



Return of the Burundian Head of State after a series of activities in Egypt



The Burundian Head of State and current Chairperson of the African Union, His Excellence Mr. Évariste Ndayishimiye, returned on Monday, October 5, 2026, after taking part in major continental gatherings held in Egypt. Following his participation in the High-Level Continental Business Forum and the AUDA-NEPAD meeting, His Excellence Mr. Évariste Ndayishimiye chaired the 8th Mid-Year Coordination Meeting of the African Union, Regional Economic Communities, and Regional Mechanisms.

This 8th Mid-Year Coordination Meeting of the African Union, Regional Economic Communities, and Regional Mechanisms notably aimed to strengthen regional and continental integration. On

this occasion, the Burundian Head of State, who chaired this major gathering, reaffirmed Africa's commitment to working together on cross-border projects, peace and security, as well as the integration of youth and women into the continent's development.

Prior to this 8th AU Mid-Year Summit, His Excellence Mr. Évariste Ndayishimiye, in his capacity as the current Chairperson of the African Union, took part in the proceedings of the High-Level Business Forum, which was attended by several African economic operators. According to the Spokesperson for the President of the Republic of Burundi, Mrs. Nancy Ninette Mutoni, the Burundian Head of State championed Africa's voice

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regarding integration and the acceleration of the implementation of the African Union's Agenda 2063. He advocated for the establishment of cross-border infrastructure and fruitful economic cooperation, particularly in the energy, mining, and digital sectors.

President Ndayishimiye also participated in the AUDA-NEPAD Summit, an African Union development agency, on the occasion of its 25th anniversary celebration. He reiterated his commitment to an integrated Africa driven by development ambitions for all its citizens.

On the sidelines of these proceedings, the Burundian Head of State had the opportunity to hold talks with several continental leaders, starting with the host President, His Excellence Abdel Fattah el-Sisi. Their discussions focused on bilateral relations between Egypt and Burundi. The two leaders also exchanged views on issues related to peace and security in several African countries, as well as pathways to resolve situations in countries engaged in open conflict. "It was therefore a highly successful visit, during which he proudly carried the voice of Burundi and Africa," concluded the Spokesperson for the President of the Republic. **(Le Renouveau)**

The Burundian Head of State encourages youth to invest in organic fertilizer production



The Burundian Head of State and friend of the youth, His Excellence Évariste Ndayishimiye, held an initial contact, encouragement, and exchange meeting on Tuesday, October 6, 2026, at the Ntare Rushatsi Palace with young people working in the production and processing of organic fertilizers, as part of promoting the "Bio-Country" concept.

During this meeting, President Ndayishimiye praised the commitment of the young people who chose to invest in a sector called upon to play a major role in transforming Burundian agriculture. He encouraged them to work with determination, patriotism, and an entrepreneurial spirit in order to contribute to the coun-

try's development and the creation of new economic opportunities. The Burundian Head of State particularly emphasized the importance of producing and using organic fertilizers to improve soil fertility and preserve arable lands. He stressed that these lands constitute a precious heritage that must be protected and maintained for current and future generations.

In this regard, His Excellence Évariste Ndayishimiye stated that anyone wishing to produce organic fertilizers should be able to invest in this activity, while those wishing to purchase and use them to improve their agricultural yield must also be able to access them easily. He also called for further development of small livestock farming due to its importance in providing the organic matter necessary for soil fertilization. He encouraged Burundians to view this activity as an opportunity to both enhance agriculture and diversify income sources. Touching upon environmentally friendly solutions, the Burundian Head of State encouraged the promotion of biogas and ecological toilets, which notably allow for better utilization of organic waste and its transformation into useful resources for agriculture.

Furthermore, he stressed the importance of scientific and technical support for the youth engaged in this sector. To this end, the Institute of Agronomic Sciences of Burundi (ISABU) is called upon to place its expertise at the service of producers to help improve the quality and quantity of organic fertilizers. **(Presidency)**

UNICEF Representative to Burundi bids farewell to the First Lady of Burundi

On Tuesday, October 6, 2026, the First Lady of Burundi and President of the Office of the First Lady for Development in Burundi (OPDD-Burundi), H.E. Angéline Ndayishimiye, received

the UNICEF Representative to Burundi, Mrs. France Bégin, in an audience at the Ntare Rushatsi Presidential Palace.



Following the audience, Mrs. France Bégin informed the press that her three (3) year mandate

was coming to an end, which is why she came to bid her farewells. She thanked the First Lady of Burundi for her commitment to the partnership that UNICEF maintains with the Government of Burundi across various fields, including education, child protection, health, and nutrition.

On behalf of the First Lady of Burundi, the Executive Secretary within OPDD-Burundi, Dr. Liliane Nkegurutse, expressed satisfaction in a press interview regarding the collaboration with UNICEF in its various core areas. She expressed hope that this close collaboration with UNICEF in fulfilling its mission in Burundi would long endure. **(Le Renouveau)**

Toward African financial sovereignty: The Burundian Prime Minister to attend the opening of AfCRA



The Prime Minister of Burundi, His Excellence Nestor Ntahontuye, accompanied by his spouse, boarded a flight on Monday, October 5, 2026, bound for the Republic of Mauritius to represent the Burundian Head of State and current Chairperson of the African Union at the solemn opening ceremonies of an African Credit Rating Agency (AfCRA).

Before his departure, His Excellence the Prime Minister stated to the press that this agency was conceptualized and created in 2017, with its headquarters located in Port Louis, Republic of Mauritius. It will serve to evaluate the capacity of African countries to secure long-term loans that correspond to their economic and financial capacities at affordable rates.

The Burundian Prime Minister added that, as an entity belonging to African nations, it will take into account African economic and financial contexts, which will help reduce excessive interest rates tied to over-evaluated risks. He concluded that Burundi will benefit from this by being able to access long-term credits at affordable rates, enabling the realization of projects aimed at its emergence by 2040 and its development by 2060. It is worth noting that prior to this pan-African initiative, the market only relied on a few regional independent actors lacking international credibility. **(Prime Minister's Office)**

The Minister of Foreign Affairs receives the Egyptian Ambassador: Burundi and Egypt reaffirm their willingness to strengthen their bilateral cooperation



His Excellence Ambassador Édouard Bizimana, Minister of

Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation, received in an audience on October 7, 2026, Mrs. Ingie Sherif El Samanoudy, Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt to Burundi, who came for a courtesy visit.

The discussions covered several matters of common interest, notably the strengthening of bilateral cooperation between Burundi and Egypt, the draft resolution

concerning the fight against transnational crime targeting cultural property, as well as requests for support formulated by Egypt to the Government of Burundi within different international and regional organizations.

During the meeting, Mrs. Ingie Sherif El Samanoudy expressed her gratitude for the warm welcome extended to her as well as for the Minister's availability. She also requested the Minister's feedback on Burundi's participation in the activities of the El Alamein Summit, held in the Arab Republic of Egypt.

In response, Minister Édouard Bizimana indicated that the impressions were overall positive, highlighting that the themes addressed during this summit met the shared concerns of the participating States and contributed to reflections on development and cooperation challenges.

His Excellence the Minister furthermore indicated that the bilateral talks he held with his Egyptian and Chadian counterparts on the sidelines of the El Alamein Summit took place in a cordial atmosphere and proved particularly fruitful.

Among the matters examined was the one discussed during his meeting with His Excellence Mr. Badr Abdel-Aty, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt. The two officials discussed the file related to granting a plot of land intended for the construction of the Embassy of the Republic of Burundi in Cairo, a step aligning with the principle of diplomatic reciprocity between the two countries.

Reacting to this matter, Mrs. Ingie Sherif reassured the Minister of her commitment to ensuring a diligent follow-up on this file with the competent authorities of her country, with a view to contributing to its successful conclusion as swiftly as possible.

The two figures also discussed preparations for the next Joint Cooperation Commission between Burundi and Egypt. In this regard, it was agreed that the date and the agenda for this meeting would be set by mutual agreement through appropriate diplomatic channels.

At the end of the audience, both authorities reaffirmed their shared determination to further consolidate the relations of friendship and cooperation uniting Burundi and Egypt, with the objective of promoting a mutually beneficial partnership serving the interests of both peoples. (MFARIDC)

Audience granted to a ECCAS delegation in preparation for the International Exhibition on Women's Entrepreneurship in Central Africa



On October 7, 2026, His Excellence Mr. Édouard Bizimana, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation, received a delegation from the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) led by Mrs. Nelly Banaken, Commissioner in charge of the Department of Gender Promotion, Human and Social Development.

This meeting provided an opportunity to discuss the progress of preparations for the third edition of the International Exhibition on Women's Entrepreneurship in Central Africa, organized under the theme: "Central African Women in Action: Economic Integration, Cross-Border Solidarity, and Diaspora Dynamism". This event, which will take place under the high patronage of His Excellence Mrs. Angéline Ndayishimiye, First Lady of the Republic of Burundi, will be jointly organized with the Women Leaders Forum. Both events are scheduled to take place from November 3 to 6, 2026, in Burundi.

During the exchanges, the head of the delegation expressed her gratitude to the Government of Burundi for the welcome and support extended to the ECCAS mission. She requested the Ministry's assistance in facilitating the issuance of visas upon arrival at Melchior Ndadaye International Airport for the participants expected at these

events. She also pleaded in favor of customs exemptions for products intended for display and sale during the fair.

Mrs. Nelly Banaken additionally addressed logistical aspects related to organizing the activities, notably the provision of a suitable site for the events as well as a room designated for the press briefing of the Women Entrepreneur Leaders Forum. To this end, she requested the Minister's support to explore the possibility of organizing these activities in the vicinity of the Intwari Stadium.

In response, the Minister reassured the delegation regarding the possibility for participants to obtain their visas upon arrival. Concerning the exemption of products intended for display and commercialization, he indicated that this matter required prior con-

sultations with the relevant sector ministries before any decision could be made.

Regarding the venue to host the activities, His Excellence Mr. Édouard Bizimana specified that the Intwari Stadium is currently under FIFA management, which could limit the possibilities of organizing the planned events there. However, he proposed exploring the option of the Public Garden as an alternative site and committed to facilitating the necessary steps to evaluate its feasibility.

This audience bears witness to Burundi's commitment to supporting regional initiatives aimed at promoting women's entrepreneurship, the economic empowerment of women, and regional integration in Central Africa. (MFARIDC)

Launch of a training workshop on auditing and internal control at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs



On Monday, October 5, 2026, Mr. Sophonie Nitunga, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation, officially opened a six-day training workshop intended for inspection executives within the said ministry. This training focuses on auditing and internal control.

The main objective of this workshop is to strengthen the capacities of the participants in the field of internal control, specifically through its different components: financial control, compliance control, and performance control. To this end, the training aims

to equip participants with skills in verification, analysis, and programmatic management, enabling them to effectively evaluate audited activities and services.

Furthermore, this workshop aims to develop participants' skills in formulating relevant recommendations geared toward improving the quality of the audited services' performances as well as reinforcing good governance within the ministry. It will also familiarize participants with various control tools, introduce them to audit report writing techniques, and build their capacities regarding the follow-up on the implementation of formulated recommendations.

These recommendations are based notably on findings and observations originating from the Minister's Cabinet, the Court of Auditors, as well as the State General Inspectorate, in a continuous effort to improve institutional performance and administrative action efficiency. (MFARIDC)

The Government reinforces youth awareness on regular labor migration in Nyanza-Lac



On Friday, October 9, 2026, in Burunga, Nyanza-Lac commune, Mr. Séverin Mbarubukeye, Permanent Secretary in charge of East African Community Af-

fairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation, proceeded with the opening of an awareness workshop dedicated to labor migration, held under the theme: "Regular Labor Migration, a Vector for Socio-Economic Devel-

opment".



This activity is part of the Government of Burundi's efforts aimed at promoting safe, regular, and orderly migration, while reinforcing the fight against irregular migration and the various forms of exploitation associated with it. Its goal was to inform populations, local administrative authorities, as well as migration candidates about legal professional mobility mechanisms and the opportunities that labor migration offers when properly structured.

Mainly intended for the youth of the Nyanza-Lac commune, this awareness session aimed to promote compliance with legal procedures regarding professional mobility through a better understanding of the im-

portance of formal employment contracts, bilateral cooperation agreements, and obtaining the required administrative documents.

The workshop also served to draw participants' attention to the risks linked to irregular migration, notably human trafficking, abusive working conditions, confiscation of travel documents, as well as illegal practices undermining the rights and dignity of migrant workers.

Furthermore, the exchanges highlighted the essential role of families and local authorities in supporting migration candidates to guarantee adequate preparation and favor mobility that respects human rights. Participants were also sensitized to the positive contribution of migrant workers to socio-economic development through remittances, professional skill reinforcement, and the creation of economic opportunities for the benefit of their families and the national community.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation thus continues its commitment in favor of structured and responsible migration. To this end, it regularly organizes training and awareness sessions for communal administrators, local leaders, and communities to better guide labor mobility and maximize its positive impacts on the country's development. (MFARIDC)

South-South Cooperation: Burundi shares its model of homegrown school canteens with Haiti



As part of strengthening South-South cooperation and the Resilient Agriculture for Food Security Project (PARSA), Burundi hosted an official delegation from the Republic of Haiti from October 4 to 10, 2026. The primary objective of this visit was to draw inspiration from the National Homegrown School Feeding Program (PNASE), renowned for its local sourcing, value addition to production, and de-

centralized management.



The opening ceremony was chaired by Mrs. Else Nizigama Ntamagiro, Assistant to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation. She welcomed the delegation, highlighted the fraternal ties between Burundi and Haiti, and presented the

national ambition: to feed all students by 2032 with WFP support, prioritizing provinces affected by food insecurity. She invited participants to listen actively in order to generate concrete proposals for the benefit of students in both countries.



Mr. Gérard Neuvième, PARSA coordinator, representing the head of the Haitian delegation, Mr. Pierre-Richard René, Director General of the Ministry of Agriculture of Haiti, summarized the spirit of the visit with the proverb: "He who asks for the path does not get lost." He reiterated the gratitude of the Haitian government as well as its commitment to South-South cooperation.

Moving from theory to practice, field visits were organized across three provinces: Bujumbura, Buhumuza, and Butanyerera. They notably covered the communes of Mpanda, Butihinda, and Ngozi. The delegation visited the Terimbere-Mpanda cooperative and ECOFO Kagwema in Mpanda; the Twese Duterimbere Nonwe cooperative, ECOFO Kagugu, and Tumaini Company in Butihinda. In the Butanyerera province, they also met with provincial

and communal authorities, as well as the Provincial Directorate of Education. These field visits led to several conclusions and perspectives, allowing for a better understanding of the foundations behind the Burundian success: a strong political will at the top, translated into community management at the grassroots level. PNASSE is not just a school catering activity, but a structuring public policy that helps counter school dropout rates, improve academic results, reinforce food security, empower women, and stimulate the local economy.



The Haitian delegation expressed its satisfaction, judging the experience highly enriching. They committed to adapting their administration to set up an efficient process. The Burundian side encouraged them to overcome challenges, just as Burundi did, and expressed confidence in the success of this endeavor. They wished them a safe return while affirming that Burundi remains ready to welcome them again.

By sharing this model, Burundi confirms its role as a reference point in South-South cooperation and demonstrates that homegrown solutions, driven by communities and supervised by the State, can transform school meals into a powerful lever for sovereignty and sustainable human development. (MFARIDC)

Monitoring and evaluation mission of projects supported by Food for the Hungry and the Lutheran World Federation in Buhumuza province



As part of its mission to coordinate and monitor the interventions of foreign non-

governmental organizations (FNGOs), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation organized a monitoring and evaluation mission from October 6 to 9, 2026, led by officials from the Interministerial Committee in the Buhumuza province. This mission aimed to assess the progress of projects implemented by the FNGOs Food for the Hungry

(FH) and the Lutheran World Federation (LWF), as well as their impact on the beneficiary communities.

Regarding Food for the Hungry's interventions in the Ruyigi commune, several achievements were visited. At ECOFO Ntunda, located on Ntunda hill in the Bweru zone, the mission noted the support provided to vulnerable students through the distribution of notebooks, the provision of goats to orphans, and the management of eye health issues. The mission also visited the local community library, whose operations require particular attention to ensure optimal use by the community.



The delegation then proceeded to the Mugomera-Cinywera marshland, where they observed the results of rehabilitation works that enabled the development of potato, maize, and bean crops. The installation of irrigation systems also contributes to continuous agricultural production during dry periods.



On Mubavu hill, the mission visited a storage hangar built in 2023 through the partnership between the Government of Burundi and the FNGO Food for the Hungry. They also noted the distribution of improved maize and bean seeds to local farmers. On Gashawe hill, beneficiary cooperatives received support in the

form of goats, banana plantlets, and agricultural inputs.

In Nzozi, the mission appreciated the deployment of a water drilling system as well as the construction of new school infrastructure at ECOFO Bigombo, including two classroom blocks, an administrative block, and erosion



protection structures. This establishment currently hosts more than 800 students.

The mission also evaluated the achievements of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) in the Cankuzo province, notably through the Natweturashoboye project. On Gatungurwe hill, beneficiaries praised actions carried out toward improving the living conditions of vulnerable households. However, they suggested prioritizing livestock restocking programs further, estimating that this approach would reach a larger number of households while favoring organic fertilizer production.

On Cankuzo hill, the mission recorded similar interventions, with the addition of support for young entrepreneurs through the provision of sewing machines and training designed to reinforce their capacities for self-employment and the creation of income-generating activities.

In Rusagara, within the Kigamba zone, exchanges with beneficiaries brought to light certain difficulties encountered by the most vulnerable people in accessing housing programs. Local communities notably expressed a desire to see housing construction support reinforced to facilitate access to available aid for these categories.

At the end of this mission, the members of the Interministerial Committee noted the significant contribution of the projects implemented by both organizations toward improving the living conditions of the beneficiary populations in the sectors of education, agriculture, access to water, housing, and economic empowerment.

The mission nevertheless pointed out certain challenges tied to the new field monitoring approach, marked by a reduction in direct accompaniment by FNGOs. This situation could limit the effectiveness of evaluation missions and the visibility of achievements. In this regard, it was recommended to rein-

force facilitation mechanisms, notably through the increased involvement of local elected officials and community leaders, as well as addressing the logistical needs required for the proper conduct of field missions. (MFARIDC)

Launch of specialization training for journalists on the Vision 2040-2060: Media professionals, an important relay to make it better known to the population



During this training, journalists are notably reinforced in terms of research, preparation, and content production, as well as hosting broadcasts

The Minister of Communication and Media, Ambassador Évelyne Butoyi, officially launched a series of training sessions on Monday, October 5, 2026, in Gitega, the political capital of Burundi, aimed at specializing journalists on the Burundi Vision: "Emerging Country in 2040 and Developed Country in 2060". In her view, media professionals are an important relay to enable the population to better know this Vision and its implementation.

In her opening speech, Ambassador Évelyne Butoyi emphasized the major role of journalists and the media in implementing the national Vision. According to her, these training sessions will allow media professionals to acquire the knowledge necessary to better inform the population on the various aspects of this Vision.

Minister Butoyi insisted that the Vision of Burundi as an emerging country in 2040 and developed in 2060 must not remain at the stage of speeches; rather, it must be concretely implemented.

dedicated to implementing the national Vision. She specified that three hundred journalists are involved in these training sessions. Upon completion, the beneficiaries are called upon to share the acquired knowledge with their colleagues within their respective newsrooms.

For his part, the Director General of Communication and Media, Mr. Oscar Nzohabonayo, explained that journalists constitute an essential link to allow citizens to better understand the content of the Vision and contribute to its implementation. He notably recalled that the voice of the media carries far, before presenting the different themes addressed during these training sessions.

The training launched in Gitega brought together journalists from the Gitega and Buhumuza provinces. It will then continue across the different provinces of the country to reach media professionals throughout the national territory. (Le Renouveau)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation

Department of Communication

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