



The President of the Republic of Burundi brings food assistance to drought-stricken households in Kirundo province



On Tuesday, February 11, 2025, Burundi's Head of State, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, accompanied by His Wife H.E. Angéline Ndayishimiye, provided food assistance to 11,266 households in the Kigoma and Kigina zones of Bugabira Commune in Kirundo Province.

The Province of Kirundo has 22,236 households in food difficulties, the

cause being nothing other than a nasty drought which, in 5 zones of Busoni, Bugabira and Kirundo Communes, has severely affected the A crop season.

In his message of support and solidarity to the people of Kirundo, Burundi's Head of State, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, reassured them that agricultural production for crop season A would be overabundant everywhere else in the rest of the country, and that

In this Edition:	page
The President of the Republic of Burundi brings food assistance to drought-stricken households in Kirundo province	1
President Ndayishimiye receives in audience Raila Odinga, former Kenyan Prime Minister	2
The Burundian Presidential Couple in Addis Ababa for the 38th Summit of the African Union and the 29th Assembly of the Organization of African First Ladies for Development	3
Strong participation in the verification of electoral lists prior to the 2025 elections	3
The Speaker of the Senate urges future elected representatives to be good leaders	4
The Prime Minister presents the decisions of the Dar-Es-Salaam Peace Summit for the East of the Democratic Republic of the Congo	5
Burundi's Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation represents the President of the Republic of Burundi and African Union Champion for the Youth, Peace and Security agenda, at a high-level event on "Youth, Peace and Security"	5

households in the 5 exceptionally-affected zones would be supported with food supplies via a national momentum of solidarity that has always characterized Burundians, until the harvest came in. He encouraged the population of the affected areas to remain calm, as all the provinces will be coming to their aid, not in the form of alms, but in a spirit of sharing as members of the same family: "It's not a question of helping, it's a question of sharing (it is not a help, it is an act of sharing)", suggested the Burundian Head of State.

According to the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, only God Almighty is the Master of atmospheric phenomena and weather forecasting. However, everyone is called upon to protect the environment, to plant trees and manage

periods of insufficient or lacking rainfall through good management of rainwater and the practice of irrigating fields. He encouraged them to irrigate their vegetable gardens and prepare for the B season, since by the goodness of the almighty God, rain will fall sufficiently.

He also invited all Burundians to engage in development work while remaining vigilant, preserving peace and security of the country, and having the spirit to defend and protect the territorial integrity of Burundi, each according to their abilities.

The message of Burundi's Head of State, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, ended with a prayer for good rainfall in the Bugesera region for the upcoming B crop season. **(Presidency)**

President Ndayishimiye receives in audience Raila Odinga, former Kenyan Prime Minister



On Wednesday February 12, 2025, Burundi's Head of State, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, granted an audience at Ngozi Palace to the former Kenyan Prime Minister Raila Odinga, candidate for the post of Chairman of the African Union Commission. The audience gave these authorities the opportunity to exchange views on the security and socio-economic situation prevailing in Burundi, in the region and on the African continent as a whole.

With regard to the national situation, the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, shared with his guest an overview of the socio-

-economic situation in Burundi, where the population is peacefully pursuing its income-generating activities. He stressed that agriculture is the driving force behind development in Burundi. Referring to Burundi's vision of becoming an "emerging country by 2040 and a developed country by 2060", Burundi's Number One stressed that all the potential to achieve this is available in Burundi, citing, among other things, the country's human resources and abundant natural resources.

On a regional level, they discussed in particular the situation of insecurity prevailing in the east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. He reiterated his plan for peace in the region, and took the opportunity to call on the international community to take effective action in support of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Indeed, it is an emergency to eradicate the various armed groups operating on Congolese soil; this is the only way to bring peace to this battered region. "Peace in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, this country-continent, would even be a major pillar in achieving Africa's vision through Agenda 2063, where we want a prosperous Africa", the Burundian President told his host.

The former Kenyan Prime Minister, Raila Odinga, shared with the Burundian Head of State his vision and program should he be elected Chairman of the African Union Commission. In particular, he emphasized development, the stabilization of peace and security, the development of intra-African trade and the promotion of youth.

The continental champion of youth, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, shared with his host the exper-

ence of Burundi, where young people are actively involved in fighting against unemployment by creating jobs through entrepreneurial projects and other income-generating activities. This experience is shared with other young Africans at the continental dialogue of African youth held each year in Bujumbura, the capital of African youth.

The audience was an opportunity for the Burundian Head of State to reiterate Burundi's commitment to joining the efforts of all African countries so that together we can build a prosperous and peaceful Africa. **(Presidency)**

The Burundian Presidential Couple in Addis Ababa for the 38th Summit of the African Union and the 29th Assembly of the Organization of African First Ladies for Development



The President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, accompanied by the First Lady Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye, arrived on Friday February 14, 2025, in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia), where he will take part in the 38th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, scheduled for February 15 and 16, 2025. As for the First Lady of Burundi, she will be taking part in the 29th Ordinary General Assembly of the Organization of African First Ladies for Development (OPDAD), scheduled to coincide with the African Union Summit.

The Burundian Head of State, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, was welcomed on arrival at Addis Ababa's Bole International Airport by senior Ethiopian authorities, including the Ethiopian Minister of Agriculture, Dr Girma Amente, accompanied by the Burundian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Ambassador Albert SHINGIRO, and Burundi's Permanent Representative to the African Union, Ambassador Willy NYAMITWE. At the Residence of the Burundian Embassy in Addis Ababa, the Burundian community in Ethiopia was also on hand to extend a warm welcome to the Father of their Nation, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye.

The 38th Summit of the African Union, focused on promoting restorative justice and racial healing, under the theme "Justice for Africans and people of African descent through reparations."

As stated on the agenda, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union will also proceed with the election and appointment of new members of the African Union organs, specifically the President and Vice-President of the African Union Commission, whose terms have expired. **(Presidency)**

Strong participation in the verification of electoral lists prior to the 2025 elections

As the major electoral event of 2025 approaches, the Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI) has called on all registered voters to verify their registration information at their respective polling stations. This initiative aims to correct any potential errors that may have occurred during the data entry process.

In response, the Honorable Members of Parliament visited their respective constituencies. The First Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, the Honorable Sabine Ntakarutimana, made the trip to her

native hill Gasuru, in the commune of Gasorwe, province of Muyinga. Meanwhile, the Second Deputy Speaker, the Honorable Abel Gashatsi, visited his native hill Teka, in the commune of Mbuye, province of Muramvya.

The general observation was that the population responded to the call, especially in the afternoon, as most were busy with field work in the morning for the B crop season.

Errors in entering voters' names, national identity card



numbers or relatives' names were noted and immediately corrected by the CENI agents on site. On the last

day of verification, Wednesday February 12, 2025, the population responded massively to CENI's call, more than on the two previous days. **(National Assembly)**

The Speaker of the Senate urges future elected representatives to be good leaders



source of the country's governance, since it elects its leaders. He therefore called on the various groups present to consider the lessons and advice received, each in their own field, to ensure that the forthcoming elections run smoothly in a climate of freedom and peace.

According to the experts, peace is irreplaceable in everyday life, as it underpins all sustainable development. They encouraged participants to promote peace and security, stressing that nothing can be achieved in their absence.

Under the patronage of the President of the Senate, the Right Honorable Emmanuel SINZOHAGERA, the Senate of Burundi, in collaboration with International Christian Ministries (ICM), organized an exchange workshop on electoral disputes and the consolidation of peace and security, on Tuesday February 11, 2025, at the Sunrise Hotel, located in the province of Gitega.

In his opening speech, the Speaker of the Senate, the Right Honorable Emmanuel SINZOHAGERA, reminded participants that this initiative was motivated by the need to stress the importance of peace and security, which form the bedrock of development. He insisted that everyone must work to avoid conflicts between Burundians during the electoral period.

Continuing his speech, the Right Honorable Emmanuel SINZOHAGERA asserted that the population is the

In conclusion, the Speaker of the Senate, the Right Honorable Emmanuel SINZOHAGERA, urged future elected representatives to be good leaders, capable of effectively representing the population. He also encouraged those who would not be re-elected to accept their departure without fear, urging them to prepare themselves to leave their positions in a way as that leaves a good reputation behind them.

The workshop was also attended by the two Deputy Speakers of the Senate, Honorable Denise Ndadaye and Honorable Fabrice Nkurunziza, as well as Senators, the Minister of the Interior, Community Development and Public Security, senior Senate officials, representatives of religious denominations, political parties, defense and security corps, provincial governors, as well as representatives of the Independent National Electoral Commission, the Independent National Human Rights Commission, and other institutions. **(Senate)**

The Prime Minister presents the decisions of the Dar-Es-Salaam Peace Summit for the East of the Democratic Republic of the Congo



The Prime Minister of Burundi Lieutenant General of Police Gervais Ndirakobuca returned on Monday February 10, 2025 from Dar-Es-Salaam in Tanzania, where he had represented the Burundian Head of State at the joint summit of the Heads of State of the East African Community and the Southern African Development Community, whose aim was to work out solutions aimed at restoring peace and development in the East of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in order to put an end to the conflicts threatening regional stability.

The Prime Minister of Burundi, Lieutenant General of Police Gervais Ndirakobuca, specified that the clauses of this Summit include: the immediate cessation of the war in the East of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, helping and consoling those affected by this war, the protection of Goma airport and the regions surrounding it, making the roads in the city of Goma passable, opening up Goma airport and Lake Kivu for the benefit of passengers.

According to Prime Minister Lieutenant General of Police Gervais Ndirakobuca, on this occasion, the Chiefs of Staff of the countries of East and Southern Africa were asked to meet within 5 days to draw up a strategic plan to implement the clauses of this summit. He added that the Summit had ordered a meeting of the Ministers of the East African Community and the Southern African Development Community within 30 days to analyze the report on stopping the war and to set up a Commission to implement the decisions taken by the Summit of Heads of State; prepare a roadmap showing the activities to be carried out, the corresponding budget and timetable, and set the topics for the next meeting of the Heads of State of the member countries of the East African Community and the Southern Africa Development Community.

The Prime Minister of Burundi added that, during the Summit, the Heads of State had decided to continue supporting the promotion of peace in the east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and had asked any military personnel not invited by that country to leave. (RTNB)

Burundi's Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation represents the President of the Republic of Burundi and African Union Champion for the Youth, Peace and Security agenda, at a high-level event on "Youth, Peace and Security"

On the sidelines of the 46th Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers of the African Union held from February 12 to 14, 2025, as a prelude to the Summit of Heads of State and Government of the African Union scheduled to take place in Addis Ababa from February 15 to 16, 2025, a high-level side event on Youth, Peace and Security was organized under the patronage of His Excellency Evariste Ndiyashimiye, President of the Republic of Burundi, also Champion of the African

Union for the Youth, Peace and Security Agenda.

Organized in collaboration with the African Union (AU), the UN, and the international organization of the Francophonie (OIF), this event demonstrates a strong international commitment to the implementation of initiatives aimed at strengthening the role of youth in the consolidation of peace and security on the African continent.



In his speech, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Ambassador Albert Shingiro, who represented the President of Burundi, His Excellency Mr. Evariste Ndayishimiye, highlighted the crucial importance of youth in the consolidation of peace and development in Africa. The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Albert Shingiro, underlined the efforts of young leaders in conflict prevention and their inclusion in decision-making processes at all levels. He recalled the commitments made, notably the Pact for the Future adopted at the UN and African initiatives for youth empowerment.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Ambassador Albert Shingiro, cited positive examples of countries that have adopted national plans for youth, peace and security, while calling for concrete action to improve conditions for young

people. He emphasized education as a powerful tool for transforming Africa, and called for investment in sustainable agriculture and entrepreneurship to strengthen stability; he called for restorative justice for past injustices, and encouraged young people to take an active part in building the Africa of tomorrow.

At the closing ceremony, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Albert Shingiro, welcomed youth as the driving force behind Africa's development. He insisted on the essential significance of young people's commitment to building a better future, recalling that the challenges are many, but that the determination of youth makes everything possible. He called for concrete action, a change of mentality and unity to transform ideas into reality. He concluded by thanking the participants and stressing the importance of continuing to move forward, inspired by a quote from Martin Luther King. The Pact for the Future side event was thus officially closed.

It should be noted that the concept of "Youth, Peace and Security" was introduced by United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250 in 2015. It aims at recognizing the crucial role of young people in promoting peace, preventing conflict and building resilient post-conflict societies. The implementation of this resolution on the African continent is essential to strengthen the participation of young people in decision-making processes, foster their civic engagement and offer them the means to contribute positively to stability and peace. (MFADC)

Proceedings of the 46th Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers of the African Union



On Thursday February 13, 2025, the 46th Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers of the African Union was held in Addis Ababa. The aim of the meeting was to prepare for the Summit of Heads of State and Government of the African Un-

ion, scheduled to take place in Addis Ababa from February 15 to 16, 2025. One of the points on the agenda was the examination of the report of the forty-ninth (49th) ordinary session of the Permanent Representatives Committee (PRC). The theme of the 2025 African Union Summit is "Justice for Africans and People of African Descent for Reparations".

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Albert Shingiro, who took part in the meeting, welcomed the work accomplished by the Permanent Representatives Committee (*COREP*), presented by the Chairman of the Permanent Representatives Committee, Ambassador Madame Khadija M'Barek of Mauritania. The *COREP* is responsible for managing the activities of the African Union.

He noted that the analyses and recommendations pre-

sented by the Permanent Representatives Committee demonstrated a strong commitment to strengthening the African Union and finding appropriate solutions to the continent's contemporary challenges. The points that merit particular attention are: the thorny and recurring question of financing the African Union, and the response to humanitarian crises.

Regarding the humanitarian situation, Burundi, like other African countries, has welcomed refugees in response to the challenges of internal displacement and climate change. For the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Ambassador Albert Shingiro, solidarity and cooperation between States are essential to provide sustainable responses to humanitarian issues. There is therefore an urgent need to speed up the effective operationalization of the African Humanitarian Agency, and to strengthen the coordination of efforts between member states for more effective management of humanitarian crises. But at the same time, we need to tackle the root causes of humanitarian crises, notably armed conflicts and proxy wars that are multiplying on the conti-

ment, pandemics and climate change that save no one, the fight against trafficking and the systematic plundering of natural resources.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Ambassador Albert Shingiro, indicated that Burundi fully supports the *COREP* report and remains fully committed to working alongside the African Union to make a positive, responsible and constructive contribution to the implementation of Agenda 2063.

On the sidelines of the African Union Executive Council meeting in Addis Ababa, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Ambassador Albert Shingiro, held bilateral talks with his Egyptian counterpart, His Excellency Badr Abdelatty, to discuss ways of further strengthening cooperation ties between Egypt and Burundi.

He also held bilateral talks with his Comorian counterpart, His Excellency Mbaé Mohamed, to exchange views on bilateral, regional and global issues of common interest. (MFADC)

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation presents Burundi's position on the report from the African Centre for Disease Prevention and Control



On Thursday February 13, 2025, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Ambassador Albert Shingiro, gave Burundi's position on the examination of the report by the African Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (CDC-Africa), one of the items analyzed at the 46th meeting of the Executive Council of the African Union.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Ambassador Albert

Shingiro, welcomed the remarkable work accomplished by the Director General of CDC-Africa, Mr. Dr. Jean Kaseya, and all the staff who work day and night to prevent pandemics and provide rapid, effective responses when they occur. He also congratulated Dr. Kaseya on the clarity of the report, which will show just how far the continent is progressing in protecting the health of its populations, despite the many challenges facing the country today.

In this 46th session, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation spoke about the situation before covid-19, a pandemic that literally brought down the economies of the African continent. He also spoke of epidemics such as Mpox and Marburg, where CDC-Africa was able to coordinate a rapid response, mobilize experts and provide effective support to affected countries. However, there are challenges to overcome: Africans must ensure that the Regional Coordination Centers are fully operational.

There is also the question of funding for CDC-Africa, which remains a cause for concern. Without sufficient

resources, it will be difficult to guarantee a rapid and effective response to the continent's health crises. The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Albert Shingiro, urged each member state to assume its responsibilities and make a contribution commensurate with the challenges and expectations they have of their principal body in the field of health in Africa. Another essential point is the local manufacture of healthcare products. The covid-19 pandemic has taught us a valuable lesson: Africans

cannot always rely on other countries to supply vaccines, tests and medicines.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Ambassador Albert Shingiro, reaffirmed Burundi's commitment to working alongside the African Union to build a continent that is stronger and better prepared to face the health challenges of today and tomorrow with serenity. **(MFADC)**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation

Department of Communication

www.mae.gov.bi

Twitter: @MAEBurundi