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Eleven Political Parties Endorse President Ndayishimiye's Candidacy



In support of his candidacy for the 2027 presidential election, eleven (11) political parties submitted a joint declaration of support to the Head of State of Burundi, who is also the Chairperson of the Council of Elders of the CNDD-FDD, during a meeting held on Tuesday afternoon, 10 November 2026, at the party's National Headquarters in Bujumbura, in the presence of the Deputy Secretary-General and the National Secretaries of the CNDD-FDD. The political parties concerned are RADEBU, KAZE-FDD, MSP-INKINZO, PL, MPH, PIEBU, PRP, PMP, SANGWE-PADER, RPB and FLORINA. Speaking on behalf of the eleven political parties, the President of RADEBU, Mr. Jean de Dieu Mutabazi, indicated that the initiative had first been submitted to their respective members, who had welcomed and endorsed it.

These political parties consider that His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, President of the Republic of Burundi, is a leader who: ensures continuity of the legacy of Prince Louis Rwagasore, an iconic figure in Burundi's struggle for independence; upholds the ideals of the Hero of Democracy, Melchior Ndadaye; promotes the values of patriotism and love of country embodied by Pierre Nkurunziza; fights corruption and the

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misappropriation of public property while promoting good governance; ensures the protection of national borders, as well as the protection of Burundians and their property; prioritizes a policy of good relations between Burundi and other countries.

They also expressed their support for the development ambitions set out in the National Vision, "Burundi: An Emerging Country by 2040 and a Developed Country by 2060".
By joining forces, these eleven (11) political parties seek to contribute to efforts to address the country's challenges and advance major development projects. They also invited other political parties sharing the same commitment to join the initiative, convinced that by pooling their ideas, skills and energies, they can work together towards achieving Burundi's development objectives.

The CNDD-FDD candidate, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, thanked the eleven political parties for their support, which he considers a sign of democratic maturity. He emphasized that democracy is not measured by the number of political parties, but by citizens' freedom to choose their leaders. He welcomed their willingness to unite around a common vision and combine their efforts to address the country's challenges. **(Presidency)**

The Peace Torch: Twenty Years of Commitment to Preserving Peace and Building Burundi



For twenty years, the Peace Torch has travelled across Burundi, carrying a message of unity, social cohesion and development. Launched on 13 November 2026 at Intwari Stadium by the President of the Republic of Burundi, His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye, the 20th edition of this nationwide caravan reflects the determination to preserve peace, which has been achieved through many sacrifices, and consolidate it through hard work. By travelling through all the communes of the country, the initiative seeks to mobilise citizens around the implementation of the National Vision.

Held under the theme "Let Us Preserve the Peace We Enjoy and Work Towards Our Vision", this edition reminds everyone that peace is a precious asset that must be preserved and strengthened through everyone's efforts. For the past two decades, the Peace Torch has been part of efforts to mobilize citizens around community initiatives and development activities. From one commune to another and from one hill to another, its journey reflects the collective determination to build a united and prosperous Burundi.

In his message, President Ndayishimiye called on the bearers of the Peace Torch to raise citizens' awareness in every commune and encourage them to direct their initiatives towards achieving the National Vision. He also placed their mission under God's blessing, so that the Peace Torch may continue to strengthen cohesion among Burundians and encourage them to pursue development efforts together. The launching ceremony took place in a festive and friendly atmosphere, marked by songs, dances and fireworks that lit up the sky above Intwari Stadium, to the delight of the participants. Beyond its symbolic significance, this celebration set the tone for a new edition that calls on every citizen to make peace a daily commitment and hard work a driving force for Burundi's development. **(Presidency)**

The Second Vice-President of the Senate Visits Carpentry Workshops in Matana and Bururi Communes

During the parliamentary recess in November 2026, the Second Vice-President of the Senate, Hon. Clotilde KAMPIMBARE, accompanied by Members of Parliament Célestin NIYONSABA and Dieudonné IRADUKUNDA, both elected in Burunga Constituency, conducted visits from 10 to 11 November 2026 to carpentry workshops located in Matana and Kibezi zones of Matana Commune, as well as Rutovu, Vyanda and Bururi zones of Bururi Commune.

The purpose of the visits was to assess progress in the production of school desks, as part of the Government's

policy of ensuring that “no child sits improperly in the classroom”.



The elected representatives observed that the school desks had been manufactured in accordance with standard measurements, but had not been properly planed and that the compartment intended for storing school materials was too small. In this regard, Hon. Clotilde KAMPIMBARE urged the communal authorities to accept the desks only after these shortcomings had been corrected. She also encouraged them to deliver the desks that had already been manufactured to schools.



On the sidelines of these visits, the Second Vice-President of the Senate visited Kiremba-Sud High School on 11 November 2026 to assess the water shortage that had recently been affecting the school. One of the school's administrators indicated that the water shortage was no longer a problem since the beginning of the rainy season.

On this occasion, Hon. Clotilde KAMPIMBARE advised the students to devote themselves to their studies, maintain cleanliness and engage in sports activities. **(Senate)**

Burundi Joins Other Nations in Addressing Climate Change



On 9 November 2026, the Prime Minister, His Excellency Nestor Ntahontuye, departed from Melchior Ndadaye International Airport in Bujumbura for Antalya, Republic of Türkiye, where he went to represent the President of the Republic of Burundi at the 31st United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP31).
Like other nations, Burundi is exposed to global warming resulting from climate change, a challenge that no country can address alone without joining forces with others. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was developed, and Burundi is a full party to it. Conferences of the Parties to this Convention are held every year to review its implementation, as well as that of other instruments, including the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement, with the aim of keeping the rise in global temperatures below 1.5°C.

This year, the 31st session of the United Nations Climate Change Conference is being held in Antalya, Türkiye. Burundi is represented at this meeting by the Head of Government. Before his departure, the Prime Minister told the press that the summit would provide an opportunity to assess the progress made by different countries in implementing the programmes they had planned to achieve this objective. For Burundi, the conference will be an opportunity to present the progress made and the status of implementation of its action plan through various projects, including environmentally friendly energy projects, as well as projects related to rivers, climate change, disaster prevention and disaster response, the Prime Minister explained.

He added that the conference would also provide an opportunity to engage with various partners involved in

financing climate-related initiatives. He travelled with nine projects in different areas related to climate change, some of which are already under implementation, such as the railway project. “Other projects have already been developed, including the tramway in Bujumbura, the protection of water resources and protected areas on the hills,” the Prime Minister further announced. **(Prime Minister's Office)**

Virtual Meeting between Minister Édouard Bizimana and the Head of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO)





On Monday, 9 November 2026, His Excellency Ambassador Édouard Bizimana, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation, held a virtual meeting with Mr. James Swan, Head of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO), in the presence of Ms. Violet Kenyana Kakyomya, United Nations Resident Coordinator in Burundi.

The meeting was part of a working session devoted to reviewing the security and humanitarian situation in the Great Lakes Region, with particular focus on eastern DRC and South Kivu Province.

During the discussions, Mr. James Swan expressed concern over the deteriorating security and humanitarian situation in several localities of South Kivu, particularly in the Ruzizi Plain. He indicated that the increasing clashes between armed groups and government forces were having serious consequences for civilian populations. Many communities have found themselves in highly vulnerable situations, with some isolated in the highlands and facing shortages of food, medical care and other essential supplies. He also emphasised the importance of supporting mechanisms for monitoring and implementing the ceasefire. According to information gathered from stakeholders, the FRN had reportedly expressed its support for the Doha process and its willingness to prioritize dialogue, a position that had also reportedly been confirmed through official channels.

For his part, His Excellency Ambassador Édouard Bizimana stated that he shared the concerns regarding the continued insecurity in eastern DRC. He deplored the lack of significant progress on the ground, noting that violence continues to affect the Congolese population, causing loss of life and refugee movements whose consequences are also being felt in neighbouring countries, particularly Burundi.

The Minister also drew attention to the risk of the conflict spreading to certain strategic areas, including the Uvira region, as well as the issue of cross-border infiltration. In this regard, he reaffirmed Burundi’s continued vigilance and the measures taken to ensure the security of its borders.

Regarding the peace process, His Excellency Édouard Bizimana expressed reservations about the effective implementation of the commitments made by certain stakeholders. He called on the international community to contribute to ensuring respect for and full implementation of the Washington and Doha Agreements, as well as to supporting the regional peace and security initiatives already under way.
The discussions also addressed the humanitarian situation and its regional implications. The Minister particularly highlighted health risks associated with large-scale population movements, including the cross-border spread of certain epidemic diseases, which calls for increased vigilance and stronger coordination among countries in the region.

In this regard, Mr. James Swan advocated for the facilitation of humanitarian access to enable the organizations concerned to deliver assistance more effectively to affected populations.

In response, His Excellency Ambassador Édouard Bizimana recalled that Burundi remains committed to its national security requirements and that any measures relating to cross-border access are considered in accordance with established procedures. He explained that specific situations are assessed on a case-by-case basis. The Minister nevertheless emphasized that Burundi has never obstructed the delivery of humanitarian assistance and recalled that the Gatumba border crossing remains open, facilitating the movement of people and goods be-

tween Burundi and the DRC.

In conclusion, His Excellency Ambassador Édouard Bizimana reaffirmed Burundi's humanitarian commitment, noting that the country continues to host thousands of Congolese refugees on its territory. He assured that the Government of Burundi would continue its efforts to guarantee their protection, security and access to basic needs.

Finally, he reiterated Burundi's readiness to contribute, alongside regional and international partners, to any initiative likely to promote the lasting restoration of peace, security and stability in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and throughout the Great Lakes Region. **(MFARIDC)**

Meeting with the UNDP Resident Representative in Burundi



On Wednesday, 11 November 2026, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Ambassador Édouard Bizimana, received Ms. Emma, Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Burundi.

During their discussions, the two officials welcomed the excellent cooperation relations between Burundi and UNDP before addressing several issues of mutual interest relating to the country's development. Minister Édouard Bizimana expressed his gratitude for the various forms of support that UNDP provides to Burundi within the framework of development cooperation.

For her part, Ms. Emma reaffirmed UNDP's commitment to continuing and strengthening its partnership with Burundi, particularly in implementing national development priorities. In this regard, she welcomed the excellent collaboration with the Ministry in implementing the new Cooperation Framework.

Regarding ongoing projects, the Resident Representative indicated that UNDP would continue consultations with the various stakeholders in order to accelerate their implementation. She explained, however, that some projects would have to wait until the beginning of the next budget year. She also assured the Minister of UNDP's willingness to honour the commitments made to Burundi in general and to the Ministry in particular.

At the end of the meeting, the Minister presented several priority activities that Burundi intends to undertake in partnership with UNDP, including the organisation of the High-Level Forum on the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), as well as the country's participation in various international summits and forums.

At the conclusion of the meeting, His Excellency Ambassador Édouard Bizimana reaffirmed the Ministry's full readiness to continue and strengthen its cooperation with UNDP in order to ensure the effective implementation of development projects for the benefit of the Burundian people. **(MFARIDC)**

Government of Burundi Shifts from Response to Anticipation in Addressing Climate Risks



On Friday, 13 November 2026, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Ambassador Édouard Bizimana, officially launched the implementation of the Operational Contingency, Preparedness, Response and Recovery Plan to address the effects of the El Niño phenomenon for the period 2026–2027.

The ceremony brought together government authorities, members of the diplomatic corps, representatives of the United Nations System, development partners, non-governmental organisations and private sector stakeholders, demonstrating the importance attached to climate risk management in Burundi.

In his address, Minister Édouard Bizimana highlighted that hydrometeorological forecasts predict a high-intensity El Niño episode, which could cause floods, landslides, rockfalls and increased health risks, with significant impacts on the population, agriculture and the country's infrastructure.

In the face of these challenges, he called for a paradigm shift in disaster management, prioritizing anticipation over response. He stressed the need to strengthen preparedness, coordination and the effectiveness of interventions in order to reduce loss of life, material damage and socio-economic disruptions. The Minister also recalled that this approach requires the commitment of all relevant institutions and partners to sustainably strengthen the country's resilience.

Speaking on the occasion, the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Burundi, Ms. Violet Kenyana Kakyomya, commended the leadership of the Government of Burundi and the joint efforts made with its partners to provide essential humanitarian assistance to affected populations. She also called for increased investment in climate change mitigation and in the implementation of national adaptation and mitigation strategies.





The proceedings concluded with a joint statement by the Government of Burundi and the Office of the United Nations Resident Coordinator, reaffirming their shared commitment to strengthening cooperation in order to make climate anticipation a driver of resilience, sustainable development and stability.



Through this initiative, the Government of Burundi reaffirms its determination to promote proactive climate risk management and strengthen prevention and preparedness mechanisms, in partnership with all national and international stakeholders. **(MFARIDC)**

Signing of a Cooperation Agreement between the Republic of Burundi and the Sovereign Military Order of Malta



On Friday, 13 November 2026, the Government of the Republic of Burundi, represented by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Ambassador Édouard Bizimana, signed a Cooperation Agreement between the Republic of Burundi and the Sovereign Military and Hospitaller Order of Saint John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta.

On this occasion, His Excellency Ambassador Édouard Bizimana welcomed the delegation of the Order of Malta and emphasized the importance that the Government of Burundi attaches to its partnership with this institution. He indicated that the Agreement represents an important step towards strengthening national initiatives aimed at promoting sustainable development and the well-being of the population.

The Minister explained that the Agreement covers several priority areas, including health, assistance to vulnerable people, humanitarian aid, food security and disaster risk

reduction. He recalled that these sectors are fully aligned with the Government of Burundi's priorities in human development, social protection and strengthening community resilience.

The Minister further reaffirmed the Government of Burundi's commitment to making every effort to facilitate the effective implementation of the provisions of the Agreement, in a spirit of mutually beneficial partnership.

For his part, the Ambassador of the Sovereign Military and Hospitaller Order of Saint John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta, His Excellency the Noble Dr. Angelo Federico Arcelli, expressed his gratitude to the Government of Burundi for its openness and spirit of cooperation throughout the process leading to the conclusion of the Agreement.

Welcoming the fact that this cooperation instrument is aligned with the priorities of the Government of Burundi, he reaffirmed the Order of Malta's willingness to work closely with the Burundian authorities to ensure the effective implementation of the agreed commitments and contribute to the country's socio-economic development.

The signing of this Agreement demonstrates the shared commitment of both Parties to strengthening their cooperation for the benefit of the population, particularly in the social and humanitarian sectors, while enhancing community resilience in the face of development challenges. **(MFARIDC)**

Public Hearing on the East African Community Bill on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities



On 11 November 2026, at the Royal Palace Hotel in Bujumbura, Mr. Séverin Mbarubukeye, Permanent Secretary in charge of East African Community Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation, officially opened the public hearing on the East African Community Bill on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2024).



The consultation brought together representatives of public institutions, civil society organizations and associations of persons with disabilities to gather their contributions and recommendations aimed at strengthening the protection and promotion of their rights within the East African Community.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Mbarubukeye highlighted the importance of this Bill, which seeks to establish a harmonized regional framework guaranteeing equality and non-discrimination, accessibility, education, capacity development, employment, access to healthcare, legal capacity, participation in public life and protection against harmful practices. He noted that the public hearing provided an opportunity for representatives of ministries and other stakeholders to express their views and contribute to improving the text.



Speaking on behalf of the General Purpose Committee of the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA), Hon. Victor Burikukiye thanked the Government of Burundi and all stakeholders for their commitment to this important regional legislative initiative. Held simultaneously across all East African Community Partner States on 11 and 12 November 2026, these consultations are part of a regional effort to promote inclusive and equitable integration, guided by the principle of leaving no one behind. The recommendations arising from these discussions will contribute to improving the Bill and strengthening its effectiveness across the East African Community. **(MFARIDC)**

Burundi Hosts First National Workshops on Clinical Research and Health Research Ethics: Towards Regional Harmonization within the East African Community



On Monday, 9 November 2026, Bujumbura hosted the first national workshops on clinical research and health research ethics, held from 9 to 14 November 2026. The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation, His Excellency Ambassador Édouard Bizimana, was represented by Dr. Pacifique NIYONIZIGIYE, Head of the Coordination Unit for Burundi's Positions within the East African Community (EAC), at the official opening ceremony organised by the Secretariat of the East African Health Research Commission (EAHRC).



Included in the EAHRC's calendar for the 2026/2027 financial year, this regional event brings together policymakers, researchers, regulators and institutional stakeholders around three main areas: strengthening capacity in clinical research, training in research ethics, and national consultations on the legal and regulatory framework for health research within the EAC.

In his welcome remarks, the representative of the Ministry of Public Health, who attended on behalf of the Minister of Public Health, expressed the gratitude of the Government of Burundi to the EAHRC for choosing Burundi to host the event. He recalled that health systems in the region face complex challenges, including communicable and non-communicable diseases, emerging infectious threats, antimicrobial resistance, maternal and child health issues, and climate change, all of which require strong evidence generated locally. He reaffirmed his Ministry's commitment to supporting capacity-building for researchers, institutions and ethics committees, and encouraged participants to make full use of the knowledge shared during the workshops.

In his opening address, Dr. Pacifique NIYONIZIGIYE emphasized the central role of research in scientific progress and strengthening health systems. He stressed that research should inform public decision-making and improve health and environmental policies, rather than remain confined to universities or specialized institutions. He also highlighted the need to build national research capacity and broaden participation to include all relevant stakeholders. He further recalled that the training aims to strengthen skills in research design and methodology, statistics and data analysis, information and communication technologies (ICTs), as well as the operational aspects of clinical research. These ambitions are part of the vision of making Burundi an emerging country by 2040 and a developed country by 2060.



On behalf of the East African Health Research Commission, Dr. Janvier SERUMONDO, Clinical Research Officer at the EAHRC, expressed his institution's satisfaction with Burundi hosting this first national edition. He recalled that the event is part of the EAHRC's coordinated regional capacity-building programme, which aims to establish a common foundation in clinical research and research ethics while allowing for adaptation to national contexts.

He emphasized the importance of research ethics in ensuring the protection of the dignity, rights, safety and well-being of research participants. He also reiterated the EAHRC's commitment to supporting Partner States in harmonizing ethical standards and establishing a Regional Research Ethics Committee responsible for reviewing multicentre studies. **(MFARIDC)**

University of Burundi Week 2026: Research Findings Should Contribute to Development



On Tuesday, 10 November 2026, the University of Burundi officially launched its annual University Week. The activities, which ran from 9 to 13 November 2026, were held under the theme: “University of Burundi at the Service of the Community: The Contribution of Science and Innovation to Addressing Sustainable Development Challenges”.

In his opening address, Mr. Prudence Bararunyeretse, Rector of the University of Burundi, indicated that the theme chosen for this year's edition reflects the national ambitions set out in Burundi's Vision. According to him, achieving this vision requires an education system capable of developing quality human capital, generating relevant knowledge and promoting innovations adapted to national realities, public policies and private sector initiatives. In this regard, the University of Burundi intends to fully assume its responsibilities as an institution of education and research by putting scientific knowledge at the service of the community and the country's socio-economic transformation.

For his part, Mr. David Nahimana, Director of Research and Innovation at the University of Burundi, explained that this year's theme reflects the determination to find solutions to challenges related to sustainable development. He noted that this concern is at the heart of every researcher's work, which involves assessing the current situation and proposing ways to improve it. Research findings should therefore contribute to development across various sectors, in line with the country's Vision 2040–2060. He also emphasized that research activities require substantial resources and, in this regard, called for increased funding to support researchers in their work.

The ceremony also featured the presentation of certificates and cash awards to sixteen (16) students from different faculties who had achieved the highest academic results during the 2024–2025 academic year. Teams that finished first and second in football, basketball and volleyball, representing the Mutanga, Kiriri and Rohero campuses, were also awarded during the opening ceremony of University Week. **(Le Renouveau)**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation

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