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President Evariste Ndayishimiye awarded the title of Doctor Honoris Causa in Moscow



The President of the Republic of Burundi and current Chairperson of the African Union, His Excellence Evariste Ndayishimiye, received the title of Doctor Honoris Causa from the Patrice Lumumba Peoples' Friendship University of Russia (RUDN) on Wednesday, October 28, 2026, in Moscow. The solemn ceremony took place on the premises of the prestigious Moscow University, in the presence of the Rector, the faculty, the Burundian delegation, and hundreds of international students.

Dressed in doctoral robes, President Ndayishimiye stated that he accepted this distinction "with humility, on behalf of Burundian youth and African youth". For him, youth represents the continent's greatest strategic asset, and "education is the primary invest-

In this Edition: page

President Evariste Ndayishimiye awarded the title of Doctor Honoris Causa in Moscow	1
The Minister of Foreign Affairs hosts a press briefing on Senate recommendations	6
Burundi and Russia co-chair a meeting of AU and Russian Foreign Ministers in Moscow	7
The Permanent Secretary in charge of the EAC receives the Country Representative of TradeMark Africa	7
Official Opening of the recruitment and validation exercise for civil experts of the African Standby Force	8
Celebration of the 81st anniversary of the United Nations in Burundi	9
Closing of the recruitment, verification, and validation exercise for civil experts of the African Standby Force	10
Meeting between African Union Executive Council Chair and Poland Foreign Affairs 'Minister	11
BURUNDI - PHILIPPINES: Ambassador Télésphore Irambona presents Letters of Credence to President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr	11

ment for peace".

He also highlighted that this university "bears a name that resonates with every African: that of Patrice Lumumba". "He embodied the courage of a people determined not to remain on the sidelines of their own destiny". A highly symbolic place, RUDN is the historical crucible of Russian-African friendship.

The university welcomes students from 140 countries and has trained more than 15,000 African specialists, including 77 Burundian doctors, engineers, and executives currently serving their country. Currently, 31 young Burundians are pursuing their studies there.

Addressing them directly, the Burundian Head of State issued an appeal: "Dear students, ambassadors of our country, bear witness to the strength of friendship between our peoples. Study with rigor, then return to build Burundi and Africa". **(Presidency)**

Burundi advocates for cooperation focused on economic transformation



On Thursday, October 29, 2026, during the second day of the Third Russia-Africa Summit held in Moscow, the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellence Evariste Ndayishimiye, called for strengthening the partnership between Africa and Russia by prioritizing economic transformation, industrialization, and the creation of value chains. Speaking at the plenary session of the Summit, President Ndayishimiye stressed that African countries did not come to Russia to ask for aid, but to consolidate a partnership based on mutually beneficial exchanges.

The Burundian Head of State insisted on the need for the African continent to accelerate its economic transformation and move away from a model relying primarily on exporting raw materials and importing finished goods. He notably advocated for developing industrial capacities, modernizing agriculture, strengthening energy and logistics infrastructure, and increasing investments in research and technology. According to him, Africa must become a space for production and commercialization, rather than remaining a market primarily destined for consumption.

For his part, Russian President His Excellence Vladimir Putin affirmed that Russia and African countries are "natural allies," given their close positions on several major international issues. He specifically defended equal dialogue, respect for the interests of all States, and the construction of a multipolar world order based on international law and the principles of the United Nations Charter. Mr. Putin also argued for increased representation of Africa in international decision-making bodies, notably in the United Nations Security Council and within international financial institutions.

On the economic front, the Russian President indicated that trade volume between Russia and African countries exceeded 27 billion dollars in 2025, representing an approximate 50% increase compared to the previous summit, according to figures he presented. Furthermore, he mentioned the willingness of Russian companies to consider transferring certain production units to African countries, stressing the importance of guaranteeing the sovereignty of partner States' decisions, as well as investment reliability and protection. Cooperation between Russia and Africa could also expand into the sectors of agriculture, digital technologies, and artificial intelligence. Moscow intends to continue its deliveries of grain and fertilizers to African markets and share its expertise in these fields.

It is worth noting that the Third Russia-Africa Summit, organized from October 28 to 29, 2026, in Moscow, brought together several African leaders and Russian officials to address key issues of bilateral and multilateral cooperation, particularly in political, economic, security, scientific, technological, cultural, and humanitarian fields. **(ABP)**

National Assembly: analysis of performance and budget execution reports for the 3rd and 4th quarters of 2025-2026

On Wednesday, October 28, 2026, at the Kigobe plenary chamber, under the leadership of the Right Honorable Daniel Gélase Ndabirabe, Speaker of the National Assembly, members of parliament gathered to analyze the performance and budget execution reports for the third and fourth quarters

of the 2025-2026 fiscal year.



The results of these reports are promising, showing a tax revenue realization rate of 112.7% (688,131,721,323 Fbu out of 610,179,986,681 Fbu projected) for the third quarter, and 128.29% (715,579,886,619 FBU out of 557,771,826,920 FBU projected) for the fourth quarter of this budget year. The Minister of Finance, Budget, and Digital Economy, Mr. Alain Ndikumana, was the guest of the day to answer oral questions from the MPs.

Presented by MP Rédempteur Gahitira, Chairperson of the standing committee responsible for public accounts, finance, economic affairs, and planning, the reports assessed revenue collection levels, expenditure execution relative to projections, the level of tax exemptions granted, expenditure trends by major category, liquidation and disbursement levels for expenditures financed by domestic resources, administrative classification expenditures, and an analysis of the Annual Work Plan and Budget (PTAB) by program, action, and activity. In both reports, the budget was executed across central ministry administrations and constitutional institutions, as well as devolved and decentralized structures. However, the committee noted shortfalls in non-tax revenue mobilization and recommended additional measures to improve yields. It also drew attention to tax exemptions, which exceeded the projected threshold. Consequently, an impact study has been commissioned to evaluate the effects on state revenue.

To strengthen public financial management, the Minister of Finance announced measures to train accountants on preparing financial statements, improve the monitoring of bank accounts opened in the provinces, and enforce the effective use of billing machines by traders to boost revenue collection. He noted that the Ministry of Finance expects to distribute over 40,000 billing machines during this budget year. The MPs recommended that the ministers responsible for the peat sector and Anagessa be invited for oral questions to explain the recorded zero-realization rate in revenues.



Among the main recommendations formulated were adherence to program-budget principles and authorizations, avoiding concentrated disbursements at the end of the fiscal year, and debt repayment in accordance with short- and medium-term debt management strategies.

While the overall budget execution results show encouraging progress, the recommendations from the National Assembly highlight the need to continue reforms, improve spending efficiency, and reinforce transparency in public resource management. **(Le Renouveau)**

Swearing-in ceremony for CVR members



Members of the Senate Bureau and senators participated on Monday morning, October 26, 2026, in the swearing-in ceremony of the Commissioners of the National Truth and Reconciliation Commission (CVR) before the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellence Evariste Ndayishimiye, and the joint Parliament at the Kigobe Palace of Congress, on the occasion of the renewal of their mandate for a 4-year period.

The ceremony was also attended by senior state officials, including the Prime Minister, former Heads of State, members of the Government, representatives of the National Defense and Security Forces, and members of the diplomatic and consular corps accredited to Burundi. **(Senate)**

The Senate speaker meets with Institution staff



On Wednesday, October 28, 2026, the Speaker of the Senate, the Right Honorable Gervais Ndirakobuca, held a meeting for the staff of the institution to conduct a self-assessment and review activities carried out over the past year.

He expressed satisfaction with the staff's performance and asked them to redouble their efforts to further develop the Upper House of Parliament.

Accordingly, the Senate Speaker urged everyone to be responsible, work with dedication, strengthen social cohesion, and operate in a spirit of conviviality. **(Senate)**

Strengthening bilateral cooperation: Burundian Prime Minister receives the Ambassadors of China and France



On the evening of Tuesday, October 27, 2026, the Burundian Prime Minister, His Excellence Nestor Ntahontuye, received in audience the Ambassador of the French Republic to Burundi, Ms. Caroline Vinot, and the Ambassador of the People's Republic of China, Ms. Zhu Kewei, both visiting for courtesy calls. As Burundi is engaged in fruitful partnerships, the need to build and maintain strong bonds of friendship and cooperation remains paramount. It was within this framework that His Excellence the Prime Minister received both Bujumbura-resident ambassadors. Their shared objective was to strengthen bilateral cooperation links and exchange views on matters of mutual interest.

Ambassador Caroline Vinot, who was received first, indicated that she came to meet the head of the Burundian executive shortly after assuming office as France's Ambassador to Burundi to learn about national priorities and gather the Government's expectations regarding the revitalization of bilateral cooperation. She expressed great satisfaction with the speech delivered by the President of the Republic of Burundi during the 81st session of the United Nations General Assembly last September regarding global governance, where he demanded a reform of the Security Council to grant Africa permanent representation and greater involvement in international decisions.

During their talks, she reviewed various achievements in Burundi in the fields of culture, education, and training, as well as military cooperation and the specialization of Burundian doctors in France. She noted France's role in projects implemented in Burundi by the European Union, of which France is a member. She also highlighted the involvement of French investors in promoting economic cooperation in Burundi's energy and telecommunications sectors, while touching upon the economic disruptions affecting these investors, which were raised during a recent meeting with them.

His Excellence the Prime Minister praised the good cooperative relations existing between Burundi and France while expressing the desire to revitalize them for greater impact. He briefed the diplomat on national priorities, emphasizing growth-bearing sectors like production and processing, where Burundi offers potential for investors. Regarding the concerns of French investors operating in Burundi, the Prime Minister highlighted the Government's

ongoing structural reforms aimed at macroeconomic stabilization.



Secondly, Ms. Zhu Kewei was received, noting that she returned 8 months after assuming office in Burundi to discuss results already achieved within bilateral cooperation. She spoke of positive developments in commercial trade, revealing that 70% of products exported to China consist of minerals and 30% are agricultural products. She also addressed infrastructure, mentioning the completion of the extension and modernization of Melchior Ndadaye International Airport, progress in preparations to restart construction on the building that will house the Ministry of Foreign Relations, and the rotation of teams assigned to agricultural and medical fields.

Mr. Ntahontuye thanked the diplomat for the regular practice of exchanging views on achievements and prospects to further propel the good relations of friendship and cooperation between Burundi and China. During the discussions, both authorities mutually expressed the desire to explore adding value to Burundian mineral exports to China through public-private partnership contracts to establish local extraction and processing factories. On this point, they agreed to continue discussions and explore feasibility. **(Prime Minister's Office)**

Gitega: The Prime Minister calls for better coordination between Ministries and decentralized entities



Strengthening collaboration between ministerial services and their representations in provinces and communes constitutes an essential lever for successful decentralization and ensuring the sound management of public funds.



This was the central message from the Prime Minister of Burundi, His Excellence Nestor Ntahontuye, during the opening of a two (2) day retreat from October 29 to 30, 2026, in Gitega, which brought together provincial governors, communal administrators, presidents of communal councils, and representatives of the Communal Investment Fund.

Opening the retreat, the Prime Minister indicated that this meeting comes three months after the effective launch of the deconcentration process. This process specifically aims to bring administration closer to citizens through the transfer of State financial resources to provinces and communes via various services. According to Mr. Ntahontuye, this gathering followed an evaluation carried out at the ministry level. In consultation with Government members, he examined the level of collaboration and coordination between ministerial services and their respective branches at provincial and communal levels. He stressed that several initiatives have already been launched and others are underway to strengthen administrative decentralization.

The Head of Government specified that participants would also evaluate the progress of several national programs. These include the rehabilitation of public buildings, supplying all schools with school benches,

and implementing the national hygiene and sanitation program. Discussions also covered the government policy on street paving in urban neighborhoods and centers, as well as communal finances. Administrative officials also assessed the level of readiness of provincial and communal institutions, as well as citizens, regarding the potential consequences of the El Niño climate phenomenon. The distribution of fertilizers to farmers for cropping season A was also on the agenda. Participants were urged to examine difficulties encountered and propose solutions to improve processes where results fall short of expectations.

In his presentation, the Burundian Prime Minister outlined the various steps to be respected when utilizing financial resources transferred by the State to provinces and communes via provincial and communal services and departments. He invited provincial and communal officials to strictly comply with current laws and regulations to guarantee efficient and effective resource management in the population's interest. **(Le Renouveau)**

The Minister of Foreign Affairs hosts a press briefing on Senate recommendations



On October 26, 2026, His Excellence Ambassador Edouard BIZIMANA, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation, hosted a formal press briefing for media professionals and representatives of recruitment agencies for Burundian migrant workers. The meeting aimed to present recommendations issued by the Senate on October 8, 2026, which seek to strengthen the protection of Burundians abroad, improve migration governance, and promote national labor value.

In his address, Minister BIZIMANA issued a vibrant appeal to all stakeholders to work in synergy to guarantee respect for citizen dignity, effectively manage migration movements, and promote national skills in regional and international labor markets. He insisted on the necessity of making competence, qualification, and professionalism major assets of the Burundian workforce. His intervention focused on six priority axes: improving the performance of recruitment agencies; strengthening the role of diplomatic and consular missions in protecting Burundians abroad; supporting the repatriation of refugees back to their hills of origin; raising awareness about regulatory travel and residence documents; popularizing cooperation agreements and ratification laws; and boosting the competitiveness of the Burundian workforce.

The Minister reminded participants that the Senate's recommendations offer a strategic framework for improving migration governance and protecting citizens. He invited recruitment agencies to operate in strict compliance with regulations, encouraged emigration candidates to seek information before departure, and urged diplomatic missions to remain attentive to compatriots' needs. He also exhorted all involved actors to contribute to regular, safe migration that respects human rights.



This press briefing clarified Government expectations and strengthened trust between institutions and citizens, encouraging migrant workers to value their skills so Burundi is recognized for its workforce quality.

In conclusion, His Excellence Ambassador Edouard BIZIMANA called for shared responsibility, reminding everyone that every actor must contribute to the success of the national migration policy. He reaffirmed that the Burundi Vision 2040–2060 remains the reference framework, and that this briefing marks a decisive step toward better-governed, protective migration that elevates Burundi's international standing. **(MFARIDC)**

Burundi and Russia co-chair a meeting of AU and Russian Foreign Ministers in Moscow



On the sidelines of the Third Russia-Africa Summit and its Economic and Humanitarian Forum, held in Moscow on October 28 and 29, 2026, Burundi and the Russian Federation co-chaired a meeting of Foreign Ministers from the African Union (AU) and the Russian Federation.

In his capacity as Chairperson of the AU Executive Council, the Burundian Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Ambassador Dr. Édouard Bizimana, presented an overview of the security, political, and economic situation in Africa and beyond. He emphasized that this meeting was taking place in a highly uncertain international context, marked by conflicts that hinder the development of Africa and the world. He specifically referenced the war in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and its repercussions on neighboring countries, including Burundi, as well as the conflict in Sudan. In this regard, he praised the commitment of H.E. General Évariste Ndayishimiye, as current Chairperson of the African Union, to restoring peace in these nations and across the African continent.

Minister Bizimana also noted that conflicts slow down development, disrupt supply chains, and weaken economies on a global scale. The discussions allowed the ministers to review the main challenges facing the world, including armed conflicts, the illegal exploitation of Africa's natural resources, terrorism, and climate change. United Nations reform was also among the issues addressed.
The Burundian Minister expressed hope that the Russia-Africa Summit and its Economic and Humanitarian Forum would lead to concrete projects capable of contributing to the achievement of the objectives outlined in the African Union's Agenda 2063.

On the sidelines of this meeting, the Burundian Minister also held talks with several of his counterparts on matters of bilateral and multilateral interest.

At the conclusion of his stay in Moscow, the Chairperson of the African Union Executive Council will travel to Atlanta to represent the organization at the G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting. This participation will offer an opportunity to help bring Africa's voice to this international forum. **(MFARIDC)**

The Permanent Secretary in charge of the EAC receives the Country Representative of TradeMark Africa



On October 28, 2026, the Permanent Secretary in charge of the EAC at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation (MFARIDC), Mr. Séverin MBARUBUKEYE, received in audience, on behalf of the Minister away on duty, the TradeMark Africa Country Representative in Burundi, Mr. Christian NIBASUMBA, who came for a courtesy visit.

Following the exchange of civilities, Mr. Christian NIBASUMBA indicated that this visit aimed to present TradeMark Africa and review its interventions in Burundi. These focus notably on regional integration, the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), the digitali-

zation of certain services of the Burundian Revenue Office (OBR), as well as support to the private sector, particularly through participation in regional trade fairs. He also specified that TradeMark Africa provides institutional support to Burundi, notably through capacity building for state officials and the provision of equipment, while supporting small and medium enterprises (SMEs). On this occasion, he expressed a desire to know the Ministry's priorities in order to take them into account when preparing TradeMark Africa's project portfolio.

For his part, the Permanent Secretary thanked TradeMark Africa for its multifaceted support to Burundi and encouraged it to continue its interventions. He stressed that digitalization is among the country's top priorities within the framework of the Vision of Burundi as an emerging country in 2040 and a developed country in 2060. To this end, he requested increased support in this area, without neglecting other sectors, particularly that of physical infrastructure.

Furthermore, he recalled that Burundi shares many priorities with TradeMark Africa and called for redoubled efforts to mobilize the necessary funding to complete the country's major development projects. In this perspective, he requested TradeMark Africa's support to finalize the formulation of the National Regional Integration Strategy, as well as to accompany Burundi through the fourth Trade Policy Review process.

For his part, the TradeMark Africa Country Representative announced that an African Trade Forum will be held in Ethiopia from November 23 to 24, 2026, and expressed a desire for Burundi to be well-represented at the event. **(MFARIDC)**

Official Opening of the recruitment and validation exercise for civil experts of the African Standby Force



On October 26, 2026, Ambassador Else Nizigama Ntamagiro, Assistant to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation, officially opened the recruitment, interview, verification, and validation exercise for candidates seeking to join the African Standby Force (ASF) database, as part of an activity organized by the Eastern Africa Standby Force (EASF).

In her speech, she thanked the EASF Secretariat and the Embassy of Denmark for their support in organizing this exercise, before praising the participants' commitment to regional peace and security.

The Ambassador stressed that this activity takes place against a backdrop marked by persistent armed conflicts, geopolitical tensions, and the effects of climate change, which continue to affect stability and development across many African nations. She recalled that the EASF's mission is to maintain military, police, and civilian capacities ready for rapid deployment to respond to crises. In this regard, she emphasized the essential role of the civilian component in peace support operations and population protection.

Turning to Burundi's situation, she indicated that twenty civilian experts are currently qualified and available for potential deployment, while fifty-one others are already registered in the database but must still finalize their assessment process. She invited them to update their files and actively participate in validation interviews.



The Minister's Assistant also reminded participants that the ASF roster aims to build a pool of qualified experts

capable of effectively meeting peace mission needs.
However, she specified that inclusion in this database does not automatically guarantee recruitment or deployment, which remain dependent on operational needs and sought-after profiles.

Concluding her address with the motto "EASF, ready for peace! » Ms. Else Nizigama Ntamagiro urged participants to demonstrate professionalism and rigor, before officially declaring open the recruitment and validation work for the civilian experts of the African Standby Force. **(MFARIDC)**

Celebration of the 81st anniversary of the United Nations in Burundi



On Monday, October 26, 2026, Ambassador Else Nizigama Ntamagiro, Assistant to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation, represented the Minister at ceremonies marking the 81st anniversary of the United Nations (UN) in Burundi.

In her address, she highlighted that this commemoration holds special importance for Burundi within an international context marked by deep transformations and the need to strengthen a more inclusive, responsive, and effective multilateralism. She noted that this dynamic aligns with reflections and reforms engaged under the UN80 process, designed to adapt the UN system to contemporary challenges. Ambassador Else Nizigama Ntamagiro also raised the essential role of the partnership between the African Union and the United Nations in promoting peace and security on the continent.

In this regard, she recalled the vision of His Excellence Évariste Ndayishimiye, President of the Republic of Burundi and current Chairperson of the African Union, who stresses the importance of close cooperation between both organizations to effectively meet security challenges facing Africa. Furthermore, she highlighted progress achieved by Burundi in implementing its development vision, which aims to make the country an emerging nation by 2040 and a developed nation by 2060. According to her, reaching these targets depends on solid, pragmatic, and mutually beneficial partnerships. In this perspective, the United Nations system remains a premier partner alongside the Government of Burundi, notably in strategic sectors like food security, energy transition, and human capital development.



Taking the floor in turn, Ms. Violet Kenyana Kakyomya, Resident Coordinator of the United Nations System in Burundi, expressed her gratitude to the Government of Burundi, particularly the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation, for its leadership and close collaboration in organizing this celebration. She reaffirmed the commitment of the United Nations System to accompany Burundi in its sustainable development efforts by supporting initiatives aimed at improving population living conditions and fulfilling national development priorities.

This celebration offered a privileged opportunity to reaffirm the excellence of cooperation between Burundi and the United Nations, alongside their shared commitment to peace, sustainable development, and population well-being**. (MFARIDC)**

Closing of the recruitment, verification, and validation exercise for civil experts of the African Standby Force



On Thursday, October 29, 2026, Ambassador Else NIZIGAMA NTAMAGIRO, Assistant to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and Development Cooperation, closed the recruitment, verification, and validation exercise for participants intended for registration in the African Standby Force (ASF) database.

In her closing address, the Minister's Assistant stressed that the three intensive working days from October 27 to 29, 2026, dedicated to checking and validating candidacies, might appear administrative in nature but actually held major strategic importance. According to her, this exercise directly contributes to strengthening the credibility, availability, and operational effectiveness of the African Standby Force.

Ms. Else NIZIGAMA NTAMAGIRO recalled that the objective was not merely to feed a database, but to select professionals based on real, proven competencies beyond mere titles or qualifications. The exercise notably consisted of evaluating availability, received training, and deployment readiness for each civilian candidate. She added that competency-based interviews ensured that selected candidates possess the required skills to be mobilized for peace support operations mandated by the African Union.

Evoking Burundi's commitment, the Minister's Assistant indicated that by hosting this exercise, the country reaffirms its attachment to pan-African ideals alongside its constant commitment to peace, security, and stability on the continent.

On behalf of the Government of Burundi, she expressed appreciation to the EASF Secretariat for the quality organization and smooth progress of the work, as well as to the team responsible for conducting the interviews. She also extended thanks to the Government of Denmark for its technical and financial support, alongside the Ministry of National Defense and Veteran Affairs for its excellent collaboration in organizing this activity. She specified that approved candidates will be listed in the African Standby Force database for a five-year duration and will remain available for potential rapid deployment.

In this regard, they were invited to ensure regular updates of their profiles to guarantee current information.

Addressing challenges encountered during the exercise, the Minister's Assistant notably pointed out constraints related to the registration system's accessibility and procedures for updating data for candidates already verified and validated. She invited the EASF Secretariat to bring these concerns to the competent authorities and advocate for system access improvements.



Concluding her intervention, the Minister's Assistant wished a safe return to all participants back to their respective countries and officially declared closed the recruitment, verification, and validation exercise organized by the EASF in Bujumbura. **(MFARIDC)**

Meeting between African Union Executive Council Chair and Poland Foreign Affairs 'Minister



Atlanta, November 1st, 2026, on the sidelines of the G20 proceedings, the Chair of the Executive Council of the African Union, His Excellency Ambassador Édouard Bizimana, held a meeting with a delegation from the Republic of Poland, led by Radosław Sikorski, Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The discussions covered several issues of common interest, among others the strengthening of cooperation between the Republic of Poland and the African Union, as well as prospects for partnership in the areas of development, peace, security, and economic cooperation.

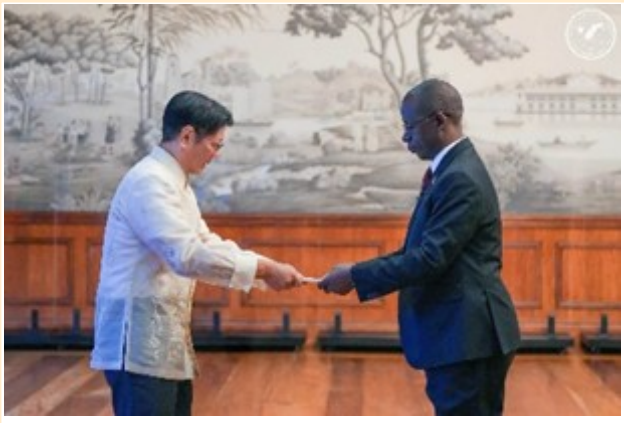
During the meeting, the Polish side presented its candidacy for membership in the G20 and requested the African Union's support for this initiative. In this regard, both parties exchanged views on the growing role of emerging economies and the importance of more inclusive representation for the world's various regions within international decision-making bodies.

Discussions also addressed bilateral relations between the Republic of Burundi and the Republic of Poland. Both officials commended the quality of the ties of friendship and cooperation existing between the two nations and reaffirmed their shared commitment to further strengthening these relations across sectors of mutual interest.

This meeting served to consolidate political dialogue between the parties and reaffirmed their commitment to constructive cooperation, grounded in mutual respect, partnership, and the promotion of common interests, in support of sustainable development and international stability.

At the conclusion of the meeting, both delegations expressed their satisfaction with the quality of the discussions and affirmed their commitment to continuing consultations with a view to further deepening relations between the African Union, Poland, and Burundi. **(MFARIDC)**

BURUNDI - PHILIPPINES: Ambassador Télésphore Irambona presents Letters of Credence to President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr



On October 27, 2026, a new milestone was reached in strengthening diplomatic relations between the Republic of Burundi and the Republic of the Philippines. At Malacañan Palace in Manila, His Excellency Télésphore Irambona, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Burundi to the People's Republic of China (based in Beijing) and designated non-resident Ambassador to the Republic of the Philippines, presented his letters of credence to His Excellency Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr., President of the Republic of the Philippines.

This formal ceremony took place following the presentation of the true copies of his letters of credence to Her Excellency Ma. Theresa P. Lazaro, Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines, in accordance with established diplomatic protocol.

The presentation of the Letters of Credence marks the

official beginning of the Burundian Ambassador's diplomatic mission to the Philippine authorities. It also reflects their shared commitment to further consolidate the bonds of friendship and cooperation that have existed since the establishment of their diplomatic relations in 2017.

During the ceremony, which was characterized by cordiality and mutual respect, the Philippine authorities welcomed this new accreditation, which opens promising avenues for deepening bilateral relations and exploring new areas of partnership for the benefit of both peoples.

A seasoned diplomat, Ambassador Télésphore Irambona has served as the ambassador of the Republic of Burundi to the People's Republic of China since 2023. He is also accredited to several other countries in the Asia-Pacific region, including the Republic of Korea, Japan, and Vietnam, among others. His proven experience in diplomacy and public administration serves as a significant asset for the development of relations between Bujumbura and Manila. Beyond its formal, protocol-related significance, this accreditation reflects a shared ambition to bring the Burundian and Filipino peoples closer together by strengthening cooperation in areas of mutual interest, such as trade, investment, agriculture, education, training, innovation, and cultural exchange.

The arrival of Ambassador Télésphore Irambona in his new role to the Republic of the Philippines initiates a fresh dynamic of dialogue and cooperation between the two nations, rooted in the values of mutual respect, solidarity, and a win-win partnership.

Through this diplomatic initiative, Burundi reaffirms its commitment to diversifying its international partnerships and bolstering its presence in the Asia-Pacific region, in line with a foreign policy focused on promoting trade, development cooperation, and closer ties between peoples. **(MFARIDC)**

International day for disaster risk celebration: An opportunity to assess progress made



On Tuesday, October 27, 2026, Burundi celebrated the 2026 edition of the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction at the ETS Kamenge field. The Minister of Interior, Community Development, and Public Security, Mr. Léonidas Ndaruzaniye, indicated that this day offers a special opportunity to look back at mechanisms that must be implemented to manage disaster situations. It is also an occasion to assess recorded progress and renew the commitment to work together against environmental challenges liable to threaten security and development.

In his speech, Mr. Ndaruzaniye stated that the day is celebrated to sensitize the population to the importance of disaster prevention and mitigating its impacts. It allows raising awareness among Governments, public and private institutions, and citizens so they take the necessary preventative measures. According to him, sensitization aims to reinforce a culture of resilience and improve preparedness and response capabilities. It also means encouraging populations to move from a reactive approach to an anticipatory approach, while facilitating access to early warnings and disaster impact data.

Ms. Manuella Muscara, Chief of Mission for the International Organization for Migration (IOM), highlighted that every family must contribute to risk prevention by staying informed, taking precautionary steps, and applying safety protocols. The objective was to shift from a post-disaster reaction to advanced preparation to limit human and material losses.



She welcomed the Burundian Government's commitment to integrating disaster risk prevention and management into national development priorities. This direction relies notably on the national strategy for risk prevention and disaster management, the national development plan 2018-2027, the national vision 2040-2060, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework.

The Burundian Government also pursues several initiatives aimed at improving disaster preparedness and response mechanisms.
Among these are updating the multi-risk contingency plan 2026-2028, developing a roadmap for operationalizing a nationwide multi-risk early warning system, producing multi-risk maps, and tracking disaster-related displacements. **(Le Renouveau)**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation

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