



President Ndayishimiye officially launched the academic year at the Higher Police Institute and called on the new officers to promote a professional and exemplary police force



On Thursday, July 30, 2026, the President of the Republic of Burundi and Supreme Commander of the Defense and Security Forces, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, graced with his presence the ceremonies organized at the Higher Police Institute (ISP) of Mitakataka, in Buzanza commune, Bujumbura province, marked by the final incorporation of the officer and chaplain candidates of the 10th class, the swearing-in of the officers of the 5th class and the chaplains of the 8th class, the presentation of diplomas to the officers of the 5th class as well as the official launch of the 2025-2026 academic year.

In his address, the Burundian Head of State recalled that the creation of the Higher Police Institute responds to the Government's desire to provide Burundi with a modern, professional, disciplined police force that respects human rights and the laws of the Republic.

The President of the Republic first expressed his deep gratitude to the parents for the efforts made in the education and guidance of their children, now called upon to serve the Nation, before congratulating the new graduates, the teaching staff, the heads of the Institute as well as all the partners who contributed to their

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training. Addressing the graduates, President Ndayishimiye urged them to demonstrate exemplary patriotism, integrity, and discipline in carrying out their duties. He called on them to reject all forms of self-centeredness and to place the nation's best interests above personal ones in all circumstances, so as to embody the values of a police force serving the people and capable of effectively supporting the implementation of Burundi's vision: "an emerging country by 2040 and a developed country by 2060."

The Burundian leader briefed the new officers on the various offenses they will face in the performance of their duties, while also warning them against incom-

patible behavior with their noble mission. He urged them to uphold the laws of the Republic, protect citizens' rights, and carry out their responsibilities with impartiality and professionalism.

As the elections approach, the Burundian Head of State emphasized the crucial role of the police in maintaining a climate of peace, security, and tranquility. He called upon them to meticulously ensure respect for the rights of all citizens and the applicable legal provisions, in order to guarantee a peaceful and transparent electoral process that adheres to the principles of the rule of law.

(Presidency)

The Canadian Ambassador to Burundi bid farewell to the Head of State after a three-year mission



The President of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, received in audience on Wednesday, July 29, 2026, the Canadian Ambassador to Burundi, based in Kigali, Rwanda, Mrs. Julie Crowley. She had come to bid him farewell after three years of service in Burundi, her term having come to an end.

Discussions between the two focused on bilateral relations between the Republic of Burundi and Canada.

The Spokesperson for the President of the Republic of Burundi, Mrs. Nancy Ninette Mutoni, indicated that the Burundian Head of State received the Canadian Ambassador to Burundi, who came to bid him farewell after three years of mission and that her mandate in Burundi had come to an end.

Given that President Ndayishimiye currently holds the chairmanship of the African Union, they also discussed various issues affecting several countries on the African continent. Ambassador Crowley took this opportunity to express her satisfaction with the excellent collaboration she has maintained with the various Burundian institutions during her term.

She also expressed her satisfaction with the excellent relations between the two countries. The Burundian Head of State thanked her for her professionalism, foresight, and commitment throughout her tenure as Canada's Ambassador to Burundi. He wished her every success in her future role and welcomed her back to Burundi whenever she wishes to visit the country. **(Le Renouveau)**

The Deputy-Speakers of the Senate are participating in the maintenance work on the road linking the Gatabo and Mugeni areas of the Makamba commune



During this period when the parliamentary holidays of July are tending towards the end, the

Deputy-Speakers of the Senate, the Honorable G  n  rose NGENDANGANYA and Clotilde KAMPIMBARE joined the population of the Gatabo and Mugeni areas of the Makamba commune, in Burunga province, on Thursday, July 30, 2026, in the maintenance work of the road joining these areas.

In a message addressed to the inhabitants of these two administrative entities, just after these works, Honorable NGENDANGANYA called on them to continue to go about their business given that this road facilitates trade between these areas and the United Republic of Tanzania.

She offered them further advice, urging them to focus on development projects such as planting avocado and coffee trees, building boarding schools, and improving cleanliness and sanitation. At the end of the day's work, the two officials attended a football match between teams from the Gatabo and Mugeni zones.



The match ended with a score of one goal to zero in favor of the Mugeni zone team. **(Senate)**

Workshop to evaluate the activities carried out by the Prime Minister's Office during the 2025-2026 fiscal year



Under the leadership of the Burundian Prime Minister Mr. Nestor Ntahontuye, the Prime Minister's Office of Burundi organized, on Monday, July 27, 2026, a workshop to evaluate the activities carried out during the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

This workshop, held at the Ministry of Finance, Budget and Digital Economy, is part of Burundi's Vision for "an emerging country by 2040 and a developed country by 2060". It brought together key officials from the Prime Minister's Office, including the Chief of Staff, the Deputy Chief of Staff, Heads of Offices and Heads of Units, with the aim of conducting an objective review of achievements, identifying challenges encountered and formulating recommendations to improve institutional performance.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Ntahontuye emphasized the importance of regularly evaluating government actions to ensure effectiveness and efficiency in public management. He stressed that this approach is part of promoting good economic and political governance, which is essential for achieving national goals. The workshop's main objective was to assess the implementation of the Prime Minister's Office's activities for the 2025-2026 fiscal year. More specifically, it aimed at: taking stock of the progress of planned activities; identifying challenges encountered; highlighting lessons learned; and formulating recommendations to improve future performance.

This workshop began with a welcome address from the Chief of Staff, followed by briefings from the Prime Minister. The Heads of Office, supported by the Heads of Units, then presented the progress of three major activities, highlighting achievements, challenges encountered, and proposed solutions. Discussions and debates allowed for a deeper collective reflection before the Burundian Prime Minister formulated his final recommendations. **(Prime Minister's Office)**

ducting an objective review of achievements, identifying challenges encountered and formulating recommendations to improve institutional performance.

Historic agreement between Gabon and Equatorial Guinea

On the sidelines of the 49th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council of the African Union, under the enlightened leadership of H.E. Ambassador Edouard Bizimana, in his capacity as Chair of the session, the historic Gabon-

Equatorial Guinea agreement was signed on Tuesday, July 28, 2026. This joint commitment agreement between the Gabonese Republic and the Republic of Equatorial Guinea marks a major step in the implementation of the International Court of Justice ruling on

May 19, 2025. This act illustrates the political maturity of two African nations that have chosen dialogue and cooperation as their preferred paths.



By deciding to implement the ICJ ruling in a coordinated manner, Gabon and Equatorial Guinea demonstrate that even complex disputes can be resolved in accordance with international law and the values of good neighborliness. This action sends a powerful signal to Africa and the world. Peace and diplomacy must prevail over confrontation.

This ceremony concretely illustrates the African Union's



ambition to promote the peaceful settlement of disputes. It confirms that African mediation and facilitation mechanisms produce tangible results when they are based on trust, responsibility, and the genuine political will of the parties involved.

The Republic of Burundi reaffirms its commitment to supporting all initiatives promoting peace and cooperation. The agreement signed between Gabon and Equatorial Guinea opens a new chapter in their relations and serves as an inspiring model for other African nations, in line with Agenda 2063. The Africa we want. (MFARIDC)

Bilateral meeting between Burundi and the Republic of the Congo



On the sidelines of the 49th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council of the African Union, His

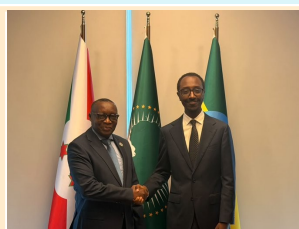
Excellency Mr. Ambassador Edouard Bizimana, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation of Burundi, held a bilateral meeting with His Excellency Mr. Constant Serges Bounda, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Congo.

During the meeting, the two officials discussed issues of common interest, reaffirming their commitment to strengthening bilateral and diplomatic relations be-

tween their respective countries. Discussions also focused on coordinating positions within the multilateral framework, particularly regarding mutual support for African candidates in international bodies. Furthermore, the Ministers discussed the prospects related to the upcoming elections for the Secretary General of the International Organization of the Francophonie (OIF), stressing the importance of close consultation and African solidarity to defend the continent's interests within this organization.

This meeting demonstrates the shared commitment of Burundi and the Congo to strengthening their cooperation and promoting concerted diplomacy, serving African aspirations and amplifying the continent's voice on the international stage. (MFARIDC)

Bilateral meeting between Burundi and the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia



On Tuesday, July 28, 2026, in Addis Ababa, on the sidelines of the 49th Ordinary Session of the Executive

Council of the African Union, His Excellency Ambassador Edouard Bizimana, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation of Burundi, held a bilateral meeting with His Excellency Dr. Gedion Timothewos, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federal

Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

During the meeting, the two Ministers discussed issues of common interest and reaffirmed their com-

mitment to further strengthening the long-standing bilateral relations between Burundi and Ethiopia. **(MFARIDC)**

Bilateral meeting between Burundi and South Africa



On the sidelines of the 49th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council of the African Union, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, His Excellency Ambassador Edouard Bizimana, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation of Burundi, had, on Wednesday, July 29, 2026, a bilateral meeting with His Excellency Ambassador Ronald Lamola, Minister of

International Relations and Cooperation of the Republic of South Africa.

The discussions between the two officials focused on issues of common interest, notably strengthening bilateral relations through the upcoming establishment of the Joint Cooperation Commission (JCC) between the two countries. The talks also addressed topics related to migration in Africa, within the framework of a concerted approach aimed at promoting harmonious and equitable management of this continental phenomenon.

This meeting demonstrates the shared commitment of Burundi and South Africa to strengthening their strategic partnership and actively contributing to the regional and continental integration process. **(MFARIDC)**

Bilateral meeting between Burundi and Ghana



His Excellency Ambassador Edouard Bizimana, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation of Burundi, held a bilateral meeting with His Excellency James Gyakyé Quayson, Deputy Minister at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Ghana on Wednesday, July 29, 2026, in Addis Ababa.

During their meeting, the two Ministers discussed matters of common interest, including strengthening bilateral relations through the upcoming establishment of a Joint Cooperation Commission (JCC) between the two countries. They also agreed to pro-

mote mutual support and the exchange of experiences within the framework of their respective responsibilities as Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the African Union.



The discussions finally turned to the issue of migration in Africa, approached from a perspective of cooperation and solidarity, in order to promote concerted and sustainable management of this continental challenge. This meeting illustrates the shared desire of Burundi and Ghana to strengthen their strategic partnership and actively contribute to the regional and continental integration process. **(MFARIDC)**

The Pan-African Diaspora Week reaffirms the strategic role of the diaspora in the development and transformation of Africa



From July 29 to 30, 2026, Burundi hosted the Pan-African Diaspora Week at Donatus Conference Center in Bujumbura, organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation under the theme: "Dialogue with the Pan-African Diaspora on the development and transformation of Africa».

Organized in the context of Burundi's Presidency of the African Union, this high-level meeting brought together more than 250 participants, including representatives of the Burundian and African diaspora from around the world, government institutions, international organizations, development partners, the private sector and civil society.

The opening ceremonies were marked by several speeches, including those of the Governor of Bujumbura Province, the Director of the African Union Commission for the Diaspora (CIDO), the Resident Coordinator of the United Nations System in Burundi, and the inaugural address delivered by His Excellency Mr. Nestor NTAHONTUYE, Prime Minister of the Republic of Burundi, representing His Excellency Major General Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE, President of the Republic of Burundi and Chairperson of the African Union .



In his address, the Prime Minister praised the strategic role and patriotism of the African diaspora, which he described as "a true bridge of investment, knowledge, and prosperity" for the continent. He reaffirmed Burundi's commitment to strengthening mechanisms that promote greater diaspora involvement in national and

continental development.

For two days, participants exchanged ideas on how to make the diaspora a key player in Africa's transformation. Discussions focused on the African Union's Agenda 2063, the role of the diaspora as Africa's sixth region, investment mobilization, skills development, knowledge transfer, and priority investment sectors on the continent.



The event was enriched by presentations, panel discussions, a documentary film screening showcasing the achievements of the Burundian diaspora, and thematic group work dedicated to engaging African diasporas in sustainable development, job creation, investment promotion, and facilitating skills mobilization. Following the discussions, several recommendations were formulated to strengthen the diaspora's contribution to Africa's development. These recommendations include improving the business climate, strengthening investment protection, simplifying administrative procedures through the digitalization of services, and establishing financial mechanisms tailored to diaspora investors.

Participants also emphasized the need to develop a skills map of Africa, strengthen the recognition of professional qualifications, facilitate the movement of talent, and promote strategic partnerships between African governments, the private sector, and diaspora communities. They further expressed their hope that His Excellency Major General Evariste Ndayishimiye, President of the Republic of Burundi and current Chairperson of the African Union, would be recognized as a Champion of the African Diaspora, in recognition of his commitment to mobilizing the diaspora for the continent's development. They also proposed that Bujumbura be recognized as the

Capital of the Pan-African Diaspora.



In closing the proceedings, His Excellency Ambassador Édouard Bizimana, Minister of Foreign Affairs,

Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation, expressed the Burundian government's profound gratitude to the participants for their engagement and the quality of the discussions. He commended the skills, expertise, and commitment of the African diaspora, considered a strategic partner for innovation, knowledge transfer, and investment mobilization.

Minister Édouard Bizimana invited members of the diaspora to leave with a clear mission: to contribute more to building a prosperous and resilient Africa. He urged them to intensify their efforts to achieve the African Union's Agenda 2063, putting their skills, resources, and networks at the service of the continent's development.

The 2026 Pan-African Diaspora Week concluded with a renewed commitment to making the diaspora a strategic force for accelerating African integration, promoting investment, strengthening skills sharing, and contributing to the realization of "the Africa we want," in line with the vision of the African Union's Agenda 2063. **(MFARIDC)**

Meeting between the Permanent Secretary and the Country Director of ENABEL



On Monday, July 27, 2026, Mr. Sophonie Nitunga, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation, received Mrs. Ann Dedeurwaerdere, Country Director of ENABEL in Burundi, for a farewell visit at the end of her mission in Burundi. Mrs. Ann expressed, on her own behalf and on behalf of her organization, her deep gratitude for the warm welcome she received from her arrival in Burundi until the end of her mission. She highlighted ENABEL's main areas of intervention in Burundi, particularly health, education, and agriculture, while praising the friendly and cooperative relationship that characterized the partnership

between ENABEL and Burundi. She especially appreciated the Ministry's collaboration and support in implementing the projects undertaken by ENABEL.

Regarding bilateral programs supported by additional European Union funding, she assured that these activities would continue. She also mentioned ongoing projects, such as the modernization of equipment for the Burundi Civil Aviation Authority to enable it to operate in accordance with the standards of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), specifying that her successor would take over to ensure their successful implementation.

Taking the floor, Mr. Sophonie Nitunga warmly thanked Mrs. Ann Dedeurwaerdere for the quality of their collaboration and for the work carried out in Burundi. He wished her every success in her new role in Brussels, emphasizing Burundi's continued confidence that she would serve as an ambassador to its future partners. He concluded by reassuring everyone that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs remains committed to working closely with the new Enabel team to consolidate and strengthen the achievements of this partnership. **(MFARIDC)**

Meeting between the Permanent Secretary and the Chargé d'Affaires ad interim of the Embassy of Japan in Burundi



On Tuesday, July 28, 2026, the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation, Mr. Sophonie NITUNGA, received in audience Mr. Shunsuke SAITO, Chargé d'affaires ad interim of the Embassy of Japan in Burundi.

Speaking on behalf of the nation, the Permanent Secretary, Mr. Sophonie Nitunga, commended the excellent cooperative relations between Burundi and Japan and thanked the Japanese Government for its contin-

ued support of Burundi's development. He welcomed Mrs. Aya Katagiri and wished her every success in her new role, assuring her of the Burundian authorities' availability and support.

Addressing Mr. Yuta Moriguchi, the Permanent Secretary thanked him for his efforts during his tenure to strengthen bilateral relations. He wished him a safe return to Japan and every success in his new responsibilities, encouraging him to remain a true ambassador for Burundi. He also encouraged him to promote Burundi to Japanese investors, highlighting the numerous investment opportunities the country offers and the climate of peace and security that prevails there.

The discussions focused on topics of common interest between Burundi and Japan. During the meeting, Mr. Shunsuke Saito emphasized the excellent relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries. He also announced that the Japanese government had just awarded three scholarships to Burundian students. As part of efforts to strengthen cultural exchanges between the two countries, he informed them that Japanese films would soon be screened at the French Institute in Burundi. Mr. Saito also took the opportunity to introduce Mrs. Aya Katagiri, who succeeds Mr. Yuta Moriguchi, formerly in charge of Burundi affairs at the Japanese Embassy in Kigali. Mr. Moriguchi has completed his term and is returning to Japan. **(MFARIDC)**

AGRICULTURE: Burundi structures its sunflower sector to strengthen its sovereignty in edible oil



The Ministry of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock, in collaboration with the Netherlands Development Organization and the Agri-

cultural Development Support Project for Nutrition and Entrepreneurship (PADANE), with financial support from the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Burundi, launched the establishment of the National Platform for Sunflower Sector Stakeholders on Tuesday, July 28, 2026. This platform aims at sustainably organize the sunflower value chain in order to increase national production, support producers, and contribute to Burundi's economic transformation.

Opening the proceedings on behalf of the Minister of the Environment, Agriculture, and Livestock, Permanent Secretary Emmanuel Niyungeko stated that this national platform provides a permanent framework for dialogue among producers, cooperatives, processors, manufacturers, development partners, and public authorities. He ex-

plained that this initiative reflects the Government's commitment to better organizing the sunflower sector, transforming it into a genuine driver of economic development. He believes it will facilitate the coordination of efforts among various stakeholders, enable them to defend their interests, and effectively support the growth of this strategic crop.

The Permanent Secretary reiterated that agriculture remains a priority for the Government. Through this platform, the State intends to increase national sunflower production, reduce dependence on edible oil imports, improve producers' incomes, and strengthen the capacities of local processing industries. He emphasized that this initiative is part of the implementation of Burundi's Vision for "an emerging country by 2040 and a developed country by 2060," which aims at building a more competitive economy, based in particular on the development of agricultural value chains.

During these two days of work, participants are called upon to propose concrete solutions to improve the availability of improved seeds, increase yields, guarantee a fair price for producers, strengthen processing units and ensure marketing that meets national and international standards.

Mr. Niyungeko acknowledged that several challenges still persist in the development of the sector. He invited stakeholders to share their experiences in order to identify sustainable solutions capable of strengthening the sector's competitiveness.

Speaking at the event, Mr. Eddy Niyonzima, Representative of the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Burundi, reaffirmed his institution's commitment to supporting the establishment of the National Platform for Sunflower Sector Stakeholders. He indicated that this support aims at strengthening all value chains within the sector, in order to guarantee the platform's sustainability and long-term viability. According to him, better organization of the various links in the chain will enable Burundian producers to improve their productivity, create more added value, and contribute more effectively to building the national economy. He commended the collaboration between the Ministry of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock, the Netherlands Development Organization, and the Agricultural Development Support Project for Nutrition and Entrepreneurship, considering this partnership an important lever for accelerating the modernization of Burundi's agricultural sector.

The creation of the National Platform for Sunflower Sector Stakeholders marks a significant step in the organization of this crop in Burundi. By bringing together key stakeholders around a shared vision, the Government and its partners intend to make sunflower a sector that drives growth, creates jobs, and strengthens food security and the country's edible oil sovereignty. The recommendations stemming from these meetings should lay the foundations for a robust and sustainable platform dedicated to the agricultural and economic transformation of Burundi. (RTNB)

Specialized justice: the Supreme Court calls for decisions that serve the economy



On Monday, July 27, 2026, the President of the Supreme Court, Mr. Gamaliel Nkurunziza, held a meeting with the judges and assessors of the specialized courts, as part of a tour of the jurisdictions under the Supreme Court's authority. Mr. Nkurunziza urged the judges of the spe-

cialized courts to render impartial and diligent decisions in order to strengthen investor confidence and contribute to the implementation of Burundi's vision of becoming an "emerging country by 2040 and a developed country by 2060."

The courts visited included the Commercial Court, the Labor Court, the Administrative Court, and the Anti-Corruption Court. According to the President of the Supreme Court, these institutions play a strategic role in achieving the objectives of Burundi's Vision 2040 – an emerging country by 2040 and a developed country by 2060 – due to their contribution to promoting good governance and economic development.

During this meeting, Mr. Nkurunziza urged the magistrates to prioritize mediation between the parties be-

fore the start of trials. He also emphasized the need for high-quality judgments, particularly in the commercial court. He noted that approximately 80% of the decisions rendered by this court are appealed, while some cases remain pending for ten to twenty years, a situation which, he said, undermines the confidence of investors, businesses, and banks in the Burundian judicial system and discourages investment initiatives in the country.

The President of the Supreme Court also called on judges handling cases involving the State to exercise increased vigilance in order to safeguard the public interest. He further deplored certain practices observed among lawyers which, in his view, sometimes hinder amicable settlements. Judges and assessors from the various specialized courts, for their part, outlined several difficulties impeding the performance of their duties. They specifically mentioned insufficient resources, low salaries, inadequate judicial staff, and a lack of specialized training. They advocated for capacity building for

judges, as well as the digitization of case files and legal documents to facilitate their management and transmission. In response to these concerns, the President of the Supreme Court, Mr. Gamaliel Nkurunziza, assured them that significant progress has been made in efforts to improve the working conditions and remuneration of judges. He also announced the acceleration of the provision of operational resources to courts that do not yet have them.

The President of the Supreme Court reaffirmed his institution's commitment to promoting continuing education for judges of specialized courts, noting that many of them come from ordinary courts and require support tailored to the specific demands of their new roles. Through this tour, the Supreme Court aims at strengthening its administrative ties with specialized courts and enhance their effectiveness, with the ambition of making justice a true driver of Burundi's economic and social development. (RTNB)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation

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