



**DRC-Burundi: President Ndayishimiye and his Congolese counterpart reaffirm their commitment to regional peace and stability**



**D**uring his state visit to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, President of the Republic of Burundi, and his Congolese counterpart, Mr. Félix Tshisekedi, reaffirmed on Monday, June 22, 2026, their shared commitment to peace, regional stability, and the strengthening of cooperation between Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, during a bilateral meeting held in Kinshasa.

The two Heads of State reviewed the security and development challenges facing the Great Lakes region, with a particular focus on the situation in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic

of the Congo.

President Ndayishimiye reaffirmed Burundi's support for regional and international initiatives aimed at restoring lasting peace and combating armed groups.

The discussions also focused on strengthening bilateral cooperation, notably through the relaunch of the Joint Grand Commission for Cooperation, in order to promote partnerships in the fields of security, trade, infrastructure, energy, health, and education.

Reaffirming the excellent relations between Burundi and the DRC, the

**In this Edition:**

**page**

DRC-Burundi: President Ndayishimiye and his Congolese counterpart reaffirm their commitment to regional peace and stability

1

Initiatives undertaken by the First Lady of Burundi commended by the Chargé d'Affaires of the Embassy of the United States of America

3

Peace building week in Burundi: A lever of hope for the community

5

Annual Retreat of Heads of Diplomatic and Consular Missions of Burundi

6

The Assistant to the Minister in charge of Foreign Affairs received the copies of the credentials of three new Ambassadors

7

Burundi mobilizes stakeholders for economic and cultural diplomacy in service of development

8

Diplomatic Week – 2026 Edition: Economy at the heart of Burundian diplomacy

9

**PRESS RELEASE N°07 /2026 OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE MINISTERS HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 2026**

11

two leaders expressed their shared determination to continue their efforts toward peace, stability, and regional integration for the benefit of the populations of both countries and the entire Great Lakes region.

Following the bilateral talks and the expanded meeting between the delegations of both countries, the Presidential Couple of the Democratic Republic of the Congo hosted an official dinner in honor of the Burundian Presidential Couple on the banks of the majestic Congo River.

In a warm and fraternal atmosphere, the guests celebrated the excellence of the relations between the two nations to the rhythm of Congolese rumba, a symbol of the rich cultural heritage of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

This gala evening provided a special opportunity for closer ties and exchanges, illustrating the shared political will of both Heads of State to further strengthen the bonds of friendship, cooperation, and solidarity between Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. **(Presidency)**

## State visit to the Democratic Republic of the Congo: Major breakthroughs for peace, regional integration, and the strengthening of bilateral cooperation



**T**he President of the Republic of Burundi and Chairperson of the African Union, His Excellence Evariste Ndayishimiye, returned to Burundi on Tuesday, June 23, 2026, following a two-day state visit to the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The visit was marked by significant progress in peace and security within the Great Lakes region, bilateral cooperation, regional economic integration, and coordination in tackling health challenges, thereby strengthening the strategic partnership between the two countries.

During their talks, the two Heads of State reaffirmed their shared commitment to strengthening cooperation in several sectors of mutual interest. They agreed to relaunch bilateral cooperation mechanisms and conducted a thorough assessment of the security situation in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo. President Ndayishimiye reiterated his support for regional and international diplomatic efforts aimed at establishing lasting peace and ensuring stability in the Great Lakes region. He emphasized that Burundi remains convinced that a sustainable solution to the crises affecting the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo requires a comprehensive and integrated approach, capable of ending the recurring cycle of vio-

lence while promoting the socio-economic development of the affected populations.

In his capacity as the current Chairperson of the African Union, the Burundian Head of State reaffirmed his commitment to supporting all initiatives designed to restore lasting peace in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. He also expressed his determination to strengthen African mediation.

In the field of regional economic integration, the two Heads of State agreed to accelerate the development of cross-border infrastructure, strengthen trade corridors and regional connectivity, and promote economic exchanges to stimulate growth and the integration of regional economies.

Regarding health cooperation, President Ndayishimiye took part in a meeting of the national response platform against Ebola virus disease, established by the President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. This meeting was held just days after the high-level virtual meeting of African Union Heads of State and Government and their partners dedicated to this same issue. It provided an opportunity to assess response efforts and strengthen coordination in the face of health and humanitarian challenges. On this occasion, President Ndayishimiye renewed his call for a response based on science, solidarity, and international cooperation, rather than fear or isolation. He recalled that the risk of international spread of the disease remains very low and urged states to avoid travel and trade restrictions, arguing that they are counterproductive, weaken local economies, discourage transparency, and compromise the effectiveness of the fight against the epidemic. The two Heads of State also discussed several continental priorities related to the African Union. They reaffirmed their attachment to the principle of "African solutions to African problems," in a spirit of sovereignty, solidarity, and conti-

mental integration.

Parallel to the presidential activities, the First Lady of the Republic of Burundi, Her Excellence Angeline Ndayishimiye, held a working session at the headquarters of the Denise Nyakeru Tshisekedi Foundation. The discussions between the two First Ladies focused on the new strategic directions of their respective foundations, as well as the development of partnerships focused notably on education, empow-

erment, and social inclusion. This meeting was also marked by the distribution of work tools to people living with disabilities, illustrating the commitment of both First Ladies to the inclusion and promotion of vulnerable groups. This state visit concluded in a spirit of mutual trust and shared commitment to a peaceful, stable, integrated, and prosperous Great Lakes region, where peoples live in security, dignity, and shared development. **(Presidency)**

### The Burundian Head of State receives the letters of credence of three new Ambassadors



The Burundian Head of State and Chairperson of the African Union, His Excellence Evariste Ndayishimiye, received on June 25, 2026, at the Ntare Rushatsi Palace, the letters of credence of three newly appointed Ambassadors Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary accredited to Burundi.

The first diplomat to be received was Mr. Seydou Coulibaly, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Mali to Burundi, with residence in Luanda, Angola.

The discussions provided an opportunity to reaffirm

the shared determination to strengthen bilateral relations between Burundi and Mali. Furthermore, President Ndayishimiye renewed his commitment to supporting Mali in its counter-terrorism efforts, as well as in the consolidation of peace and stability across the Sahel region.

The President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellence Evariste Ndayishimiye, subsequently received Mr. El Houssein Ould Nagi, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania to Burundi, with residence in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, who came to present his credentials.

The exchange focused on prospects for enhancing bilateral cooperation, with a particular emphasis on South-South cooperation, viewed as a vital lever for development and solidarity among African nations.

The Burundian Head of State also received the letters of credence of Mr. Sitwat Nayeem, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to Burundi, with residence in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The two dignitaries discussed the strengthening of bilateral cooperation, particularly within the agricultural sector. **(Presidency)**

### Initiatives undertaken by the First Lady of Burundi commended by the Chargé d'Affaires of the Embassy of the United States of America



The First Lady of the Republic of Burundi, Her Excellence

Angeline Ndayishimiye, granted an audience on Wednesday, June 24, 2026, at the Ntare Rushatsi Presidential Palace, to Mrs. Bridget Prémont, Chargé d'Affaires at the Embassy of the United States of America (USA) to Burundi. The discussions between the two dignitaries primarily focused on initiatives aimed at improving public health.

The Head of Communications at the Office of the First Lady for Development (OPDD), Mr. Philémon Nkurun-

ziza, indicated that Mrs. Bridget Prémont first extended her congratulations to the First Lady of the Republic of Burundi for the various initiatives she has already implemented to develop the public health sector. She emphasized that these actions contribute significantly to improving the living conditions of the population. Mr. Nkurunziza noted that the First Lady of Burundi has already initiated several major projects, notably in Kibimba and Ngozi. Foremost among these achievements is the establishment of Burundi's first infertility treatment center, a facility that represents a major advancement in the country's medical field. He specified that to date, this center has already seen the birth of twenty-three children, a highly encouraging result that brings hope to many couples.

Mr. Nkurunziza also stated that Mrs. Prémont commended the First Lady of the Republic of Burundi for

the awareness campaigns she has launched throughout the country. Indeed, Her Excellence has been actively engaged in community outreach and educational activities, particularly within schools, to inform and sensitize the public on preventive measures against several infectious illnesses, such as Ebola, cholera, and other communicable diseases.

He recalled that some of these diseases have already been reported in certain countries within the sub-region, making these preventive actions particularly critical and urgent. In this context, Mr. Nkurunziza affirmed that Mrs. Prémont praised and encouraged this initiative led by the First Lady of Burundi, noting that it contributes significantly to the protection and enhancement of public health, as well as the promotion of good health practices within communities. "They agreed to continue collaborating for the well-being of all," he concluded. **(Le Renouveau)**

### OPDD: Audience granted to the Regional Director of CRS



The First Lady of the Republic of Burundi, Her Excellence Angeline Ndayishimiye, granted an audience on Thursday, June 25, 2026, to Mr. Jude Marie Banatte, Regional Director of CRS (Catholic Relief Services) for Central and West Africa. The discussions between the two dignitaries focused on strengthening the partnership aimed at improving access to quality education for Congolese refugee children at the Busuma camp in Buhumuza province, through interventions centered on school infrastructure, psychosocial support, and teacher training.

Mr. Jude Marie Banatte indicated that it was a pleasure for him, on behalf of CRS, to meet with the First Lady of Burundi within the framework of the partnership between CRS and the Bonne Action "Umugiraneza" Foundation. Mr. Banatte affirmed that CRS and the Bonne Action "Umugiraneza" Foundation will pool their resources and capabilities to enhance education for the Congolese children residing in the Busuma camp. He noted that this collaboration will encompass three pillars: an infrastructure component to enable these children to return to school; a psychosocial component to support the Foundation, which has already developed expertise in this field; and a component dedicated to the quality of education. CRS will primarily provide support for teacher training to allow Congolese refugee children to pursue their schooling. Mr. Banatte emphasized that his visit marks the beginning of a long-term partnership and recalled that CRS has maintained a presence in Burundi for many years. He concluded that his visit to Burundi serves to renew this commitment of CRS to the Burundian community alongside the Government of Burundi, in alignment with the National Vision of Burundi as an emerging country by 2040 and a developed country by 2060. **(Le Renouveau)**

### Capacity-building workshop for Senators, Senate Executives, and provincial Senate unit staff on the digitalization of the E-SENAT

In collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme in Burundi (UNDP), the Senate of Burundi organized, from June 23 to 24, 2026, a

capacity-building workshop for Senators, Senate Executives, and provincial Senate unit staff on the digitalization of the E-SENAT. The event took place on the premises of

the Hôtel des Plateaux, in Ngozi Commune of the Butanyerera Province.



In his opening address, the Right Honorable Gervais Ndirakobuca congratulated the staff members of the provincial Senate units for the trust placed in them to support the senators within their respective constituencies. He subsequently called upon them to closely follow the training on the use of social networks, which will enable them to stay informed and know when and how to utilize these platforms during their interactions with the public.

Mr. Ndirakobuca indicated that the E-SENAT platform will serve to convey information between the honorable senators and local elected officials, while simultaneously allowing the public to follow Senate activities in real time. The first day's activities were dedicated to presentations focused on the following themes: the structures and terms of reference of information and communication technologies and their importance in securing senatorial communication and public outreach; the importance of utilizing IT tools and social networks in senatorial communication; the architecture, operation, security, and maintenance of the E-SENAT platform; as well as the practical use of IT tools.

During the discussions and debates, participants raised questions regarding the protection of personal data. In response, the trainer provided them with the ten golden rules of a responsible digital senator. The activities of the second and final day were devoted to practical exercises, during which participants applied the concepts acquired during the theoretical sessions.

The workshop's activities were closed by the Honorable Clotilde Kampimbare, Second Vice-President of the



Institution. In her closing address, she expressed her satisfaction with the outcomes achieved at the conclusion of this workshop. She warmly thanked all participants for their attentive and active engagement during the training sessions.

Honorable Kampimbare then urged them to leverage the knowledge acquired and congratulated the technical team on the significant advancements made in information and communication technologies. Furthermore, she encouraged other staff members of the upper house of Parliament to maximize their talents to contribute to the progress of the Institution. **(Senate)**

## Peace building week in Burundi: A lever of hope for the community



Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation,

**O**n Monday, June 22, 2026, His Excellence Ambassador Édouard Bizimana, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Re-

officially launched the peace building week in Burundi. Held under the theme "UN Peace building at the Dawn of the 20th Anniversary: Partnerships for Innovation, Inclusion, and Impact," this inaugural edition took place from June 22 to 25, 2026, at the Donatus Conference Center.

This event coincides with the 20th anniversary of the United Nations Peace building Fund (PBF) and marks a major milestone in the partnership between Burundi and the United Nations. It brings together the Government, development partners, the private sector, and civil society, with a strong engagement of youth and women.

In his address, Minister Bizimana expressed the Government's gratitude to Her Excellence Angeline Ndayishimiye, First Lady of Burundi, for her sponsorship of this national peace building policy. He also commended the support of the Peace building Commission, the Peace building Support Office (PBSO), the PBF Secretariat, the United Nations System agencies, as well as the contributing nations.

The Minister recalled that Burundi was one of the first countries to establish a strategic alliance with the PBF following a period of crisis, courageously choosing the path of reconstruction and dialogue. He highlighted the major achievements of this partnership:

- .Strengthening inclusive Defense and Security Forces.
- .Consolidating the rule of law and justice reform.
- .Peaceful reintegration of hundreds of thousands of returnees and internally displaced persons.

.Local mechanisms for peaceful dispute resolution.

The Minister emphasized the central role of youth and women in the national peace architecture, in accordance with UN Security Council Resolutions 2250 and 1325. Youth are now recognized as primary actors in innovation and preventive diplomacy, while women, as guardians of social cohesion, play a key role in community mediation and local governance.

Finally, Minister Bizimana made a vibrant appeal to the Diplomatic Corps, the private sector, and civil society to intensify partnerships and explore innovative solutions, particularly through digital technologies mobilized by young people.

The ceremony was enhanced by traditional drums, symbols of peace and unity, highlighting the joint initiatives of Burundi and the United Nations in peacebuilding. **(MFARIDC)**

## Annual Retreat of Heads of Diplomatic and Consular Missions of Burundi



**O**n Tuesday, June 23, 2026, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation (MAEIRCD) organized the annual retreat for Burundian Heads of Diplomatic and Consular Missions. Held under the theme "For a Burundian Diplomacy Adapted to Global and Regional Challenges," this gathering serves as a key platform for diplomats to report to the Government

and receive new strategic orientations for enhanced national representation.

In his opening address, His Excellence Ambassador Édouard Bizimana, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation, highlighted the particular significance of this year's session. It takes place as Burundi holds the presidency of the African Union, amidst an international landscape marked by profound and rapid mutations: political crises, economic and diplomatic shifts, security challenges, pandemics, digital transitions, and new migration dynamics.



The Minister emphasized the need for Burundian diplomacy to transcend its traditional representative functions to become proactive, innovative, agile, and resolutely focused on defending national interests. In the face of multi-dimensional challenges, Burundi aims to build a diplomacy

capable of anticipating shifts and adapting to rapid changes in the international system; seizing globalization opportunities to strengthen its position; effectively defending national interests on regional and international stages; and promoting diplomatic innovation by integrating digital and security challenges into its strategies.

This annual retreat underscores the Burundian Government's commitment to enhancing the coherence and effectiveness of its foreign policy action. It stands as a pivotal moment for reflection and guidance, enabling diplomats to align with national priorities and actively contribute to Burundi's influence among the community of nations. **(MFARIDC)**

### The Assistant to the Minister in charge of Foreign Affairs received the copies of the credentials of three new Ambassadors



**O**n Wednesday, June 24, 2026, Mr. Adolphe Bukuru, Assistant to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation, received the copies of the credentials of three new Ambassadors accredited to the Republic of Burundi: Mr. Seydou Coulibaly, Ambassador of the Republic of Mali to Burundi, residing in Luanda; Mr. El Hussein Ould Nagi, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania to Burundi, residing in Addis Ababa; and Mr. Sitwat Nayeem, Ambassador of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to Burundi, residing in Addis Ababa.

During his meetings with these diplomats, Mr. Adolphe Bukuru conveyed the greetings of His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation. He emphasized the importance Burundi places on strengthening friendly relations and cooperation with their respective countries. Regarding relations between Burundi and Mali, the Assistant Minister recalled the historical ties between the two countries and expressed his hope to see this cooperation further strengthened. For his part, Ambassador Seydou Coulibaly affirmed that relations between Mali and Burundi are excellent. He noted that the last coop-

eration agreements between the two countries date back to 1984 and that it would be beneficial to establish a permanent framework for bilateral consultations. He also mentioned that he had met with the Malian community living in Burundi, whom he encouraged to contribute to the country's development and to closer ties between the two nations.



During his meeting with the Ambassador of Mauritania, Mr. Adolphe Bukuru commended the strong relations of cooperation and mutual understanding that exist between the two countries. He expressed his desire to see this cooperation further developed in several sectors, including agriculture, fisheries, and the exchange of expertise in various development fields. Speaking next, Mr. El Hussein Ould Nagi confirmed the strength of the friendly relations and cooperation between Mauritania and Burundi, while reaffirming his commitment to working towards strengthening these ties.



Regarding relations between Burundi and Bangladesh,

the Assistant to the Minister emphasized the excellent existing relationship and advocated for its consolidation through the regular organization of bilateral meetings. He specifically mentioned opportunities for cooperation in the fields of agriculture and livestock farming.

For his part, Mr. Sitwat Nayeem indicated that the two countries have significant prospects for cooperation, particularly in rice cultivation, agricultural training, and the provision of scholarships in fields related to rice production.

During these various meetings, the Assistant to the Minister also presented to the new Ambassadors the major events that Burundi is preparing to organize, notably Diplomatic Week and the ceremonies marking the celebration of the 64th anniversary of Burundi's Independence, on July 1, 2026. He cordially invited them to participate in these activities. **(MFARIDC)**

## Burundi mobilizes stakeholders for economic and cultural diplomacy in service of development



On Thursday, June 25, 2026, in Bujumbura, His Excellence Ambassador Édouard Bizimana, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation, presided over an exchange meeting dedicated to the opportunities offered by Burundian diplomacy within the framework of national development.

This initiative, which highlights the strategic scope of Burundian diplomacy and the mobilization of national actors to strengthen the country's image, brought to-

gether representatives from the private sector-notably the Federal Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Burundi (CFCIB)-Burundian artists, as well as representatives from other key development sectors, such as the Burundi Development Promotion Agency. All these stakeholders were called upon to reflect on ways to promote the country's image through economic and cultural diplomacy, at a time when Burundi holds the presidency of the African Union.



In his opening remarks, His Excellence the Minister recalled that Burundi is a country rich in opportunities and urged private sector enterprises to enhance the national

image through the services they offer to visitors. He emphasized that it is the duty of every Burundian citizen to contribute to the country's visibility, highlighting the continental responsibility entrusted to Burundi and the major milestones scheduled during its presidency of the African Union.

The Minister particularly invited entrepreneurs from the hotel, tourism, artistic, and private sectors to raise public awareness about the importance of promoting the country's image during upcoming continental events, such as the Meeting of Ministers of Defense, the gathering dedicated to young girls and women, as well as the 5th edition of the Continental Dialogue, which will welcome nearly 1,200 participants.

During the discussions, artists expressed their desire for a solid cultural legal framework, including a national cultural policy and a law on sponsorship. These instruments would protect and encourage artists in their activities while strengthening their contribution to Burundi's cultural diplomacy.

Mr. Denis Nshimirimana, Secretary-General of the CFCIB, welcomed the initiative to meet with artists and the private sector. He expressed appreciation for an economic diplomacy that highlights business opportunities to Burundians and supports the private sector in its contribution toward achieving the nation-

al vision of becoming an emerging country by 2040 and a developed country by 2060. He indicated that the private sector is satisfied with the fact that Burundi waived visa fees for 21 countries during the 23rd COMESA Heads of State and Government Summit held from October 28 to 31, 2024, in Bujumbura. He invited the hospitality and airport sectors to employ bilingual staff (English-French) and expressed the desire to establish sub-committees that would submit progress reports every six months.

During the exchanges, Mr. Léonce Ngabo, Legal Representative of the FONGAL Foundation, pleaded for the establishment of a cultural legal framework that unites and protects artists, specifically a clear cultural policy and a law on sponsorship to encourage artists in their endeavors so they can benefit from their work.

In conclusion, His Excellence Édouard Bizimana urged artists and the private sector to work in synergy to promote the image and visibility of Burundi. He announced that a subsequent meeting will gather artists, journalists, influencers, private sector representatives, and various national institutions (OBR, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry in charge of Culture) to explore new opportunities and set up dedicated committees for the promotion of economic and cultural diplomacy. This demonstrates that Burundi seeks to combine economic openness with cultural promotion to achieve its development ambitions. (MFARIDC)

## Diplomatic Week – 2026 Edition: Economy at the heart of Burundian diplomacy



**O**n June 26, 2026, in Bujumbura, His Excellence Ambassador Édouard Bizimana, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Inte-

gration, and Development Cooperation, officially opened the 11th edition of the Diplomatic Week. The event took place in the Ministry's conference room under the theme: "Economic Diplomacy and Strategic Partnerships: Levers for Achieving the Objectives of the Vision for Burundi as an Emerging Country by 2040 and a Developed Country by 2060."

In his address, Minister Édouard Bizimana welcomed the guests and expressed his gratitude to the diplomatic missions accredited to Burundi, international and regional organizations, development partners, and all dignitaries present. He emphasized that their participation reflects the keen interest in Burundian diplomacy, its influence, and the opportunities it offers.

The Minister recalled that the Diplomatic Week aims to establish a framework for exchanges free from standard protocols, allowing for a better understanding of

Burundi: its natural beauty, its cultural identity, and the Government's efforts to enhance the well-being of the population. It also aims to highlight the country's authenticity and the deep aspirations of its people.



His Excellence specified that this edition is part of a visionary momentum where economic diplomacy and strategic partnerships serve as essential pillars to propel Burundi toward emergence by 2040 and sustainable development by 2060. By placing the economy at the heart of its diplomacy, the country affirms its commitment to consolidating its domestic assets and opening up further to the world.

The Minister presented Burundi's new diplomatic strategy, structured around five key pillars:

- .Attraction of foreign investments
- .Technology transfer
- .Tourism promotion
- .Progressive industrialization
- .Infrastructure development

These pillars rely on the strengthening of local and international partnerships to ensure their successful implementation.

The Minister announced that excursions will be organized to visit production and processing enterprises, both in Bujumbura and across the interior of the country. These visits will allow participants to witness the positive impact of foreign investments, technology transfer, and tourism promotion.

He also recalled that the Vision Burundi 2040–2060 serves as a national roadmap mobilizing public institutions, the private sector, and all citizens around a common goal: to build a prosperous, stable, competitive, and globally open Burundi.

His Excellence invited partners to share their experiences and suggestions to enrich collective reflection on ways to further strengthen partnerships. He reaffirmed Burundi's attachment to multilateralism, international cooperation, regional integration, and the peaceful resolution of conflicts.

On this occasion, Ambassador Laurent Kavakure encouraged the diplomatic corps, international and regional organizations, as well as partners to become economic ambassadors for Burundi by highlighting the country's numerous potentialities.



The discussions continued through a panel session in which eminent panelists, including His Excellence Édouard Bizimana, took part. They all converged on the need to reinforce economic diplomacy, materialized by the effective implementation of the pillars of the Vision for Burundi as an Emerging Country by 2040 and Developed by 2060.



The second phase of the event was dedicated to a guided tour of the Afitextile Company. Many other businesses and tourist sites will be visited for this purpose to highlight the economic and investment opportunities that Burundi offers. (MFARIDC)

REPUBLIQUE DU BURUNDI

PRESIDENCE DE LA REPUBLIQUE  
Secrétariat Général de l'Etat

---

## PRESS RELEASE N°07/2026 OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 2026

The Council of Ministers met this Wednesday, June 24, 2026, in Bujumbura, the economic capital of Burundi, under the chairmanship of His Excellency the President of the Republic, Major General Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE.

Following the presentation and adoption of the agenda, His Excellency the President of the Republic invited the Prime Minister to present a summary of the observations arising from the preparatory meeting of the Council of Ministers, which had been held on June 22, 2026, and was dedicated to the preliminary analysis of the same items on the agenda.

### 1. Draft Law on the ratification by the Republic of Burundi of the Cooperation Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Burundi and the Government of the Republic of Angola relating to the exemption of visas for holders of diplomatic and service passports, signed in Addis Ababa on February 12, 2026

1

Presented by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation

This Agreement, signed on February 12, 2026, with the aim of further strengthening bilateral relations between the two parties, will allow nationals of either Party to the Agreement, holding diplomatic and service passports, to enter, transit through, stay in, and exit the territory of the other Party without the obligation of a visa. Following the analysis, the draft was adopted subject to minor editorial corrections.

This Agreement, signed on February 12, 2026, with the aim of further strengthening bilateral relations between the two parties, will allow nationals of either Party to the Agreement, holding diplomatic and service passports, to enter, transit through, stay in, and exit the territory of the other Party without the

REPUBLIQUE DU BURUNDI



PRESIDENCE DE LA REPUBLIQUE  
Secrétariat Général de l'Etat

---

---

obligation of a visa. Following the analysis, the draft was adopted subject to minor editorial corrections.

**2. Draft Public-Private Partnership contracts for the design, construction, ownership, operation, maintenance, and transfer of the DAMA 015 (9.8 MW) and SIKU 011 (12.4 MW) run-of-river hydropower plants by the company DAMA HYDROPOWER SPRL**

**3. Draft Public-Private Partnership contract for the design, construction, ownership, operation, maintenance, and transfer of the 500 MWp photovoltaic plant with a 100 MW backup, located in Buhumuza Province, Ruyigi and Gisuru Communes, by the company ENSMART International Limited,**

These projects were presented by the Permanent Secretary, the Minister of Mineral Resources, Energy, Industry, Commerce, and Tourism being on an official mission abroad.

2

In Burundi, an energy deficit has been observed for several years, whereas energy is a prerequisite for the structural transformation of the economy and for the sustainable development of a country. To meet the ever-growing demand for electricity, investment projects aimed at renovating existing infrastructure and building new ones are necessary to achieve greater energy production at a lower cost.

It is within this case that the State of Burundi plans to conclude Public-Private Partnership Contracts with:

**1° The Company SOPED/TEMBO POWER to design, finance, construct, own, operate, maintain, and transfer two run-of-river hydropower plants of 12.4 MW and 9.8 MW respectively, on the Siguvyaye and Dama rivers, according to the "Build, Own, Operate, and Transfer (BOOT)" partnership principle, for a non-renewable period of 25 years from the commercial operation date.**

REPUBLIQUE DU BURUNDI

PRESIDENCE DE LA REPUBLIQUE  
Secrétariat Général de l'Etat

**2°The Company Ensmart International SPRL to design, finance, construct, own, operate, maintain, and transfer the 500 MW solar photovoltaic plant with 100 MW storage, according to the "Build, Own, Operate, and Transfer (BOOT)" partnership principle, for a non-renewable period of 25 years from the commercial operation date. The said project is designed to capitalize on the solar potential in Ruyigi, in Buhumuza Province. It is an initiative of EnSmart International SPRL.**

Following the analysis, these projects were adopted with the recommendation that, with regard to hydroelectric dams, care should always be taken to establish a dam amortization fund, which will serve for their rehabilitation at the time of their transfer to the State.

**4. Draft Decree granting a gold and associated minerals exploitation permit within the Masaka perimeter, in Butihinda Commune, Buhumuza Province, in favor of the Company SOTBU Mining Company Limited,**

Presented by the Permanent Secretary, the Minister of Mineral Resources, Energy, Industry, Commerce, and Tourism being on an official mission abroad

The company SOTBU will be created from the contributions of the company SOTB and the company SOPEBU as shareholders, with SOTB holding 84% and SOPEBU holding 16%. Following the analysis, the Council of Ministers gave its agreement in principle for the continuation of the process, notably by establishing the regulatory text authorizing SOPEBU to form a joint venture with SOTB, as well as the agreement between the State of Burundi and SOTBU, which will detail the contributions of each party and the profit-sharing arrangements.

**5. Draft Decree granting a colombo-tantalite and cassiterite exploitation permit within the Kabarore perimeter in Butanyerera Province, in favor of the Company SOMEBU Mining Company Limited,**

3

REPUBLIQUE DU BURUNDI



PRESIDENCE DE LA REPUBLIQUE  
Secrétariat Général de l'Etat

---

---

## **6. Draft Amendment to Contract No. 01/ARCP/2019 on the Public-Private Partnership for the design, construction, ownership, operation, maintenance, and transfer of two cascade hydropower plants on the Kirasa River, with a total installed capacity of 16 MW,**

Presented by the Permanent Secretary, the Minister of Mineral Resources, Energy, Industry, Commerce, and Tourism being on an official mission abroad

The company Kirasa Energy and the State of Burundi signed a Public-Private Partnership contract to design, finance, construct, operate, maintain, and transfer the 16.5 MW cascade hydropower plant.

During the implementation of the project, a landslide occurred at one of the cascades, affecting the site and resulting in the destruction of the recently built operations base. Following this incident, the site planned for a 6 MW capacity was abandoned, resulting in a reduction of the total capacity to 10.5 MW.

Faced with this situation, the company submitted a request for the revision of certain contractual clauses. This draft amendment to the contract is proposed within this context.

Following the analysis, the draft was adopted subject to a few proposed corrections regarding form.

## **7. Draft Decree declaring the public utility of the area intended to host the infrastructure of the Presidency of the Republic,**

Presented by the Minister of Environment, Agriculture, and Livestock

The purpose of this draft decree is to clear an area of forty-seven hectares, eighty-five ares, and two centiares (47ha 85a 02ca) for reasons of public utility.

REPUBLIQUE DU BURUNDI

PRESIDENCE DE LA REPUBLIQUE  
Secrétariat Général de l'Etat

The first part, covering an area of 37ha 43a 99ca, hosts the infrastructure of the NTARE RUSHATSI Presidential Palace. The population that owned land in this area has already received compensation for their plots, properties, and real estate assets, in accordance with the texts in force.

The second part is located upstream of the NTARE RUSHATSI Presidential Palace and extends over an area of 10ha 41a 03ca. This area is already demarcated, and there is a need to inventory the plots, properties, and real estate assets located there to determine the cost of compensation to be granted to the population, in accordance with the applicable regulations.

After analysis, the draft was adopted with the recommendation to consider the resettlement of the displaced persons on the site originally intended to host the Presidential infrastructure.

5

## **8. Draft Decree amending the rental tariffs for rural State-owned lands,** Presented by the Minister of Environment, Agriculture, and Livestock

Decree No. 100/160 of November 21, 1990, fixing the rental tariffs for rural State-owned lands made available to private individuals, whether natural or legal persons, for their exploitation for agricultural, livestock, and other purposes, is no longer current. Indeed, it does not take into account the transfers and concessions of land from the State's public domain, whereas they must be managed like other lands belonging to the State.

This draft updates the rental tariffs for these State-owned lands but also classifies them into categories according to their geographic location relative to urban centers and their proximity to public roads, and according to their use.

REPUBLIQUE DU BURUNDI

PRESIDENCE DE LA REPUBLIQUE  
Secrétariat Général de l'Etat

After discussion and debate, the draft was adopted with, among other recommendations, the revision of the tariff downward so as not to discourage investors in the agricultural sector.

**9. Draft Decree on the provisional declaration of public utility of a plot of land covering an area of 73a 58ca, located on the Rukobe sub-hill, Nkomwe hill, Kiganda Commune, Gitega Province, for the preservation of a statue and the construction of a monument in honor of the late Bihome,**

*Presented by the Minister of Environment, Agriculture, and Livestock*

The late BIHOME sacrificed himself to save King MWEZI Gisabo and the Burundian Monarchy. To preserve the memory of this unforgettable figure for the Burundian people, it was decided to build a statue and a monument in his memory, following the example of other heroes.

As the identified land belongs to private individuals, a decree declaring the provisional public utility of this land is necessary. The persons affected by this project will be compensated for the crops established on the identified plots.

After analysis, the draft was adopted with the recommendation to instead develop the identified location into a well-organized historical and tourist site, serving as cultural heritage symbolizing the resistance of the Kingdom of Burundi to colonization.

**10. Draft Decree declaring the public utility of the necessary perimeter for the black rock borrow pit for the construction of National Road No. 3 (RN3), section Bujumbura-Gitaza to Cumba, Masama Hill, Kabezi Zone, Bujumbura Province,**

6

REPUBLIQUE DU BURUNDI



PRESIDENCE DE LA REPUBLIQUE  
Secrétariat Général de l'Etat

---

---

Presented by the Minister of Infrastructure, Social Housing, Transport, and Equipment

Within the framework of the construction of National Road No. 3 (RN3), section Bujumbura-Gitaza, a black rock deposit of vital importance and of high technical quality was located at Cumba, on Masama hill (Kabezi Zone).

The purpose of this decree is to declare the site of public utility to allow for the acquisition of the quarry site for this black rock. This approach aims to secure the Corporation that will carry out the works, while establishing a legal and orderly framework for the access to materials for the Company China First Highway Engineering for the settlement of compensations due to persons affected by the project.

7

After analysis, the draft was adopted with, among other recommendations, the specification of the surface area of the site in the decree.

#### **11. Draft Decree amending Decree No. 100/070 of April 27, 2024, determining the roles, attributions, and relational framework of stakeholders within the framework of the decentralization of the authorizing officer function,**

Presented by the Permanent Secretary, the Minister of Finance, Budget, and the Digital Economy being on an official mission abroad

This draft decree is proposed to strengthen the accountability of managers and improve the speed and efficiency of public expenditure execution.

The minister responsible for finance, until now the sole authorizing officer for expenditure, transfers this competence to sectoral ministers and heads of

REPUBLIQUE DU BURUNDI

PRESIDENCE DE LA REPUBLIQUE  
Secrétariat Général de l'Etat

constitutional institutions, who become Principal Authorizing Officers of their budgets.

The draft decree incorporates aspects of the deconcentration of the authorizing officer function at the provincial and communal levels, in line with the ongoing administrative reform aimed at the deconcentration of public services.

After analysis, the Council of Ministers noted that the draft needs to be reworked to conform with the spirit of the decentralization policy. A technical team will be established for this purpose, and the improved draft will return to the Council of Ministers.

8

## **12. Draft Order revising Order No. 121/PM/005 of 12/04/2024 on the remuneration of personnel of Projects financed by Development Partners, Presented by the Permanent Secretary, the Minister of Finance, Budget, and the Digital Economy being on an official mission abroad**

This revision is proposed because a significant disparity has been observed among personnel compared to the directly superior position, particularly concerning accountants and assistant accountants.

It has also been noted that there are other minor omissions in the Order that merit review, notably the calculation of INSS contributions for certain employees and positions that do not appear in the Order even though they exist in certain Projects.

Following the analysis, the draft was adopted.

## **13. Draft Memorandum of Understanding for the modernization of pedagogical production tools and the revitalization of the RPP between the**

REPUBLIQUE DU BURUNDI



PRESIDENCE DE LA REPUBLIQUE  
Secrétariat Général de l'Etat

---

---

**Government of the Republic of Burundi and the Company B and Partners  
Sprl,**  
Presented by the Minister of National Education and Scientific Research

Currently, the Régie de Production Pédagogique (RPP) is facing a technological deficit that negatively affects the performance of its equipment. The conclusion of this Memorandum of Understanding will allow for the supply, installation, operation, and maintenance of equipment intended to ensure the modernization of the RPP and to strengthen its production capacities.

This Memorandum constitutes a declaration of intent and a preparatory step towards the conclusion of a Public-Private Partnership Contract, which will allow the RPP to recover this equipment after an agreed period.

The Council of Ministers authorize the negotiations with the Company B and Partners Sprl.

9

REPUBLIQUE DU BURUNDI

PRESIDENCE DE LA REPUBLIQUE  
Secrétariat Général de l'Etat

#### 14. Note on modalities for stabilizing scarce human resources to limit brain drain,

Presented by the Minister of National Education and Scientific Research

This note is proposed to address the issue related to the brain drain observed, particularly among teaching researchers and doctors. It proposes a list of measures that could be considered to stabilize them.

After analysis, the Council noted that the matter deserves to be examined more thoroughly as it may be linked to the country's economic situation or a specific context. Those who leave are not necessarily the lowest-paid individuals. It is necessary to understand the root causes of the departures in order to find a sustainable solution.

1

Done at Bujumbura, June 25, 2026

The Secretary General of the State  
Jérôme NIYONZIMA. –



# Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation

Department of Communication

[www.mae.gov.bi](http://www.mae.gov.bi)

Twitter: @MAEBurundi