



Official presentation of the book "A Nation on the Move: 60 Years of Traps Foiled, Ndayishimiye and the New Chapter of Burundi"



On Wednesday, January 14, 2026, the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Mr. Evariste Ndayishimiye, accompanied by the First Lady and high dignitaries of the country, took part at the Lake Tanganyika Club in the official presentation ceremony of the book entitled "A Nation on the Move: 60 Years of Traps Foiled, Ndayishimiye and the New Chapter of Burundi."

Presenting his work, written in collaboration with Professor Désiré Manirakiza, Mr. Gabriel Rufyiri, Ms. Janvière Ndirahisha, Mr. Alain Ndikumana, and Mr. Pacifique Manirakiza, the Consul

General of the Republic of Burundi in Laâyoune, Dr. Benjamin Ndagijimana, clarified that the book does not analyze a personality, but rather a presidential moment.

According to him, the objective is to shed light on the past, structure the present, and prepare for the future. The name Ndayishimiye appears in the title because certain key moments of national transition are part of a transformational and adaptive leadership style embodied by the current Head of State.

During a rich and constructive debate surrounding the book, the former

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President of the Republic of Burundi, the Honorable Sylvestre Ntibantunganya, welcomed the President Ndayishimiye's leadership. Drawing on his experience and the high-level positions he has held, the Head of State embodies, in comparison to previous Burundian Heads of State, a credible and enlightened vision for the country's development. He called upon Burundian elites to set aside institutional disputes and resolutely commit to achieving Burundi's national vision of "an emerging country by 2040 and a developed country by 2060," through a spirit of patriotism and profound reforms of the education system.

The various interventions of the participants highlighted, in light of the work, that the destiny of Burundi is being built today, the country having many assets to ensure its development.

President Ndayishimiye recalled that Burundi has faced numerous challenges since 1903, while emphasizing that it is now time to overcome them. He encouraged the general population and leaders in particular, to change their mind-sets in order to transform Burundi in all sectors. **(Presidency)**

President Ndayishimiye exchanges New Year's greetings for 2026 with the diplomatic and consular corps accredited to Burundi



On Wednesday, January 14, 2026, at the Ntare Rushatsi Palace, the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Mr. Evariste Ndayishimiye, exchanged New Year's greetings for 2026 with the diplomatic and consular corps accredited to Burundi.

In an atmosphere marked by folk songs, the meeting was an opportunity to share the Government's achievements and to express gratitude for ongoing support of Burundi's partners.

During this ceremony, the Burundian Head of State called for solidarity among African countries; stressing

that "a friend in need is a friend indeed". He highlighted the importance for African States to support nations in crisis in order to strengthen regional and continental stability.

Regarding the crisis in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, President Ndayishimiye reiterated that, while the situation remains concerning, Burundi remains committed to peace and reconciliation. He called on stakeholders to implement the signed agreements, particularly the Washington Agreement, with the support of the United States to ensure their respect.

In his speech, the Apostolic Nuncio, Monsignor Dieudonné Datonou, Dean of the Diplomatic and Consular Corps accredited to Burundi, praised the enlightened leadership of the Burundian Head of State, His Excellency Mr. Evariste Ndayishimiye.

Highlighting Burundi's growing role on the international stage, with the opening of consulates abroad and the hosting of foreign missions within its borders, the Dean of the Diplomatic and Consular Corps called on the international community to support Burundi in assisting Congolese refugees. **(Presidency)**

The First Lady of Burundi visits Gaborone



The First Lady of Burundi, Her Excellency Angeline Ndayishimiye, departed on

Wednesday, January 14, 2026, for Gaborone, the capital city of Botswana. According to a press release issued by the Office of Information, Communication, and Spokesperson for the President of the Republic of Burundi, the purpose of this trip is to exchange experiences regarding initiatives implemented by the First Lady of Burundi and the First Lady of Botswana in term of improving the well-being of the population.

It should be noted that this mission trip follows an invitation extended by the First Lady of Botswana to

her counterpart in Burundi. **(ABP)**

The Prime Minister commends administrative discipline



On Monday, January 12, 2026, the Prime Minister of Burundi, Mr. Nestor Ntahontuye, made a surprise visit to the Prime Minister's offices, located within the Ministry of Finance, and met with the Ministry's staff. The purpose of the visit was to inquire about the operations of the ministry and check staff's attendance. During his visit, Mr. Ntahontuye noted several irregularities, in-

cluding offices remaining closed during regular business hours and lateness to work place.

During his visit, he also observed that several offices of the Ministry of Finance, Budget, and Digital Economy still displayed outdated identification signs that are not in compliance with the new government structure resulting from the 2025 elections. Prime Minister Ntahontuye commended to replace them as soon as possible to avoid further misleading the public. He reiterated the importance of adhering to working hours to achieve the objectives of Burundi's vision: an emerging country by 2040 and a developed country by 2060.

The visit concluded with a working meeting between the Prime Minister, the Minister of Finance, Budget and Digital Economy, and the heads of departments under the Prime Minister's Office operating within the Ministry of Finance. Discussions focused on administrative procedures and adherence to professional standards. **(ABP)**

The Prime Minister continues his surprise visits to the Ministries



On the morning of Tuesday, January 13, 2026, Burundian Prime Minister Nestor Ntahontuye continued his series of surprise visits to the building housing three ministries: the Ministry of Mineral Resources, Energy, Industry, Trade and Tourism; the Ministry of Infrastructure, Social Housing, Transport and Equipment; and the Ministry of Public Service. The purpose of these visits was to assess the punctuality of civil servants at each ministry.

During this series of visits, the Prime Minister noted some delays and non-attendances of the personnel in these three ministries. He also observed a lack of

computers in certain departments, recommending that equipment supply while emphasizing the challenge of working effectively without computer equipment.

Regarding the delays, some civil servants cited transportation related issues. The Prime Minister stated that there was no valid excuse, urging staff to follow the example of students who, despite similar transportation challenges, arrive at school on time.

He reminded everyone that the State spends approximately 100 billion Burundian francs per month on civil servant wages, emphasizing that their absence or lack of commitment to work represent a significant loss for the country. He added that this budget could be used to build numerous schools and hospitals.

He concluded by urging punctuality, courage, and a sense of responsibility in order to contribute effectively to the country's development. It should be noted that, according to the Prime Minister, these visits will continue and a related assessment will be provided upon their completion. **(ABP)**

Gitega Province: Meeting between the Prime Minister and local officials



Prime Minister Nestor Ntahontuye held a meeting with administrative officials from Gitega province, including communal administrators and their advisors, heads of various departments at the provincial and communal levels, and other senior officials. The meeting took place on the morning of Thursday, January 15, 2026, in Gitega, the political capital.

He indicated that the objective of this meeting was to allow administrative authorities at all levels to agree on the new organization of provincial and communal administration. The main objective is to improve service to citizens by bringing essential services closer to the population and fostering development.

Participants raised various concerns, including how different municipal services will collaborate with the relevant ministries, the issue of salary harmonization (as

some communal employees are paid differently depending on the communes), work equipment, and the management and use of the 100 million Burundian francs allocated to communes for the purchase of school benches, among other things.

Regarding collaboration, the Prime Minister clarified that each commune department must report to the communal administrator, while also informing the office of the provincial governor. Concerning salaries, Mr. Nestor Ntahontuye acknowledged the existing disparities between communes. To address this, the Ministry of Home Affairs, Community Development, and Public Security plans salary harmonization for communal employees.

In terms of redeployment of employees to fill the gaps created by those reassigned to other sectors, Mr. Nestor Ntahontuye stated that, as with education sector employees and others who have left their position, all measures must be taken for the best of the service and with a focus on efficiency. Concerning the sharing of work equipment such as computers, vehicles, motorcycles, and other materials, the Prime Minister commended that priority should be given to services requiring significant field mobility, particularly the education, health, agriculture, and livestock sectors, which should be provided with vehicles as a priority. Other services will be equipped with motorcycles. As for computers, they will be shared among all services, while those that do not yet have them will benefit from new supply.

After the meeting, the Prime Minister conducted a site visit to assess the progress of the renovation work on the offices that will house various provincial directorates of the ministries. **(Le Renouveau)**

National Assembly of Burundi: Analysis and adoption of a law on the protection of personal data

The Members of the National Assembly are meeting under the leadership of the President of this institution, the Right Honourable Daniel Gélase Ndabirabe, on Thursday, January 15, 2026, to proceed with the analysis and adoption of the draft law on the protection of personal data.

In his explanatory memorandum, the Minister of Home Affairs, Community Development, and Public Security,

Honorable Léonidas Ndaruzaniye, speaking on behalf of the Government, indicated that this law establishes various data protection regimes and addresses the issue of institutional frameworks by creating an independent administrative authority responsible for implementing these regimes. It also establishes a body responsible for the protection of personal data, under the supervision of the ministry responsible for digital economy.



According to him, this bill provides for specific penal provisions but which do not prevent the application of the penal provisions contained in other laws, in particular the penal code and the law on the prevention and repression of cybercrime.

Legislation on personal data proves to be a general instrument for the protection of fundamental rights and freedoms. The processing of personal data must be carried out with respect for the rights, fundamental freedoms, and dignity of individuals, as it is a highly sought-after resource. With the development of information technology and its apps, the traditional domain of privacy is constantly expanding with new elements. Data are parts of these elements.

He stated that Burundian law currently lacks a legal framework or regime for these operations, despite the deployment of the government intranet, the increasing use of information technology in the administration and private companies, and its use by individuals, as well as the digitization of the electoral register and national identity cards, which has led to the generation, collection, and processing of personal data. Once enacted, this law will fill this gap in the legal framework.

By definition in Article 4 of this bill, personal data is defined as any information, of any nature whatsoever, regardless of its medium, including sound and images, relating to an identified or identifiable natural person, directly or indirectly, by reference to a unique identification number or to one or more specific elements relating to their physical, physiological, genetic, mental, cultural, social, or economic identity. In other words, it is any information that allows a natural person to be identified directly or indirectly. This article specifies examples such as "surname, first name, fingerprints, facial recognition, telephone number, photograph, etc."

Satisfied with the answers and clarifications provided by the Minister of Home Affairs on their concerns, the members of parliament unanimously adopted the bill under review. **(Le Renouveau)**

The Ambassador of Burundi to New Delhi met with the Ambassador of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar



On Thursday, January 15, 2026, the Ambassador of the Republic of Burundi to New Delhi, H.E. Major General Aloys BIZINDAVYI, received in audience the Ambassador of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar,

H.E. Zawoo, who came for a courtesy visit.

During their discussions, the two officials focused on the situation of Burundian nationals currently de-

tained in Myanmar who wish to return to Burundi. The Burundian Ambassador thanked his counterpart for the excellent cooperation between the two embassies and emphasized concerns related to their prolonged detention, as well as the need to facilitate communication to ensure effective coordination and enable their return to their homeland.

The Ambassador of Myanmar expressed his understanding of the situation and reaffirmed the willingness of his country's authorities to cooperate with Burundi. He indicated that authorized services of Myanmar are prepared to review, in consultation with the Embassy of Burundi, the practical and administrative arrangements necessary for the return of the nationals concerned, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

Both parties agreed to maintain a regular exchange of information regarding the situation of the Burundian nationals concerned in order to facilitate the adminis-

trative procedures required to obtain the necessary travel documents; and to explore possibilities for coordination with other institutional partners in order to ensure an organized and safe return.

The meeting concluded with a note of mutual satisfaction, reaffirming their commitment to strengthening bilateral cooperation. **(Embassy of Burundi in New Delhi)**

Recruitment of non-commissioned officer and police officer candidates



A community mobilization meeting of administrative, educational, and health officials was held on Monday, January 12, 2026, under the auspices of representatives from the Ministry of Home Affairs, Community Development, and Public Security, to raise awareness of non-commissioned officers and agents wishing to join the police force. Two police officials, Colonel Jean Berchimans Nkurunziza and Major Rose Sibomana, explained in detail the content of the recruitment notices for both categories of police officers.

Registration takes place from January 14 to February 13, 2026, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the main towns of the applicant's home commune. To be admitted, candidates must be Burundian citizens, hold no dual nationality, be between 18 and 25 years old, single with no children, and be available for the entire training period and the first three years of service. They must also have completed basic



training for agents and successfully completed the first year of post-basic training for non-commissioned officers, be of good character, not have previously belonged to the Defense or Security Forces, nor have been dismissed from the civil service, be in good health, physically fit, and be willing to serve.

Administrative, educational, and health officials have been urged to raise awareness among young people about this recruitment process and to assist them getting required documents, as stipulated by law. Any candidate who makes a false declaration regarding their ethnicity, or uses falsified documents attesting to their age, marital status, or other identity, will be excluded and punished according to the law, and their accomplices will also be prosecuted. It should be noted that the selection test will take place in the provincial main towns after displaying the list of candidates. **(ABP)**

Energy cooperation agreement between Burundi and Morocco: Members of Parliament raise questions

During the plenary session held on Wednesday, January 14, 2026, on the draft bill ratifying the cooperation agreement in the field of energy between the Government of the Republic of Burundi and the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco, the Minister of Mineral Resources, Energy, Indus-

try, Trade and Tourism, Dr. Hassan Kibeya, was the guest of the day.

The goal of Burundi's vision to become an emerging country by 2040 and a developed country by 2060 is to increase energy production and improve access to energy.



Members of Parliament wanted to know, in terms of quantity, the contribution of this cooperation agreement between the Republic of Burundi and the Kingdom of Morocco to achieving this objective. The Minister indicated that this agreement will enable the implementation of several activities in the energy sector (wind, solar, and hydropower), focusing on energy efficiency, which is a pillar of the energy transition. Activities related to electricity production, transmission, and distribution will also be developed. Dr. Hassan also indicated that to achieve this vision, technical assistance will be provided for the development of studies and the construction of two solar power plants (100MW and 50MW) in Burundi and a hydroelectric power plant on the Kagunuzi River.

The members of parliament clarified that Article 7 of the cooperation agreement stipulates that "each Party undertakes not to disclose confidential information relating to this cooperation agreement to third parties without the prior consent of the other Party." Dr. Hassan Kibeya explained that this article aims to

strengthen trust between the Parties while ensuring that sensitive information will not be disclosed. This implies that any communication of information deemed confidential must be carefully evaluated, and that it is imperative to obtain formal authorization before sharing such information. In general, this provision is essential to protect the interests of the Parties and to ensure the smooth functioning of this collaboration.

The members of parliament also noted that Article 10 of this agreement stipulates that the cooperation agreement applies provisionally upon signature and enters into force definitively on the date of receipt of the final notification confirming that the Parties have completed the internal formalities required for this purpose. They inquired about the current status of implementation. The Minister replied that certain activities are already undertaken within the framework of the provisional implementation of the cooperation agreement signed on May 12, 2025. These activities include meetings and information exchanges that have already taken place since the signing of the agreement. Each Party has already begun internal formalities necessary for the agreement to enter into force definitively, including consultations with legislative bodies. Regarding Burundi, Dr. Hassan Kibeya indicated that this activity is a concrete example.

It has been observed that, in the past, some ratification has not been implemented. Regarding this issue, the Minister stated that this agreement is unique. He indicated that it is part of an ongoing effort to achieve reliable and sustainable electrification for 70% of the Burundian population by 2030. **(Le Renouveau)**

Towards a resolution of water and electricity shortage

The equipment needed for the water and electricity networks is currently being shipped to Burundi. This announcement was made on Wednesday, January 14, 2026, by the Director General of Regideso, Mr. Albert Manigomba, during a working visit to Bujumbura Province. While residents of some neighborhoods in the provincial capital, Buhumuza, are complaining about the lack of drinking water and electricity, the Director General of Regideso indicated that these connection problems will soon be resolved.

The Director General of Regideso emphasized that

projects to expand the water and electricity networks in the city of Cankuzo will soon be implemented, thanks to collaboration between Regideso and its technical partners. He specified that while some equipment is still in transit from abroad, the water meters are already in stock.

Regarding domestic connections, the Director General added that the water meters are ready and the connecting pipes will follow shortly. To address the urgent situation, Mr. Manigomba indicated that some of the electricity meters will be shipped by boat from Egypt in the coming days, and others will be imported by air to save time



and avoid any further delays.

Regarding the water shortage observed in Musinga, he pledged that five faulty pumps that were hindering the drinking water supply would soon be replaced. Mr. Manigomba took the opportunity to announce that the drinking water supply (AEP) for the town of Cankuzo,

formerly jointly managed by REGIDESO and the Burundian Agency for Rural Water and Sanitation (AHAMR), would be restored. The Director General of REGIDESO, Mr. Albert Manigomba, under the sole responsibility of REGIDESO, specified that all faulty meters would be replaced free of charge. **(ABP)**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation

Department of Communication

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