



The Burundian President praises Uganda’s socio-economic transformation under President Museveni’s leadership



While attending the inauguration ceremonies on Tuesday, May 12, 2026, in Kampala for the recently re-elected President, His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, praised the remarkable progress made by Uganda in socio-economic transformation under President Museveni’s leadership.

Taking the floor during the ceremonies, the Burundian Head of State highlighted the significant advances achieved by Uganda in the areas of security, social cohesion, and development. “Thanks to sustained economic growth, strategic investments in agriculture, and policies aimed at reducing poverty and improving livelihoods, Uganda has consistently positioned itself among the continent’s most promising emerging econo-

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mies.” President Ndayishimiye also congratulated his Ugandan counterpart, His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, for his leadership, which today inspires many African leaders in terms of development and the well-being of populations. He further commended his decisive role in efforts to restore peace and security in the region, notably in the process of restoring peace in Burundi.

These inauguration ceremonies were marked by several key moments, including President Museveni’s

oath of office, a colorful military parade, as well as his inauguration speech in which he pledged to continue efforts to accelerate Uganda’s socio-economic development.

It should be noted that upon his arrival at Entebbe International Airport, the Burundian President and current Chairperson of the African Union, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, was welcomed by Mr. David Bahati, Ugandan Minister of State for Trade, Industry and Cooperation. **(Presidency)**

National Assembly: the prevention of double taxation and the reciprocal protection of investments between Burundi and the United Arab Emirates, two conventions adopted unanimously



The elected representatives of the people, meeting in plenary session under the leadership of the Speaker of the National Assembly, the Right Honorable Gélase Daniel Ndirakobuca, examined and unanimously adopted on Tuesday, May 12, 2026, two conventions respectively concerning the prevention of double taxation and tax evasion, and the agreement on the promotion and reciprocal protection of investments, signed on February 6, 2017.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation, who was the Government’s envoy to present the explanatory memorandum to the representatives of the people, said that the two legal instruments are of crucial importance in establishing a legally secure and stable investment framework capable of stimulating business initiatives and

increasing the level of trade and capital mobility between Burundi and the United Arab Emirates.

According to Minister. Bizimana, the agreement on the promotion and reciprocal protection of investments and the convention on tax avoidance through the prevention of double taxation are complementary legal tools in the sense that investors from the two contracting states can only be effectively protected if the risk of double taxation is eliminated. To achieve the objectives of preventing double taxation of income and tax evasion, four major areas were identified. These are the taxes and persons covered by the tax convention; the concept of permanent establishment and methods of taxation; the methods of taxation of persons and income; and the methods for eliminating double taxation. Some of the taxation rules concerning income include, in particular, business profits, dividends, income from immovable property, employment income, and others.

In a response given by the Minister in charge of Foreign Affairs to the Standing Committee on Good Governance, once these agreements are ratified, they will be used as levers for economic attractiveness and as tools for promoting investment in various sectors. He also provided clarifications in response to the various questions addressed to him by the representatives of the people. After substantive and formal amendments, the deputies unanimously adopted these two draft laws. **(Le Renouveau)**

The Senate is organizing a capacity-building workshop on diplomacy, parliamentary communication, and budget bill analysis

The Speaker of the Senate, the Right Honorable Gervais Ndirakobuca, together with the Second Deputy-Speaker of the Institution, on Tuesday,

May 12, 2026, opened a two-day workshop on capacity building for senators and some senior officials of the Senate on diplomacy, parliamentary communication, and



analysis of the budget law, at Hotel Chalet la Concorde, in the capital of Muramvya commune, Gitega Province.

In his speech, Right Honorable Ndirakobuca said that the main objective of this workshop is to enable participants to better know and understand the importance of relations between representative institutions of the peoples of different countries, as well as the mechanisms of communication surrounding activities carried out within the Senate. He stated that



Burundi is concerned with strengthening ties of friendship and cooperation with other countries.

Thus, he explained that the Senate intends to strengthen good relations with institutions or associ-

ations representing the peoples of other nations in order to benefit from their experience in lawmaking, people's representation, and more. Given that Burundi signs various agreements with other countries, he said that the Senate has a duty to oversee government action in order to verify their implementation for the benefit of the people. The Right Honorable Ndirakobuca also said that strengthening relations between countries opens horizons for development. He noted that good relations between institutions representing the peoples of different countries constitute a pillar for strengthening cooperation, peace, and security. "Unity is strength." The Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament also said that strengthening parliamentary diplomacy is necessary for development and for the implementation of Burundi's Vision: "an emerging country by 2040 and a developed country by 2060."

The Right Honorable Ndirakobuca noted that it is essential to maintain a permanent dialogue with citizens, given the close ties between the Senate and local administrative structures, particularly communes, zones, hills, and neighborhoods. He explained that institutional relations shed light on best practices in parliamentary communication. This includes the dissemination of information related to laws under consideration and adopted laws, as well as oversight of government action, carried out on behalf of citizens. The Speaker of the Senate explained that a population that is regularly informed about the activities of its representatives develops greater trust in institutions. In order to better inform all those who wish to follow the Senate's activities, Right Honorable Ndirakobuca announced that several communication platforms have been set up to disseminate information on a daily basis. These include X (formerly Twitter), Facebook, the website, and YouTube. In addition, a new platform called E-Senate has recently been launched to enable citizens to easily follow the Senate's activities. **(Senate)**

A delegation of Burundian parliamentarians is taking part in the proceedings of the 1st OACPS-EU Parliamentary Assembly

The proceedings of the 1st session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) and the European Union (EU), in which a delegation of Burundian parliamentarians led by the First Vice-President of the Senate, Honorable G n roise Ngendanganya, is taking part, were opened by His Royal Highness Prince Lindani, representa-

tive of the King of the Kingdom of Eswatini, on Tuesday, May 12, 2026, in the Ezulwini Valley. During the various interventions by Heads of Delegation, the 1st Deputy-Speaker of the Senate spoke on "the role of regional organizations and their parliaments in peace and security in Africa." On this subject, she indicated that peace and security are essential prerequisites for the country's sustainable development. "Without peace, no progress



can be envisaged. In this context, regional organizations play a decisive role in the prevention, management, and resolution of conflicts.” The head of the Burundian parliamentary delegation emphasized that regional parliaments are encouraged to continue their efforts to become more involved in the peace process, and that they are called upon to strengthen their coop-



eration mechanisms in order to share experiences and provide mutual support when needed. At the end of her remarks, she expressed the hope that regional organizations and their parliaments would work together in conflict prevention, mediation and negotiation processes, as well as in the management of post-conflict periods.

The successive interventions focused on the renewed strategic partnership of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States following the Cotonou Agreements. The participants stressed the need for all member states to act jointly in order to address current challenges, including climate change, insecurity in some African countries, illegal migration, terrorism, as well as other major issues of the time. They also referred to the security and deadly crisis severely affecting eastern Democratic Republic of Congo and South Sudan. In this regard, a call was made to the international community for the war to stop. Thus, declarations must be backed by action. **(Senate)**

Return of the Burundian Prime Minister from Cairo



The Prime Minister of Burundi, Mr. Nestor Ntahontuye, returned to Bujumbura on May 11, 2026, after an official mission to Cairo, Egypt. He was representing the Head of State of Burundi at the invitation of his Egyptian counterpart, at the inaugu-

ration ceremonies of the main headquarters of the University of Léopold Sédar Senghor, held on May 9, 2026.

Upon his arrival at Bujumbura Airport, Mr. Ntahontuye stated in an interview with the press that this university brings together 25 African countries, mainly from the French-speaking communities, with the support of the International Organization of the French-speaking communities. He specified that the institution had initially opened its doors within Saint-Laurent University and that it is still operating in a building formerly occupied by the Arab Republic of Egypt on a rental basis.

According to the Prime Minister, six Burundian students are currently pursuing their studies at this institution. He pointed out that these students are contributing in particular to training programs related to the planning of sectoral policies and their implementation.

During his visit, the Burundian Head of Government also

visited the Egyptian Museum, whose construction took 23 years and which receives more than 5,000 visitors per day. He said that this mission was beneficial, especially because of the experience-sharing discussions he had with the university officials, with a view to the possible establishment of a campus of this institution in Burundi in the near future (by the summer).

On the sidelines of this visit, Mr. Ntahontuye also toured the Egyptian pyramids, where he took part in commemorative ceremonies.

He stressed the importance of promoting and modernizing cultural and tourist sites in order to attract more investors and foreign visitors. **(ABP)**

Diplomatic meeting between Burundi and Ireland



On Wednesday, May 13, 2026, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation, H.E. Ambassador Édouard Bizimana, received in audience the Ambassador of Ireland to Burundi, Mrs. Nicola Brennan, based in Dar es Salaam.

Mrs. Brennan began by extending her congratulations to the Minister on Burundi's presidency of the African Union. She praised Burundi's diplomatic and political efforts as well as the courage and leadership of the Burundian President.

The discussions between the two officials covered several topics of mutual interest. Among them were the scholarships offered each year by Ireland, but

above all the security and humanitarian situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Ambassador Brennan expressed her country's concern about the difficult conditions faced by refugees, particularly Congolese refugees living in camps in Burundi and Burundians living in Tanzania.

She recalled that Ireland, through UNHCR, IOM, Concern Worldwide, and other humanitarian agencies, provides multifaceted support to refugees. Moreover, her visit to a Congolese camp allowed her to see the precarious conditions in which refugees are living despite Burundi's considerable efforts. She stressed that a return to peace and security in the DRC would be the best solution to allow refugees to return home.

On his part, Minister Bizimana thanked Ireland for its support in the humanitarian field and highlighted Burundi's significant efforts to host and assist refugees. Regarding the crisis in eastern DRC, he regretted the non-compliance by the parties to the conflict with the Nairobi, Washington, and Doha agreements. He called on the European Union to become more involved in order to strengthen regional peace and security mechanisms, as well as other regional initiatives already undertaken.

The Minister reaffirmed that Burundi continues to prioritize dialogue as the path to the peaceful resolution of disputes. Finally, he expressed the wish for the effective resumption of budgetary support between European Union countries and Burundi. **(MFARIDC)**

Surprise visit by Minister Bizimana to the recruitment agencies of Burundian migrant workers

On Friday morning, May 15, 2026, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Ambassador Édouard Bizimana, conducted an unannounced visit to several agencies

recruiting Burundian migrant workers.

Among the 64 legally registered agencies, seven (7) were targeted. These are: Trust Manpower Agency, Aldarwiche Agency Ltd, Iwad International Recruitment,



Alsuwedi Agency, Frankly Jobs Limited Company, United Lines Recruitment, and Alpha Recruitment Company.

This initiative is part of the good governance of labor migration and the monitoring and evaluation of the activities of these agencies. The Minister wanted to ensure that practices comply with the regulations in force and with the fundamental rights of migrant workers.

During this inspection, it was noted that some agen-

cies are operating in clear violation of the implementing regulations. Serious shortcomings were found in certain agencies, and the Ministry will take the necessary measures provided for by law.

Accordingly, advice was given both to the migrant workers and to the representatives of these agencies. For migrant workers awaiting redeployment, Minister Édouard Bizimana reminded them of the importance of preserving Burundi's image abroad. He encouraged them to remain faithful to Burundian values and customs, to uphold the image of Burundi, and to behave as worthy representatives of their homeland, while also keeping in mind that the ultimate purpose of their departure abroad is to work in order to support their families and contribute to the development of the country.

To the heads of agencies showing irregularities, the Minister reminded them of their legal obligations and ordered them to comply with the rules binding them to the Government and to apply them effectively, in order to ensure better protection for migrant workers. It should be noted that this crack-down operation illustrates the Government's determination to put an end to abuses and to ensure strict governance of labor migration. **(MFARIDC)**

His Eminence Cardinal Luis Antonio is making an official visit to Burundi



On Saturday, May 16, 2026, His Eminence Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle, Pro-Prefect of the Dicastery for Evangelization, Section for the First Evangelization and the New Particular Churches, arrived in Burundi.



He was welcomed at Melchior Ndadaye Airport by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Ambassador Édouard Bizimana, as well as by the Apostolic Nuncio to Burundi, His Excellency Archbishop Dieudonné Datonou. Archbishops and Bishops of Burundi, numerous priests, religious men and women, lay Christians, and the faithful had come to welcome this high-ranking religious dignitary.

During a press briefing upon his arrival, His Eminence Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle stated that he was carrying a message from the Pope calling on the whole world to always pray. He expressed his joy at being welcomed in Burundi, a country, in his view, filled with blessings, with many schools, seminaries, pastoral congregations, and churches that

help the people remain close to God. He also said that the Catholic Church is always ready to work alongside Burundi. He was then taken to the Apostolic Nunciature, where he presided over the ceremonies marking the definitive end of mourning for Pope Francis, of venerable memory. **(MFARIDC)**

Meeting between the Ambassador of Burundi and the Special Representative of the Minister in charge of the Home Affairs in France



On Wednesday, May 13, 2026, the Ambassador of Burundi to France, H.E. Mrs. Spès Caritas Njebarikanuye, received in audience Mr. Patrick Stefanini, Special Representative of the Minister of Home Affairs, accompanied by Mr.

Mathias Gariston, Head of the Repatriation Agreements and International Affairs Section. He works within the Office of Legal Affairs and International Cooperation, under the Directorate of Immigration, specifically the Sub-Directorate for the Fight against Irregular Immigration and Bilateral Cooperation.

Their discussions focused on their new mission in Burundi regarding readmission and cooperation between France and Burundi. **(Burundi Embassy in Paris)**

Seed multipliers in Mwaro and Nyabihanga facing several challenges



The delay in the distribution of potato seeds, the shortage of chemical fertilizers despite payments already made to the Community and Agricultural Bank of Burundi (BCAB), as well as the lack of assistance for farmers facing agricultural problems, are among the main difficulties faced by seed multipliers in the communes of Mwaro and Nyabihanga in Gitega Province.

These concerns were raised on Monday, May 11, 2026, to the Minister of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock, Madam. Calinie Mbarushimana, during a meeting held in the center of Mwaro commune. The meeting aimed at jointly examining the problems encountered in the agricultural sector and consider solutions for its development.

Addressing the seed multipliers from the communes of Mwaro and Nyabihanga, Madam Mbarushimana stressed that their activity should not be driven solely by the pursuit of profit, but also by concern for the well-being of the population and contribution to the country's vision. She urged them to provide selected, high-quality seeds, to preserve farmers' trust in order to maintain their credibility, and to seek the support of agricultural technicians when crops are affected by diseases.

Madam Mbarushimana also emphasized the importance of crop maintenance, even on small plots that are well managed, and the use of organic manure, which she considers indispensable despite the existence of chemical fertilizers. She recommended that the population draw contour lines, plant protective grasses and agroforestry trees, and dig three compost pits per household for the production of organic manure.

Regarding the shortage of chemical fertilizers, Madam Mbarushimana said that a commission in charge of monitoring this issue has already been established. She urged seed multipliers to serve as role models so that the communes of Mwaro and Nyabihanga can become true seed granaries in Gitega Province.

The Minister responsible for agriculture called on seed multipliers to organize themselves so that they can col-

lectively present their grievances to the Institute of Agronomic Sciences of Burundi (ISABU), with the aim of enabling other producers to obtain seeds on time. She also asked them to avoid any fraud in the seeds distributed to the population.

It should be noted that Minister Mbarushimana was accompanied by the Provincial Director of Agriculture in Gitega as well as the head of ISABU. **(Le Renouveau)**

Three Ministers visit the communes of Ntakangwa, Mukaza, and Mugere to verify compliance with hygiene measures



As part of verifying the implementation of hygiene and sanitation measures, three Ministers respectively in charge of Public Security, Public Health, and Infrastructure carried out, in the afternoon of Wednesday, May 13, 2026, together with the Governor of Bujumbura Province and the administrators of the communes of Ntakangwa, Mukaza, and Mugere, an on-site visit to these three communes to assess the status of the implementation of this measure.

After visiting several places in the communes of Ntakangwa, Mukaza, and Mugere in Bujumbura Province, the Minister in charge of Public Security, Mr. Léonidas Ndazuzaniye, recalled that these measures are stipulated in the joint ministerial order signed on February 18, 2026, by three ministries: Public Security, Public Health, and Infrastructure. Mr. Ndazuzaniye said that, during the recent public broadcast held in Butanyerera Province, in Kayanza Commune, measures and fines

were announced for those who disregard this law. He also indicated that a deadline had been set for the implementation of this measure. Minister Ndazuzaniye noted that the Government of Burundi took into account the population's concerns in order to allow them to prepare properly. After listening to the concerns raised by the population, Mr. Ndazuzaniye indicated that from May 4 to 9, 2026, the Governors, Administrators, Zone Chiefs, and neighborhood or Hill Chiefs throughout the country carried out field visits to assess the status of the implementation of hygiene measures. Mr. Ndazuzaniye congratulated Burundians who have understood this call. He said that some have already done it, while others are in the finalization stage. The Prime Minister's team also toured the country to monitor the implementation of this measure.

After this tour, Mr. Ndazuzaniye stated that many people have complied with it. He informed the public that, in two weeks, sanctions for failing to implement this measure will be enforced throughout the country in the form of fines. Mr.

Ndaruzaniye also added that, apart from these fines, houses, shops, restaurants, bars, or churches that do not respect these measures will be closed without

distinction and will only be reopened after the fine has been paid. (**Le Renouveau**)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation

Department of Communication

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