1993 Post-Elections: Exclusive Interview with President Melchior Ndadaye

SPECIAL EDITION

Burundi: Life and political career of Melchior Ndadaye: 26 th Commemoration of his assassination.

This is the article The New York Times Published after the Assassination of President Melchior Ndadaye

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Burundi: Life and political career of Melchior Ndadaye: 26th Commemoration of his assassination.

Melchior Ndadaye, born March 28, 1953, in Murama, Nyabihanga Commune, Province of Muramvya, Burundi, Killed in a Coup d’Etat on October 21, 1993, in Bujumbura, is a Burundian statesman belonging to the Hutu ethnic group.

The first democratically elected president in Burundi invested on July 10, 1993. Ndadaye Melchior was assassinated after 102 days on power.

His early life (Youth and Adulthood).

Son of Pius Ndadaye and Thérèse Bandushubwenge, Melchior Ndadaye was the eldest of ten children, seven of whom were still alive on the day of his assassination (three brothers and four sisters). He was married to Laurence Nininahazwe, with whom he had three children: Geva, Tika, and Libertas. From 1966 to 1972, he attended the Gitega Normal School, which he had to leave in 1972 following the dramatic events that shook his native country. Following this shock, Ndadaye took refuge in Rwanda, where he completed his secondary education in Butare, until 1975, before attending the Faculty of Sciences of Education of the National University of Rwanda, still in Butare. From 1987 to 1992, while he was in full professional activity, Melchior Ndadaye followed a banking training at the Institute of Bank Techniques of the National Conservatory of Arts and Crafts.
**His political career.**

Melchior Ndadaye was involved in the creation, on 3 January 1976, of the Movement of Progressive Students Burundians in Rwanda (BAMPERE), of which he was president until 1979. In August 1979 he participated in the foundation of Burundi Workers’ Party (UBU), that he would leave in 1983, following conflicts of personalities on the strategies to be adopted to reinforce the democratic movement in Burundi.

In 1986, Melchior Ndadaye was one of the main founding members of the Front for Democracy in Burundi (FRODEBU) (Sahwanya-FRODEBU) party in the clandestine origin. FRODEBU formalized in 1991, he presided it until his victory elections in the presidential and legislative elections of 1 and 29 June 1993.

As the Secretary of the Union of Workers of Burundi (UTB) in the province of Gitega, he was jailed for political reasons, from 28 October to 28 December 1988, following his speech at a meeting convened by the governor of Gitega, on October 23, 1988, concerning the troubles of Ntega and Marangara.

Appointed on April 18, 1993, at an extraordinary Congress as his party’s candidate in the presidential election, Melchior Ndadaye would be supported by three other parties: the PP, the RPB, and the PL. On 1 June 1993, Melchior.

Ndadaye (FRODEBU) won, in the first round, the first presidential election by universal suffrage in the history of Burundi, having obtained 64.79% of the votes, against 32.47% for the candidate of the UPRONA Union for National Progress, Pierre Buyoya and only 1.44% to the PRI candidate.

**President of the Republic of Burundi.**

Being the first elected president of Burundi, Melchior Ndadaye was of Hutu ethnicity, while the country was dominated for a long time by the Tutsi minority. Deprived of their powers, the Tutsi had kept control of the army. However, Ndadaye has appointed a Tutsi Sylvie Kinigi as Prime Minister of his government who took very seriously his mission to establish unity between the two ethnic groups that she considered a priority. She was the first woman to become prime minister in Burundi. His assassination and beginning of the civil war.

Melchior Ndadaye was assassinated during a bloody coup on the night of 20 to 21 October 1993, during which Pontien Karibwami, Speaker of the National Assembly, Gilles Bimazubute, Vice-President of the National Assembly, Juvenal Ndayikeza, Minister of Territorial Administration and Development, also died.

This coup unleashed inter-ethnic violence throughout the country, triggering a civil war, which is estimated to be between 50,000 (figure put forth by the International Commission of Inquiry of NGOs) and 100,000 (figure put forth by the delegates of the High Commissioner for Refugees), even 200,000 dead (figure put forth by some Burundian survivors).

The President of Burundi was reportedly overthrown and captured by the military today, three months after taking office as the central African country’s first elected leader.

Radio reports in Belgium, the former colonial power in Burundi, and in Rwanda, on Burundi’s northern border, said the President, Melchior Ndadaye, had been killed. But none of the reports could be confirmed.

Earlier reports from Burundi said that Mr. Ndadaye, who is 40, and three Cabinet ministers were being held at a military base near Bujumbura, the capital, and that a search was under way for other Government figures.

Burundi’s Minister of Information, Jean-Marie Ngendahayo, told the Rwandan Government radio that rebel soldiers were using gunfire to subdue resistance to the coup, and that he and other Government officials had gone into hiding.

“We have noticed spontaneous demonstrations in favor of President Ndadaye, which are apparently being violently suppressed by the soldiers,” Mr. Ngendahayo said in a telephone interview. “The entire town is currently tightly controlled.”

Burundi’s borders and the port at Bujumbura, at the northern tip of Lake Tanganyika, were closed, and a curfew was imposed from 6 P.M. to 6 A.M., according to regional radio reports.
Tens of thousands have been killed in periodic clashes between Hutus and Tutsis since the country won its independence in 1962. The Tutsis dominated the Government and the economy until Mr. Ndadaye was elected President.

The Burundi Embassy in Rwanda said that there had been shooting in Bujumbura until mid-morning, but that rebel troops still surrounded the National Palace and the radio and television stations. The Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Interior and Social Affairs had been seized along with the President, the Embassy said, and Bujumbura’s airport was held by the rebels.

The United States suspended its $16 million aid program to Burundi, as is required by law when an elected Government is overthrown. The program helped to finance maternal and child health care and family planning.

The French Foreign Ministry expressed “total support” for President Ndadaye and threatened to suspend its $35 million annual aid to Burundi. A Foreign Ministry spokesman, Richard Duque, said Mr. Ndadaye’s wife and children had taken refuge in the French Embassy in Bujumbura.

Mr. Bagaza, the reported coup leader, was deposed in 1987 by Pierre Buyoya, who governed until Mr. Ndadaye defeated him in Burundi’s first free election. Mr. Buyoya, also a Tutsi, was credited with trying to calm ethnic tensions and leading the country to elections that put a Hutu in the Presidency for the first time. Mr. Bagaza returned from exile a month after Mr. Ndadaye’s election under a broad amnesty decreed by the President.

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During the election campaign, you were accused, the FRODEBU party and the competing sides of the ethnicity campaign. Don’t you think that these demonstrations, which dispute the vote results, are a direct consequence of the campaign methods?

You wonder whether these demonstrations are not the direct consequences of the ethnicity of the campaign of which we have been accused. People who have been able to follow our election campaign have realized that we are careful not to draw on the ethnic question. The only one that was developed by all the political parties was that of the national unity, and each party tried to define the terms and present its approach so that the Burundian people judge the relevance of each of the options that were presented in view to better position the National Unity.

You promised to make a wide consultation before applying your policy, are you not afraid of being boycotted, that a party of the elite of the country sabotages the government that would come out of the elections and your general direction of the country’s affairs?

No, I’m not afraid. As soon as our team is set up, people will realize that the fears they have revealed are unfounded. As we are put together a team, through which everyone will recognize, I want to reassure you. In a month, a month and a half, everything will be done in the interest and for the best of everyone.

You promised once in power, to release political prisoners. How many political prisoners in Burundi?

There are all sorts and sometimes criteria to determine if this is a political prisoner or not, differs according to the approach of someone. Some think that the prisoners, who were apprehended during the putsch or others for embezzlement, are not political prisoners, but some think that they are political prisoners. Prisoners who were apprehended in November 1961 and in March 1992. It’s the same thing. For some, they are assailants, assassins, criminals; for the others, they say it is: political prisoners. We think, according to our criteria, that there are half a thousand people now who are considered political prisoners. I announce to you that not only will we release all these political prisoners but also, we will also release most of the common-law prisoners. This is a promise I made during the campaign and we will keep our promise. We are going to decree an Amnesty General.

It appears that you would have experienced some pressure from the ruling power and above all the armed forces to be able to make a declaration on the day of the proclamation of the election results. This information is true or false?

Do not be childish. A party that has just won the elections, it does not need to receive orders from anyone to make a message on the radio. At most, there is consultation between us and President Buyoya, the Prime Minister, the police and security forces, we are in concertation to harmoniously evolve the current situation. Otherwise, to claim that Mr. Ndadaye has received orders from anyone else is once again a false rumor.
Some articles in your extensive program are starting to raise many questions. For example on the question concerning FRODEBU activists? Will you follow your vast program (the 46 main ideas of the campaign) now that you are President of the Republic? Will some people who fought positively for the future of Burundi again be disappointed because the cake to share is not as big as some people think?

One of the things you’ve been talking about is one of the things about army training, and I think you’ve misrepresented it because you’re saying that FRODEBU militants want to be members of the army. I do not think that in our program it has been specified, that it has been said that as soon as we are in power, it will be necessary for the FRODEBU militants to be enrolled in the army. About the army, we will analyze how to specify the missions of the army apart. We have also said that as far as recruitment is concerned, we are going to recruit by the community. Some have misunderstood this approach and have seen a certain quota policy there as already today to try to reconcile the recruitment of different people who want to join the army.

We went down to the provinces. Before, recruitment was done in a few centers. Now we are at the provincial level. We will push further, at the communal level. But that does not mean that the people recruited in such commune will be soldiers or gendarmes of this commune. They will be educated in the training camps and integrated into existing bodies. They will work all over the country, as it is today. In any way, these reforms will first be discussed with the bodies concerned, with the tradespeople who perhaps, can suggest using one or the other thing which can also explain, probably this or that point which could be rectified. We will discuss this with the interest of our approach for the general population and the body in particular and them. They will explain in turn the feasibility of this approach. It is when everyone has agreed that this proposal can be passed to Parliament for an informed decision.

We must not worry about people, we have many things to do and we have five years to carry out the various reforms. We are setting up high-level administrative structures to follow the reforms we have promised to the Burundian population.

All those millions of Burundians who supported us and voted for us, do you think they did it to have material gains, positions of responsibility? People have done much more to achieve an ideal, an ideal of freedom and on this point, everyone will be satisfied because I promise you that there will be no political prisoners under the FRODEBU regime. And just this provision, many Burundians recognize it. So, one should not look for material advantages as the prime motivation of any activist. And the people who tried to use money in this campaign, they realized at the level of the results. Beyond these immediate material interests, people are looking for something else.

This other thing is freedom, fulfillment, equity. They are much higher ideals than that and I think that is what interests many Burundians who have voiced their voices.

What will be the fate of the former President of the Republic BAGAZA, is he considered a political prisoner and what is his fate?

Former president BAGAZA is a Burundian citizen like everyone else. He has the right to go and to live in his country like everyone else. There is no special provision that we must take on behalf of ex-President J.B BAGAZA.

You have attacked the U.F.B. What do you plan to do with this association? Do you plan to suspend it or do you have other views regarding the Burundian woman?

Concerning the U.F.B, we have not only attacked U.F.B, but we have also attacked UPRONA, JRR, CSB. We attacked the integrated move-
ments because they operate illegally. Then they were fighting the same fight as our rival party. But it is up to the Burundian people to decide the fate of these movements, and I think that many people are still behind the UPRONA party and without any integrated movements. Far from it, where this idea of dissolving them quite the contrary, I encourage all Burundians who want to create all kinds of associations so that there are various views of expression.

You have received a lot of congratulatory messages from the Rwandan authorities and the political parties, especially the CDR party. What is the content of this message? Would there be a definition of Burundi’s policy concerning Rwanda?

Do not be surprised. I have spent 11 years in this country, I have many friends among the authorities, even among the common people. Many ministers worked with me or even taught me at the University of Rwanda. As far as the CDR message is concerned, it is a message like all the others since all the parties in Rwanda sent us messages of this kind. Others telephoned me personally. You must also know that Rwanda is in its present situation, where it tries to interpret the meaning of political evolution concerning the resolution of its problems.

And Rwandans want Burundians to help them, to be more involved in finding solutions that can put an end to the conflicts that have lasted for two years in Rwanda. I promised that for thousands of Rwandans to regain their nationality; those who will be able to settle in Rwanda will be able to do so, those who, for professional or other reasons, prefer to continue to live in the host country may stay there. In the sense that I have just indicated, we will strengthen relations between Rwanda and Burundi.

About PALIPEHUTU guaranteeing peace, we would like to know whether there will be a negotiation between the power and the armed wing of PALIPEHUTU?

Many people are asking this question and especially foreign journalists. We think this: Burundians who are outside and who want to try their hand at politics now have a framework to do it. I invite them to return and to express themselves politically while respecting the law on parties and the constitution. I do not see why we should go negotiate with anyone.

During your campaign, the FRODEBU party was described as tribalist, sometimes tribal-ethnical. Now, you always deny that it was not true. And despite that, that’s what was the subject of its political plan. Did you win the elections at 64% because your program was the best or was it because other issues worked in your favor?

Well, the language used during the campaign is a campaign language, it is a political language. People who called me “Kinyamwanira”, it was to galvanize their activists. Maybe at home, other songs tended to minimize the opponent, that’s normal. People have to go beyond the countryside and face each other. This is where we need to be mature. People did not elect us essentially for ethnic reasons. We were talking frankly about two Hutu candidates and a Tutsi candidate. You know that there was a Hutu candidate who had 1% of the vote. However, during the campaign, I understand that we tried to tell the people “here we bring you another Hutu candidate”. I think they looked at the gibberish of the people who were here and then they appreciated their ideas, their proposals, the program that was presented to them. And for those who do not know it, and it is perhaps very important, the FRODEBU has been existing for seven years. And this party has been shrouded in clandestinity. It is a real machine. Myself, I was surprised by its effectiveness. A real machine that is almost everywhere in the country.
African Development Bank invites applications for Young Professional Programme (Fully-funded)

This program is not an internship arrangement; rather it offers exceptional career opportunities to talented young professionals with leadership potential, an established record of outstanding academic and professional achievement to make a difference to the development of the African continent. The Young Professionals Program (YPP) targets high potential, best-in-class young professionals with a strong passion for Africa's development. The Program is for a period of three years; the first two years will be spent on mandatory rotational placements across the Bank's various functions.

On-boarding and orientation programs ensure faster integration into the Bank's culture and offers a robust support mechanism from mentors, coaches and buddy groups. Individual performance and potential will be reviewed periodically, and the necessary personal development plans customized to individual needs.

Duties and responsibilities

THE YOUNG PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM (YPP) STRATEGIC FOCUS AREAS FOR 2019 INTAKE:
The Bank seeks to recruit Young Professionals in specific disciplines and specialist professional areas that are aligned to the Ten-Year Strategy (TYS); the five priority areas of the Bank (High 5s) and People strategy. The Hi-5s are captured below:

Light Up and Power Africa:

Feed Africa:
Agriculture & Agro-industry (agribusiness development, agriculture research, production and sustainability), Agricultural finance & Rural development (agricultural and rural finance, rural infrastructure development).

Integrate Africa:
Development Research (macroeconomic policy, debt sustainability and forecasting, microeconomic, institutional and development impact), Governance and public financial management (program development, policy management), Statistics (economic and social statistics, statistical capacity building).

Industrialize Africa:
Private Sector Development (strategy and new product, portfolio asset management, special operations), Financial sector development (financial institutions, financial inclusion), Infrastructure, cities & urban development (transport and logistics, ICT), Industrial and trade development.

Improve the lives of the people of Africa:
Water, Human and Social development (education, human capital and employment, sanitation and public health).

The Young Professionals Program (YPP) targets high potential, best-in-class young professionals with a strong passion for Africa's development. The Program includes a rigorous program of activities including a learning Academy that prepares participants to be technical and professional leaders with notable impact.

The third-year rotation year will be spent in the Home Complex where the YP will graduate into a staff position. Only YPs who have completed the YP Academy and have exhibited high performance and high potential will be integrated into the Bank's workforce.

The Professional and Personal Development Program is structured under the Young Professionals Learning Academy with specific learning interventions delivered in phases of 6 months each.

These learning interventions serve to deepen technical knowledge and build leadership skills required for effective delivery of task functions and future roles in the Bank. The Learning Academy also includes on-the-job training that requires immersion into various functional areas of the Bank for hands-on experience in projects and various work assignments.
This opportunity is yours if you can educate a live audience about your work in science

This competition is open to anyone aged between 18 and 40 working in or studying technology, engineering, medicine, biology, chemistry, physics or maths. This includes private and public sector employees.

By taking part in FameLab you will inspire the next generation of scientists and engineers, gain invaluable communication skills, and meet amazing like-minded people. Importantly you will also become part of an increasingly exciting network of scientists and engineers able to clearly and imaginatively explain their science to the general public.

You will have an opportunity to join communication masterclass
Run by some of the best science communicators in the world, this is one of the biggest prizes for all FameLab finalists. There you will learn why public engagement is important, develop invaluable media and presentation skills, and get the opportunity to network with scientists from many different scientific fields!

FameLab’s history
Cheltenham Festivals held the first FameLab in 2005. Since 2007, a partnership with the British Council has seen the competition go international. To date, more than 10,000 scientists and engineers have taken part.

FameLab 2019
The following countries took part in 2019: Australia, Bangladesh, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Egypt, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Korea, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mauritius, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Qatar, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, and the UK.
Caravane du rire

DR CONGO  BURUNDI  RWANDA  COTE D'IVOIRE  GUINEA

10 NOVEMBRE 2019
Burundi: Briefing after the 141st Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union

National Assembly Speaker Pascal Nyabenda arrived at Melchior Ndadaye Airport on Sunday, October 20, 2019, from Serbia where he participated in the 141st Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

In a press briefing, he said that it is an Assembly that brings together many parliamentarians from around the world, and that the main theme was “Strengthening International Law, Parliamentary Role and Mechanism and Contribution of regional cooperation”.

According to him, it was an issue of studying the mechanism by which parliaments can contribute to the strengthening of international law. In the case of Burundi, the Speaker of the National Assembly (NA) told his peers that Burundi has ratified many tools and that the latter were incorporated into its new constitution after analysis by parliament.

Also, the NA Speaker informed them that Burundi is a member of several organizations at the regional level including ICGLR, EAC and others and to that end, the country contributes in those regional organizations to strengthen the international law.

Mr. Nyabenda indicated that in that meeting, during the various sessions, he was chosen among others to lead a plenary session in the place of the Speaker of the National Assembly of Serbia, which he considers important.

They exchanged on the preparations for the 2020 elections. The Burundi NA Speaker told him that the incumbent President, Mr. Pierre Nkurunziza, will not be a candidate for the 2020 elections and that Burundians have already collected money necessary for those elections and that the bodies for the good conduct of the elections are already at the work, namely CENI, CEPI, and CECI.

He also spoke to him about the important movement of voluntary repatriation of Burundian refugees, unlike the electoral periods of previous years when some Burundians were fleeing the country.
The Government of Burundi is purchasing the Russian collaborative office suite solution MyOffice

As a part of the state strategy for cooperative trade and economic development between Russia and African countries, Russian IT companies have started working with Africa. Initiated by the Presidents of Russia and Egypt, the Summit brought together more than 50 Heads of State and Government of the African continent.

“We carefully selected from the available solutions on the worldwide market. As a result, we made the decision to acquire 300 licenses of the New Cloud Technologies office suite MyOffice®, which is more than capable of meeting our needs. This is a modern, functional product with a high level of security, which allows deployment from a protected, private, cloud infrastructure for documents and e-mail, integrating with the existing government information systems”, said Willy Nyamitwe, Senior Advisor to the President of the Republic of Burundi.

According to the agreement, the Government of Burundi is buying 300 MyOffice® Professional licenses from New Cloud Technologies and creating a private cloud infrastructure for the collaborative workflow with documents inside the state information system. For the Russian software developer, this international contract was the first in its history, it is now in the implementation stage.

“According to independent analytical agencies, the number of personal computers in Africa will exceed 200 million by 2025 year. The Government of the Republic of Burundi is following worldwide digitalization trends and has become the first African country to take a step towards implementing secure office software. The contract not only confirms the high interest in the Russian MyOffice® product on the international market but also lays the foundation for cooperation on educational initiatives.

I am sure that the positive experience of cooperation with Burundi and the further growth of the economies of the countries of the African region will lead to an increase in the share of the Russian software market in the world”, says Dmitry Komissarov, CEO of New Cloud Technologies.

Due to the country’s dynamic development and the need for switching to electronic workflows, the Presidential Administration together with the government of the Republic of Burundi were looking for a solution that would provide three key functional criteria:
• collaboration
• secured cloud infrastructure and data control
• mobility and cross-platform integration.

The solution integration will take a few months. African partners have explored product functionality and made advanced testing. In addition to the high-security standards of the software, the representatives of the Presidential Administration of Burundi appreciated the convenience of collaborative functionality in the cloud. They also assessed the localized MyOffice® suite interface. The software is also translated into several foreign languages, including French, English, and Spanish.
MISS TECH BURUNDI 2019

"EXPANDING HORIZONS AND CHANGING ATTITUDES"

Bridging the gender digital divide

#MissTechBurundi | #SDG4 | #IDG2019

EXCITING PRIZES TO BE WON!!!
Tanzania: Court of Appeal Upholds 2016 Ruling Barring Marriage Before 18

Tanzania’s Supreme Court of Appeal on Wednesday upheld an earlier ruling banning parents from marrying off girls as young as 15. A high court ruling in 2016 had declared “unconstitutional” sections of Tanzania’s marriage act that allowed the practice, reports CNN. It also directed the government to raise the legal age of marriage to 18 years within a year.

That judgment followed a legal challenge by children’s rights activists, who argued that the existing law had pushed many girls into underage marriages.

In a landmark 2016 decision, a Tanzanian high court ruled these provisions unconstitutional, and directed the government to raise the legal age of marriage to 18 years for both girls and boys. This ruling followed a legal challenge by the Msichana Initiative, an organization advocating for girls’ right to education in Tanzania.

Their petition argued that the Marriage Act violated girls’ fundamental rights to equality, dignity, and access to education, and contravened Tanzania’s Law of the Child Act.

Human rights Whatch notes that three in 10 girls in Tanzania are married before their 18th birthday, according to United Nations estimates.

Human Rights Watch has documented the devastating lifelong consequences for girls of child marriage, including impacts on girls’ health when they become pregnant too young, the increased risks of domestic violence including marital rape, and how marriage and pregnancy ends their education.

In Tanzania, school officials are permitted to expel married girls, and most girls have limited opportunities to return to formal schooling after they drop out.
EAC Secretary General participates in Russia-Africa Economic Summit in Sochi

East African Community Secretary General Amb. Liberat Mfumukeko is participating in the inaugural Russia-Africa Economic Summit which is being held in Sochi, Russia from 23 to 24 October 2019. During the Summit, Amb. Mfumukeko was a panelist in a session that explored potential cooperation ties between Russia and Regional Economic blocs.

The Secretary-General engaged the participants on the status of integration in the EAC. He informed the forum that EAC has a population of 168.2 million and a combined GDP of US$155.2 billion making it one of Africa’s fastest-growing regional blocs in Africa.

Amb. Mfumukeko highlighted the key potential areas of cooperation between Russia and EAC saying that there was a need for both parties to examine the trading landscape between themselves and optimize what each party can produce for the others’ market.

“One potential area where the EAC is deficient is the provision of critical services for business and investment in areas like transport, logistics, and technicians. Both parties need to explore the existing gaps,” he said.

The SG said that the EAC economies were still virgin and quite endowed with massive natural resources, adding that Russian investors ought to come to the EAC and explore how to exploit this potential. “There is need to organize periodic bilateral traders/investors interactions through visits and trade and investment fairs,” said the SG, adding that the EAC Partner States and Russia should explore the possibility of removing travel restrictions such as travel visas to enhance the movement of persons between both parties.

Amb. Mfumukeko said that there was a need for the EAC Partner States to develop education and youth exchange programs in addition to exploring the development of the respective languages of each party in the education curricula of the other party.

The Forum is the first where the rich history of cooperation between Africa and Russia is being reexamined. Among those attending the two-day Summit are government officials and members of the business community from both Russia and Africa. The delegates aim to substantively discuss the current status and prospects of cooperation and a wide range of topical issues of the World Economy. Russia acknowledges the fact that today African countries are well on their way towards social, economic, scientific and technological development and are playing a significant role in international affairs. Russia further appreciates that African countries are strengthening mutually beneficial integration processes within the African Union which have eight (8) Regional Economic blocs among them the EAC.

The EAC Partner States’ led by the Heads of State also participated in the Forum.
EAC: Minister Isabelle Ndahayo presented her great achievements for the 1st quarter

The great achievements of the ministry in the Presidency in charge of the East African Community Affairs, for the 1st quarter 2019-2020, are summarized in seven main achievements, contained in the Annual Action Plan (AAP) 2019-2020, said Ms. Isabelle Ndahayo. It was on Friday, October 18 at a news conference held by the Minister.

According to Minister Ndahayo, during the first quarter of 2019-2020 (from July to September 2019), the Ministry held awareness-raising and information-sharing meetings on the projects and programs of the East African Community. These include the state of affairs of the East African Community Federation, the agreement establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area (ZLECAF) and the holding of the programs on the East African Community. That Ministry has held national consultations on the projects and programs of that Community. During this first quarter, that Ministry proceeded to the popularization of the Methodology of production of a statistics yearbook of that ministry.

Ms. Ndahayo noted that the Ministry has been monitoring projects and programs in Burundi, as part of the Lake Victoria Basin Commission.

Other achievements of that ministry, in the first quarter of 2019-2020, include the further improvement of the legal and regulatory framework of the East African Community and the coordination of Burundi’s participation in community meetings. In that regard, Minister Ndahayo pointed out that Burundi participated in 115 community meetings.

On the issue of the status of payment of arrears of contributions from Burundi within the East African community, Ms. Ndahayo replied that Burundi has paid, during the first quarter of 2019-2020, 1.7 million US dollars, part of the arrears of the 2018-2019 fiscal year. She noted that 2% remains to be paid for the 2018-2019 fiscal year. Minister Ndahayo expressed satisfaction with the level of achievements for the first quarter of 2019-2020 (July-August-September 2019), as part of the implementation of its Annual Action Plan (AAP 20192020). Nevertheless, she noted that this ministry faces some challenges. That ministry is faced with the delay of some institutions and sectoral ministries to implement commitments made by Burundi at the level of the East African Community and the harmonization of the legal and institutional framework. This situation is delaying the effective implementation of programs and projects, not only at the level of Burundi but also at the level of the entire East African Community, she added.
Kenya’s top telecommunications operator Safaricom has named Peter Ndegwa as its new CEO, it said on Thursday, ending a three-month search for a new leader following the death of its long-time head Bob Collymore reports Reuters.

Peter Ndegwa has been appointed as the new Safaricom Chief Executive Officer.

East Africa’s most profitable company, which is part-owned by South Africa’s Vodacom and Britain’s Vodafone, has been led since July by an interim CEO after the death of Collymore.

“We are confident that Peter will carry on our vision of transforming lives while keeping us focused on meeting our customers’ needs and holding us to our new commitment of being simple, transparent and honest,” the statement from Safaricom read.

Peter Ndegwa had previously served for seven years as CEO in Guinness Nigeria PLC and Guinness Ghana Breweries PLC, where he transformed the two operations to deliver a double-digit growth by investing in people, introducing new brands and reorganizing the businesses.

Prior to that, he served for eight years across a range of senior Executive Director roles at EABL (a Diageo subsidiary) based in Nairobi.

He holds an MBA from the London Business School and a Bachelor’s degree in Economics from the University of Nairobi.

He is also a Certified Public Accountant and a member of the Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Kenya (ICPAK).
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DU 05 AU 09 NOVEMBRE

BUJA FASHION WEEK
2019

05 NOVEMBRE
LANCEMENT / CITY HILL HOTEL

06 & 07 NOVEMBRE
ATELIERS DE FORMATION
(STYLISME / COUTURE / MANNEQUINAT)

08 NOVEMBRE
DÉFILE / ZION BEACH - 18H

09 NOVEMBRE
EXPOSITION VENTE / ZION BEACH - 09H
SOIREE DE CLÔTURE / ZION BEACH - 18H

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Sochi: We want more Russian companies to invest in Burundi

“We are looking forward to welcoming more companies in Burundi. These [Russian] companies which are active in Burundi have success stories to tell, and we hope to see many other companies coming to invest in Burundi,” he said.

As urdupoint reports, The ambassador highlighted his country’s challenges in education, agriculture, and mining, asserting that Burundi could use Russia’s technology and experience in those areas.

He was pleased with the forum for providing a new legal framework that benefits potential projects between Russia and Burundi.

The Russia-Africa Summit and Economic Forum, which started on Wednesday, is a two-day event that brings together the heads of state or government of over 40 African nations, while 11 others sent their vice presidents, foreign ministers or ambassadors. One of the participants, the administrative and financial director of Tanganyika Mining Burundi, Tony-Dorcel Ndaborohey, said that Russian investors had been well received in Burundi, in an interview with Sputnik, on the occasion of the Russia-Africa summit.

“Russian investors have been well received in Burundi,” said Sputnik’s microphone Tony-Dorcel Ndaborohey, administrative and financial director at Tanganyika Mining Burundi, on the sidelines of the Russia-Africa summit currently being held in Sochi.

As Sputnik reports, Ndaborohey said the Burundian government guarantees the security of Russian investments: “The investment promotion agency guarantees tax benefits, very attractive customs benefits […], it is in principle guarantees that are granted to foreign investors in general, and in particular to Russians”. He also said that he particularly appreciated the honesty and candor of Russian investors, adding that “the Russian will not interfere in internal political affairs.”

The summit and the Russia-Africa Economic Forum are taking place in Sochi on 23 and 24 October 2019, under the co-presidents of Russian and Egyptian Presidents Vladimir Putin and Abdel Fattah al-Sisi.

The event, which brings together 47 African heads of state, is “the first meeting of this level in the history of Russian-African relations”.

Russia writes off African debt

AfricaNews notes that, Russia’s President Vladimir Putin said up to twenty billion dollars of African debt has been written off, as part of an initiative to ease the debt burden of countries on the continent.

“The total sum of debt written off currently amounts to 20 billion dollars. Along with several other countries, joint programs to put debts towards financing national economic growth have been launched,” Putin said.

Putin also sought to push back against the narrative that his country’s main export to Africa are arms, arguing instead that it is food.

“Russia is one of the top ten largest suppliers of food to the African market. We export more agricultural products to the markets of third countries than weapons. Weapons amount to around 15 billion dollars while I think agricultural supplies make up about 25 billion dollars.”
West-central Burundi: The activities of the Seventh-day Adventist Church have been suspended

The Seventh-day Adventist Church activities have been suspended for an indefinite period in Muramvya province (west-central Burundi) by the governor of the province, Mr. Laurent Nicimbeshe. The decision was taken after his listening and mediation role failed when he met twice with the leaders of the two parties of that church in a conflict of leadership, the governor of Muramvya told a check by ABP.

That leadership conflict began on Saturday, October 5th, a Sabbath day in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. On that day, the faithful from the Muramvya headquarters refused the entry in the church of the new pastor of Muramvya district, a district with 16 praying places throughout the province, the check by ABP revealed.

That refusal was caused by the fact that Elie Manirambona was “illegally” appointed by the leader of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Burundi, Mr. Joseph Ndikubwayo, who according to one of the protagonist parties, was formally replaced by the pastor Lamec Barishinga, at the top of the Church leadership in Burundi.

Following that conflict situation, the prayer of Saturday, October 5 did not take place, marking the beginning of misunderstandings.

Mr. Nicimbeshe, had to take issues into his own hands to ensure mediation between those who are loyal to the legal representative recognized by the Ministry of the Interior, Patriotic Education and Local Development, the one by the name of Joseph Ndikubwayo and those who say that he has already been replaced by Pastor Lamec Barishinga.

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They discussed the respect to the correspondence of the Interior Minister, addressed to the leader of the General Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Washington DC, United States of America, on April 14, 2019. That correspondence asked that top leader of the church to extend Pastor Joseph Ndikubwayo's transition as legal representative of Seventh-day Adventists in Burundi until further notice.

It also asked the leadership of the Church in Burundi to elect the new legal representative as soon as possible. Faced with a situation of disagreement over consensual governing bodies, “I have just made the decision to suspend indefinitely all the activities of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the Muramvya province,” Governor Nicimbeshe noted, after a second meeting with representatives of the two conflicting leadership parties that do not converge on the pastor of the Church in Muramvya.

He said the measure was taken to ensure the safety of the faithful while waiting for the representation recognized by all.

It is worth noting that some of the faithful on both sides that the check by ABP contacted on Wednesday morning, insisted that pastors Lamec Barishinga and Joseph Ndikubwayo or another legal representative could be appointed so that the activities of the Seventh-day Adventist Church can be relaunched in Muramvya province.
Five reasons why new entrepreneurs fail in their endeavors.

Successful entrepreneurs are not those who never fail, but the ones who try to learn from their mistakes. To learn from your mistakes is not only enough; it is worthwhile to learn from others’ mistakes to get better results.

Here are top 5 startups failure and how to avoid them.

1. No written plan
Many startups believe in their minds and think the written plan is not important for their business. But, the discipline of writing down a plan is the best to make sure you understand how to transform an idea into a business. Every entrepreneur must take this plan writing as their routine or duty.

2. An inexperienced team.
In reality, investors fund people, not ideas. They look for people with real experience in the business domain of the startup, and people with real experience running at startup. If this is your first time around, find a partner who has “been there and done that” to balance your passion and bring experience to the team.

3. Not enough marketing skills.
Having a slick word-of-mouth marketing strategy isn’t enough to make your product and brand visible in the relentless onslaught of new media out there today. Even viral marketing costs real money and time. Without effective and innovative marketing across the range of media, you won’t have customers or a business.

4. Wrong Partners
Entrepreneurs often fail because they hang out with the wrong people. It includes colleagues who agree with everything the entrepreneur says, “good guys” that others approve but are unfamiliar to the entrepreneur. Good entrepreneurs have a purpose-filter through which they pass their time. A good entrepreneur asks this question: is this partner really worth my time? Entrepreneurs who fail do not have this filter.

5. Not Finding Enough Funding.
Entrepreneurs often fail because they cannot raise the right kind of funding at the right time at the right valuation. They use too much of their own money and way too much money from friends and family – which becomes a distraction every time a friend or family member asks about how the company – and their investment – is doing. Entrepreneurs fail because they do not know how to value their company or phase investments along timelines designed to optimize valuations. They fail to appreciate how much money it takes to meet milestones.
Semaine mondiale de l'entrepreneuriat BURUNDI

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DU 18 AU 24 NOVEMBRE 2019

loading...
5 rules young leaders should follow to build a successful business.

Here are five rules that young leaders need to know and follow for them to have a successful business and a good working environment.

1. Motivate your employees.
Motivating employees is one of the things which will make your business successful, here is why.
Not only that with highly motivated employees your company will meet its goals, but the productivity will increase as well. Imagine having an employee who isn’t very motivated, they will use the time at their desk surfing the internet for personal pleasure or even looking for another job.
Employee motivation is one of the most advised ways for managers to use to boost productivity, as a young leader, manager, and entrepreneur, you may ask yourself how, but there are lots of ways you can motivate your employees, simplest ways include open communication, valuing co-workers opinions, and work appreciation like “Great job” or “Thank you”, these simple words sometimes build trust and encourage people to even work harder.

2. Share your profits with all your partners.
Sharing profits and treating your employees as your partners will bring all of you together, employees will feel the trust you have in them and will be so eager and motivated to work with you. But one thing to keep an eye on is to keep control while sharing anything in your company. Behave as a servant leader, lead by example. Make it with them, don’t make them make it for you if you want to have a strong and successful business.

3. Communicate all that can be communicated.
The more you tell them the more they will understand. Communication is a key feature for successful businesses, you don’t just get to the goal anyhow, in planning, organizing and controlling your business you need effective communication to reach that. If you don’t trust your employees and partners to know what’s going on in the business, they will know you don’t take them as partners so they will work for you, not with you.

4. Control inputs and outputs well.
Well, we have to give our all to get to our goals but we have to calculate our all. As a young entrepreneur and leader, you need to know how your business will maximize profit and sales with the lowest ratio of expenses.

5. Listen to everyone in your company.
As part of communication, you don’t need to talk all the way alone but take into consideration what your associates tell you, they are the ones who know what it’s like in the business, the operations, and life, you better listen to them to tell you what they know. Put responsibility in them and listen to what they have to tell you, the ideas and views they provide might be the key to the door you want to open.

Generally, these 5 rules should be on every young leader’s mind, leading isn’t all about saying what you need, it is not all about the idea you have although they are very important, your employees also count, when you treat them well you’ll be stronger and will likely have a successful business.
CONFÉRENCE - DÉBAT

SUR LE THÈME
LA MODE VESTIMENTAIRE AU BURUNDI
DANS TOUS SES ASPÈCTS.

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LIEU : EMERAUDE HOTEL
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ENTRÉE LIBRE !
Burundi: 375 companies have already benefited from the eligibility certificates for investment code

In his address, API Interim Director General (DG) Serge Nsabimana said that since the inception of the API until today, 375 companies have already benefited from the eligibility certificates for investment code.

Between 2010 and late 2018, these companies declared that they would invest 1.537 billion Burundi francs and create some 19,969 jobs in the country, he said, underlining that the investment code currently in force in Burundi introduces a customs and tax system to promote private capital investment in priority sectors of the country’s economy. It offers the necessary guarantees to secure the investments made, he continued to say.

The assessment of the investment code, whose the main purpose is to present the state of implementation of all measures taken with reference to the provisions of the Investment Code and its implementing texts, is a tool for evaluation of the investment incentive system, according to Mr. Nsabimana, who pointed out that this operation is done from the eligibility of projects to the benefits of the investment code to the monitoring of exempt goods and equipment.

In his presentation on the “Report on the results of the 2018 investment code assessment”, the head of the API monitoring and evaluation unit, Mr. David Muvunyi, reported that 356 companies were certified until the end of 2018. Of these, 97 projects were under-investment, 157 were completed, 51 closed and 28 had never invested. According to Mr. Muvunyi, 14 projects have been suspended, five have changed activities, and four have been sold.

And if one considers the slice of the 157 projects closed, we see that they are operational, but the validity of their certificate has expired but have never requested an extension.

Of 32 companies visited, 14 had exceeded the number of planned investments, while 18 had not yet reached it, he continued to say. It was found that of the 18 companies that have not yet reached their projected investment, 11, or 61%, have certificates still valid without extension, four, or 22%, have certificates that have expired and three, or 17%, have been extended.