance;
- Decision-making based on evidence and a management and financing approach focused on results/programs;
- An improvement in the conditions and quality of life of the population with sustainable and controlled demographic growth;

After exchange and debate, the document was adopted with the following observations and recommendations:

- Insert images into the document that reflect what Burundi will be an Emerging Country in 2040 and Developed in 2060;
- At the level of the objective related to the improvement of the institutional capacities of the State, place particular emphasis on the promotion of human resources, the strengthening of the judicial, security and administrative apparatus;
- At the level of the objective related to non-dependence on external aid, insist on:
 - o Promotion of trade;
 - o Promotion of foreign investments;
 - o Technology transfer in various sectors;
 - o Promotion of good economic and social governance.
- Translate the document into Kirundi as soon as it is finalized;
- Proceed with the disclosure of this document in Parliament and among the entire population so that everyone can absorb and appropriate it;
- In terms of the accompanying documents for this Vision:
 - o Insist on the promotion of statistics;
 - o Indicate the basic elements of the country's current economy;
 - o Indicate the intermediate objectives to achieve the "Emerging Country in 2040 and Developed in 2060" as well as the objectively evaluable indicators.

- In the implementation of this Vision, each ministry must indicate the status of the different areas of its competence, the objectives to be achieved as well as the verifiable indicators, and what is missing for the objective to be achieved.

2. Bill on the ratification by the Republic of Burundi of the Convention on the privileges and immunities of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, presented by the Minister of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS.

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria was created in 2002 to raise, manage and invest donor funds to fight three of the world's deadliest infectious diseases.

Since the launch of its activities in 2002, this Fund has already approved 16 grant agreements in favor of Burundi.

Support from the Global Fund contributes to the purchase of medicines up to 100% of Burundi's needs for Tuberculosis, 90% for AIDS and 85% for Malaria, including 100% of the mosquito nets for the mass campaign.

To date, four (4) grants are being implemented and one of them has a closing date of December 31, 2025, while the other three (3) will close on December 31, 2023.

This ratification is a continuation of the commitments already made by the Republic of Burundi upon the signing of the Framework Agreement with the Global Fund in November 2015.

Following the signing of this Agreement, the Convention on the privileges and immunities of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria was signed by the Republic of Burundi on August 10, 2016.

Ratification of the Convention thus constitutes the final stage of a procedure already underway.

After analysis, the project was adopted.

3. Draft decree establishing the Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct for health care and service providers in Burundi, presented by the Minister of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS.

During its various field and supervision visits, the Ministry in charge of public health noted that certain aspects deserve improvement with regard to the provision of health care and services in health facilities.

Gaps are observed from reception until the patient leaves the healthcare structures.

All these inadequacies in relation to the entire process of providing quality care and services must be transcribed into a Code which will serve as a professional guide, but also as a reference for taking sanctions in the event of a breach.

This Code, which is of great importance, provides information on:

- The provisions allowing the provision of quality services and care by providers of all services in a health facility,
- The limits of the duties and obligations of patients to facilitate the work of providers in a care structure,
- The sanctions to be taken against any person who has violated the provisions of this Code.

Generally speaking, this draft decree determines the rules, uses and principles which all healthcare and health service providers must follow in the exercise of their profession.

As a reminder, the Council of Ministers analyzed this draft decree in December 2021 and returned it for rework.

At the end of the analysis, the draft decree was adopted with the following observations and recommendations:

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- Ensure that health care services are easily accessible in public structures like in private structures;
- Raise awareness among healthcare providers of the need and importance of respecting medical confidentiality;
- Study ways and means to limit the brain drain in this sector;
- Teach medical ethics to aspiring doctors from the start of their medical studies so that they become deeply imbued with it;
- Raise awareness among doctors so that they change their mentality and understand that they are there to help the sick;
- Do everything possible so that in 2025 each municipality has at least one hospital and one doctor;
- Identify a hospital that could accommodate major personalities and equip it accordingly, in order to limit the use of foreign hospitals.

4. Draft decree establishing, organizing and functioning of the Order of Allied Health Professions in Burundi “OPASBU”.

5. Draft decree establishing, organization and operation of the Order of Nurses and Midwives in Burundi (OISAF).

These two projects were presented by the Minister of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS.

The Government of Burundi has always been concerned with promoting the quality of care and services and protecting the population.

It is in this context that the Order of Physicians of Burundi was established to provide support in the control and regulation of the quality of care.

In the 2020 law establishing the Code for the provision of health care and services in Burundi, the establishment of professional orders is provided for.

Moreover, the advent of private schools and institutes has led the Ministry in charge of public health to manage care and health service providers with diverse profiles at all care and organizational levels of the health system.

Furthermore, health care and service providers felt the need to align themselves with their colleagues in countries around the world in general and those in the East African Community in particular.

Grouped together in various professional associations since the 1990s, they have expressed the wish to have a body, or better still a legal framework to support the public authority, in the promotion and provision of health care and services.

These two draft decrees establishing the professional orders fill this legal void in order to allow professional organizations to participate in the control and regulation of the quality of the provider, in order to protect the beneficiaries of health care and services.

After analysis, the two draft decrees were adopted with the following observations and recommendations:

- Remove state subsidies as resources for the operation of these Orders;
- Delete the provision relating to the exemption from seizure of the assets of these Orders.

6. Any Other Business

- The Minister of National Education and Scientific Research informed the Council of Ministers on the setting of the minimum pass mark for the national competition and methods of orientation for post-basic education, Edition 2023.

To determine this minimum score, the following parameters were taken into account:

- The number of places available in the first years of the post-basic cycle;
- The number of places available in public boarding schools and Bujumbura Town Hall;
- The budget available for the maintenance of boarding students;

- The number of places available in high schools;
- The number of students per class.

Taking all these elements into account, the pass mark for the Edition 2023 national competition was set at 68 out of 200, i.e. 34%, while the mark giving access to public boarding schools and public schools in the City of Bujumbura is 116 out of 200 or 58%.

- To close, His Excellency the President of the Republic asked members of the Government to communicate regularly on the activities currently being carried out or planned in various areas.

Done at Bujumbura, 31 August 2023
Prosper NTAHORWAMIYE

Secretary-General and Spokesman.-

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation

Department of Communication

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