



## President Ndayishimiye pays tribute to Prince Louis Rwagasore on the occasion of the 63<sup>rd</sup> independence anniversary



ishimiye, accompanied by the First Lady, HE Angeline Ndayishimiye, laid a wreath at the Mausoleum of Prince Louis Rwagasore, national hero of independence, in the presence of senior officials.

Still paying great tribute to Prince Louis Rwagasore, the presidential couple also laid a wreath at Independence Square. Later at Intwari Stadium, the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Ex-

**B**urundi celebrated its 63<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of independence on Tuesday, July 1<sup>st</sup> 2025. The President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Nday-

ishimiye, accompanied by the First Lady, HE Angeline Ndayishimiye, toured the stadium, greeting the crowd gathered in celebration of the regained sovereignty 63 years ago. A moment of joy and pride shared be-

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tween the Father of the Nation and his people.

The ceremonies marking the 63<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of Burundi's independence were highlighted by the review of Burundian troops at Boulevard de l'UPRONA, by His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, President of the Republic and Commander-in-Chief of the Defense and Security Forces.

At Intwari Stadium, an impressive parade of the Defense and Security Forces followed, accompanied by military bands. Soldiers and police officers, all marching in perfect harmony, demonstrated strength and discipline to the applause of the admiring public.

In his address, the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye urged the people to tirelessly work, to capitalize on the independence restored in 1962 at a great cost, strengthening the economy through development programs and ensuring everyone's involvement.

The Burundian Head of State also urged Burundian leaders to break away from bad practices that hindered the country's development, particularly calling on newly elected representatives to loyally serve the people. He announced zero tolerance for power-hungry individuals and sterile leadership. **(Presidency)**

### The Head of State, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, receives in audience a team of American investors and the Representative of the World Bank in Burundi



**T**he President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, received in audience on Wednesday, July 2, 2025, in Kibimba, a team of American investors from Facet Power, led by the President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the company, Amy McCrae Kessler. The purpose of their visit to Burundi is to explore business opportunities in the sectors of agriculture, water, and mining.

These investors expressed their gratitude to the Burundian people for their warm welcome and appreciated the beauty of Burundi, "a magnificent country," they emphasized, "a country where it is pleasant to live." Therefore, they expressed their willingness to invest in

the fields of water, agriculture, and mining.

The Head of State encouraged them, emphasizing that Burundi is still an unexploited country, rich in investment opportunities for investors. He assured them of strong cooperation from various ministries or the technical services they will need for their investment initiatives.

The Head of State then received in audience the Resident Representative of the World Bank in Burundi, Mrs. Hawa Cissé Wagué. She came to deliver a farewell message to His Excellency the President of the Republic of Burundi, as well as a message of gratitude for the fruitful cooperation between the Burundian Government and the World Bank during the three years of permanent representation in Burundi.

During their exchanges, the two dignitaries reviewed the achievements of the World Bank, notably the mobilization of over 1 billion US dollars over 3 years. This support significantly contributed to the Bank's involvement in Burundi's development by financing priority projects of the national development program, including the construction of the Jiji and Murembwe Dams.

According to the World Bank Representative in Burundi, Ms. Hawa Cissé Wagué, Burundi has significantly increased its capacity to absorb funding thanks to the re-



markable involvement of the President of the Republic. She further highlighted that the World Bank will continue to support the strategy for universal

access to energy and the actions to be taken to improve the impact of the macroeconomic situation on the beneficiaries of the Bank's contributions. **(Presidency)**

### Closure of the ordinary parliamentary session of April 2025



**O**n Monday, June 30, 2025, the Right Honorable Gélase Daniel Ndirakobuca formally closed the ordinary parliamentary session of April 2025, which coincided with the end of the 2020-2025 legislative term. However, Burundi's second ranking authority considered calling an extraordinary parliamentary session for the adoption of the second proposal related to the amendment of Law No. 1/04 of January 5, 2011 on the establishment of the Independent National Commission on Human Rights.

This proposal was to follow standard legal procedures by being included in the session's agenda and submitted to the Bureau of the National Assembly for analysis and voting. It was also noted that the first proposal, concerning the status of parliamentary staff, had already been adopted and promulgated as Law No. 1/16 of May 16, 2022.

Still on this chapter of the five-year review in terms of legislative achievements, 152 bills were analyzed and adopted across 15 regular sessions and one extraordinary session. Regarding the monitoring and support of government action, the National Assembly organized around a hundred plenary sessions during which reports on socio-economic issues were presented by the standing committees after field visits. These presentations included oral questions and debates with members of the Government to seek necessary clarifications and make recommendations.



In terms of collaboration with specialized institutions, the National Assembly regularly received reports and comments from the Court of Auditors. The National Assembly also received annual reports from institutions, namely the Ombudsman, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (CVR), and the Independent Human Rights Commission (CNIDH).

In addition, Parliament met in Congress to receive the oaths of office from the Ombudsman, the Independent National Electoral Commission, and members of the Government. Concerning the representatives of the population, the Honorable Deputies took advantage of the parliamentary recess to reach out to their fellow citizens. Officially, the National Assembly authorized a visit that took place throughout the country.

Regarding the ordinary parliamentary session that was scheduled, even though it took place against the backdrop of the electoral process, this in no way prevented the session from closing with another success. For example, the National Assembly analyzed and voted, as quickly as possible, on the bill setting the general budget of the Republic of Burundi for the 2025-2026 financial year. **(National Assembly)**

## Approval of candidates for the positions of Provincial Governor



In the extraordinary session convened by His Excellency the President of the Republic of Burundi, Major General Evariste Ndayishimiye on Thursday, July 3, 2025, in accordance with the Burundian Constitution in its article 192, point 9, the Senate of Burundi unanimously approved 5 names of candidates for the positions of Provincial Governor, proposed by the President of the Republic of Burundi.

This session was chaired by the Right Honorable Emmanuel Sinzohagera, President of the Senate. The name approved for the Province of Buhumuza is Mrs.



Denise Ndaruhekeye; for the Province of Bujumbura, it is Major General Aloys Ndayikengurukiye, for the Province of Burunga, it is Honorable Parfait Mboninyibuka, for the Province of Butanyerera, it is Police Brigadier General Victor Segasago and for the province of Gitega, it is Mr. Liboire Bigirimana.

The Minister of Home Affairs, Community Development and Public Security, Honorable Martin Niteretse, represented the Government to provide clarification regarding these candidates. **(Senate)**

## Launch of the Regional Transit Guarantee Scheme under Customs in Burundi



On Wednesday, July 2, 2025, Burundi officially launched the digital application of the Regional Transit Guarantee Scheme under Customs (RGTD), an initiative led by the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), through its local partner, the Burundi Insurance Company (SOCABU). The ceremony was held at Bujumbura

City Hall.

Christine Niragira, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Trade, Transport, Industry and Tourism, emphasized that this innovation will significantly accelerate and secure cross-border trade, while reducing transit operations related costs.

She noted that customs clearance and shipping agents faced long delays and high financial charges due to complex guaranty procedures. The digitalization of this system will ease access to regional markets.

In turn, the Director General of the Burundi Insurance Company, Mr. Charles Ndagijimana, explained that the Regional Transit Guarantee Scheme (RGTD) under Customs has enabled traders to no longer deposit a guaranty in each country crossed. "Before the creation of the sys-

tem, to each country crossed, each importer had to deposit guaranty. According to him, this was a huge cost and especially since this money had to be recovered while the goods arrived on the ground of the destination country.

He stressed that from now on, a single insurance

guarantee will be sufficient for travel in all member countries of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa participating in the scheme. He added that this digital system also enhances transparency by reducing the risk of document falsification through the allocation of secure codes. (RTNB)

## The National Communication Council welcomes the media coverage of the elections of June 5, 2025



**T**he National Council for Communication (CNC) has generally praised audiovisual, print and online media for professionally covering the legislative and communal elections of June 5, 2025, in compliance with the legislation in force as well as the media code of conduct for the media during electoral periods.

This announcement was made by Mrs. Esperance Ndayizeye, President of the CNC during a press briefing held on Monday, June 30, 2025, at the Maison de la Presse in Bujumbura, on media regulation during the elections of June 5, 2025.

She emphasized that during the election campaign, the media did their best to comply with CNC guidelines ensuring equal access, pluralism and balanced reporting. She added that journalists on the ground refrained from reporting provisional elections results, in line with the recommendations from Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI). According to the CNC President, media monitoring of the election process, highlighting both strengths enabled CENI to respond in real time.

Regarding equal media access for candidates during the campaign from May 13 to June 2, 2025, Radio Television Nationale du Burundi recorded and broadcast the social projects of 29 candidates, in the order drawn by lot, the CNC President specified. She noted that while each candidate was allocated 15 minutes of equal airtime, some had their time reduced due to defamatory remarks that were censored. The national broadcaster also provided significant coverage of campaign activities across the five country provinces, covering political party rallies.

Regarding Radio Nderagakura, the CNC President, Mrs. Esperance Ndayizeye, explained that although it did not organize special election segments, the station still provided opportunities to certain political parties, coalitions and independents to express themselves on their social projects, in the news broadcasts.

As for Radio Justice, although it is new to the media landscape, Ms. Espérance Ndayizeye welcomed its efforts to comply with the instructions of the CNC by broadcasting the social projects of political parties, coalitions, and independents candidates. She also noted that the state-owned print media, notably the newspaper "Le Renouveau du Burundi" and the Agence Burundaise de Presse have broadcast the social projects of candidates for the communal and legislative elections.

Alongside State media, the CNC President expressed satisfaction with the media coverage provided by Radio Bonesha FM, which broadcast the candidates' social projects through the program Mubivuzeko iki, throughout the election campaign, during which 24



candidates presented their social projects. She also praised other radio stations such as Rema FM, Isanganiro, and CCIBFM+.

For online newspapers such as IRIS News, Jimbere Magazine, YAGA and Journal Iwacu, she noted that these newspapers disseminated little information on the election campaign.

However, the CNC President expressed surprise to learn from the newspaper Iwacu after the elections that some journalists had been silenced during the media

synergy. She also noted shortcomings observed in some media, such as information imbalance, gratuitous accusations, exaggeration of facts, biased treatment of information, and defamation, especially during the election campaign and after the elections.

It should be noted that during the legislative and communal elections of June 5, 2025, twenty-nine (29) radio stations, seven (7) television channels, six (6) print newspapers and twenty-two (22) online media, collaborated in a joint effort to cover this key event for the country. **(RTNB)**

### Handing Over and Taking Over of Provincial Governors



**T**he incoming Governors of Gitega and Burunga provinces held handover ceremonies on Friday, July 4, 2025, between with the outgoing Governors of the various administrative entities that make up these two provinces.

In Gitega province, the new Governor of the province (located in the center of the country) composed of the former provinces of Mwaro, Muramvya, Gitega and Karusi, Mr. Liboire Bigirimana, pledged to actively engage in leading this administrative entity on the path to development. He delivered these remarks on Friday, July 4, 2025, in his new office, as they were closing the hand over operation of work files with the outgoing governors of the aforementioned provinces.

Governor Liboire Bigirimana expressed confidence that, together with the natives, friends of the province, and the population, his development aspirations will become a reality, specifying, however, that he will build on the



foundations laid by his predecessors. Speaking about his strategies for advancing the development of the political capital located in Gitega province, Governor Bigirimana first acknowledged the solid foundations for building this city.

However, he also highlighted challenges, such as the lack of public and social infrastructure, improved roads, insufficient water and electricity. He expressed hope for his contribution to changing the image of this city, specifying that this will be done in close collaboration with stakeholders in provincial development.

The handover operation was supervised by a delegate from the Minister of Home Affairs, Community Development and Public Security, Major General of Police Isidore Ndiokubwayo, Inspector General of the Ministry. **(ABP)**

## Insufficiency of PAN 53 hybrid maize seeds in Butaganzwa commune



**T**here is a shortage of PAN 53 hybrid maize seeds in Butaganzwa commune in Kayanza province (North). This was indicated on Wednesday, July 2, 2025, by the Administrator of this commune, Mrs. Janvière Kanyana, during the communal launch of the growing season C.

The Administrator of Butaganzwa commune Mrs. Janvière Kanyana, called on the Ministry of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock to make seeds and organo-mineral fertilizers available before it is too late. The activities launching the 2025 agricultural season C growing season took place on Rugoma Hill, Ninga zone of the former province of Kayanza. On this hill, residents pooled their plots of land to reach more than 30 hectares for the practice of block farming. They must proceed with hill irrigation until the start of the rainy season.

In her speech on the occasion, Mrs. Kanyana, expressed her satisfaction that the season C farming activities help supervise students during the long

school holidays.

Although farmers in this commune have already completed plowing, the hybrid maize seeds distributed are far from sufficient. As she noticed, out of more than 110 hectares planned for the season, only 5 tons of seeds have been distributed.

Therefore the Administrator of Butaganzwa Commune requested the competent authorities to get more involved so that no farmer is left without seeds this season. She also raised alarm over the lack of distribution of organo-mineral fertilizers, noting that payments for the ordered supplies have not yet begun.

For this reason, farmers requested the Ministry of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock to address that raised challenges as soon as possible. **(ABP)**

# Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation

Department of Communication

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