



DECLARATION OF LIGUE ITEKA FOLLOWING THE SPOILIATION OF THE PROPERTY OF SOME CIVIL SOCIETY ACTIVISTS AND POLITICAL OPPONENTS

Ligue Iteka is deeply concerned by the decision of 15 May 2019, which ordered the seizure of movable and immovable property of some civil society activists, journalists and political opponents. This decision was taken in violation of the right to property guaranteed by the Burundian constitution¹ and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights².

This decision was taken while the case against some political leaders is still pending before the Burundian justice.

Ligue Iteka deplores the instrumentalization of justice by the regime for propagandist purposes. This is reflected in the recent confused speech by the Secretary General of the CNDD-FDD party on the reallocation of land.

Ligue Iteka condemns with the utmost energy this decision which penalizes the members of the families of the accused especially that these movable and immovable property constituted their sources of income.

Faced with this situation, Ligue Iteka recommends:

To the Government of Burundi

- Respect the Burundian constitution, especially with regard to the right to property, and to stop without delay this practice of spoliation of property of political opponents and civil society activists;
- To consider the principle of presumption of innocence;
- To stop the instrumentalization of Burundian justice.

¹ The Burundian constitution stipulates in its article 36 that "Everyone has the right to property. No one may be deprived of his property except in the public interest in cases and in the way established by law and with just and prior compensation or execution of a judicial decision cast as a res judicata".

² Article 17 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that "Everyone has the right to own property alone as well as in association with others. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his property"



LIGUE BURUNDAISE DES DROITS DE L'HOMME

"ITEKA" association sans but lucratif

Agréée par l'ordonnance ministérielle n°530/0273 du 10 novembre 1994 revoyant l'ordonnance 550/029 du 6 février 1991

Membre affilié de la Fédération Internationale des Ligues des Droits de l'Homme (F.I.D.H)

To the international community

- To use its influence to force the Government of Burundi to stop these acts of spoliation that only plunge Burundi into a tense situation.

Done in Kampala, 23 May 2019

Anschaire NIKOYAGIZE

President of Ligue Iteka

