

BURUNDIAN LIGUE OF HUMAN RIGHTS "ITEKA"

Approved by Ministerial Order n ° 530/0273 of 10 November 1994 revising Order No. 550 /029 of 6 February 1991



"Is a member of the Inter-African Union for Human and Peoples' Rights (UIDH), is an affiliate member of the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), has observer status with the African Commission of Human and Peoples' Rights under the reference number OBS.236 and is a member of ECOSOC. Ligue Iteka is decentralized into 17 federations and 32 sections"

Weekly bulletin « ITEKA N'IJAMBO » n°436 of the Burundian Ligue of Human Rights "ITEKA"

Week from 19 to 25 August 2024



In memory of Madam Marie Claudette Kwizera, Treasurer of Iteka, reported missing since December 10 2015. From December 2015 to 25 August 2024, Iteka has documented at least 700 cases of enforced disappearances

CONTENTS	PAGES
ACRONYMS.....	3
0. INTRODUCTION.....	4
I. POLITICAL, JUDICIAL AND SECURITY CONTEXT.....	4
I.1. POLITICAL CONTEXT.....	4
I.2. JUDICIAL CONTEXT.....	6
I.3. SECURITY CONTEXT.....	6
1.3.1. PERSONS KILLED BY UNIDENTIFIED PEOPLE.....	6
1.3.2. OTHER SECURITY INCIDENTS.....	7
II. CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS.....	8
II.1. RIGHT TO LIFE.....	8
II.1.1. PERSONS KILLED BY IMBONERAKURE.....	8
II.2. THE RIGHT TO PHYSICAL INTEGRITY.....	9
II.2.1. GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE.....	9
II.2.2. PERSONS TORTURED.....	10
II.3. RIGHT TO LIBERTY.....	10
II.3.1. PERSONS ARRESTED ARBITRARILY.....	10
III. ECONOMIC SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS.....	10
IV. CATEGORICAL RIGHTS.....	11
IV.1. WOMEN'S RIGHTS	11
V. CONCLUSION.....	12

ACRONYMS

BUCECO	: <i>Burundi Cement Company</i>
BRB	: <i>Bank of the Republic of Burundi</i>
CAPEs⁺	: <i>Collective of associations of people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS</i>
CDFC	: <i>Family and Community Development Center</i>
CDS	: <i>Health Center</i>
CECI	: <i>Independent Communal Electoral Commission</i>
CEPI	: <i>Independent Provincial Electoral Commission</i>
CNDD-FDD	: <i>National Council for the Defense of Democracy</i>
CNL	: <i>National Congress for Liberty</i>
COMIBU	: <i>Burundi Islamic Community</i>
COOPEC	: <i>Savings and Loans Cooperatives</i>
DCE	: <i>Communal Director of Education</i>
ECOFO	: <i>Fundamental School</i>
GBV	: <i>Gender Based Violence</i>
OPJ	: <i>Judiciary Police Officer</i>
UPRONA	: <i>Union for National Progress</i>
SNR	: <i>National Intelligence Service</i>

0. INTRODUCTION

This bulletin covers the judicial, political and security context that marked this period. It also deals with civil and political rights; economic social and cultural rights and ends with a conclusion.

Therefore, over this reporting period, the human rights and security situation was reported as follows: at least 7 persons killed, including 3 found dead and 1 person summarily executed, 3 victims of GBV, 1 person tortured and 1 victim of arbitrary arrest.

Among the victims are 2 dead women. Political intolerance is also observed because a member of CNL party was killed following political reasons.

Imbonerakure, administration officials, police officers and SNR agents are singled out as the alleged perpetrators of most of these human rights violations and assassinations.

1. POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH AND SECURITY CONTEXT

1.1. POLITICAL CONTEXT

Contributions imposed by CNDD-FDD party for the 2025 elections

Throughout the country, the Burundian population is forced by CNDD-FDD party to contribute for the 2025 elections. Imbonerakure pass through all the hills and enter households without distinguishing political affiliation by asking to pay a sum of money ranging from 1,000 Bif and more.

For example, in Makamba province, these Imbonerakure asked for a sum of between 1,000 and 2,000 Bif and a receipt with CNDD-FDD logo on which there is a contribution to the 2025 elections was issued to anyone who paid. Some collectors stood very close to the roadblocks, next to the communal tax collectors. Each passer-by on board a vehicle, a motorcycle or a bicycle was forced to pay 2,000 Bif. Some administrative officials went to households and intimidated residents by saying: *"If you don't pay, you will have proven that we are not accepted in the entourage"*.

In Rumonge province, Imbonerakure crisscrossed the hills to collect a sum of 1,000 Bif per person and had a receipt from CNDD-FDD party that they contributed. They asked for their name and telephone number. As of August 19, 2024, in Buyengero commune, access to Kabumburi market was conditional on the payment of these contributions. The representative of CNDD-FDD party in Mudende zone and leader of Imbonerakure youth supervised this activity.

In Bururi province, the Imbonerakure went from household to household asking for a sum of 1,000 Bif from each person. Some residents said they refused to pay a contribution to the party they are not members of but they fear reprisals. Others said they contributed to protect their business.

In Muyinga province, Imbonerakure stretch ropes to collect election fees on behalf of CNDD-FDD party. Any passerby who does not have a receipt must pay a sum of 2,000 Bif regardless of their political affiliation. This collection is also done door to door on all the hills of this province, adults pay 2,000 Bif, civil servants pay 10,000 Bif, those of voting age pay 1,000 Bif.

In Karuzi province, since August 20, 2024, in Karuzi province, CNDD-FDD party is collecting fees entitled "contribution to the 2025 elections". According to witnesses on site, the members of this party go from household to household with receipts of 1000Bif, 2000Bif, 5000Bif and 10000Bif. Children over 17 pay 1000 Bif, adults 2000Bif per person, shops 5000Bif and stores 10000Bif. The same source indicates that these contributions are fixed for each member of the household from 15 years and over and still mandatory.

Contributions are requested from everyone even non-members of CNDD-FDD Party. Collections in shops and stores have started while they have paid in households. In Kirundo province, on August 22 and 23, 2024, raids by members of the provincial office of CNDD-FDD party (Butanyerera province) took place in all the communes of Kirundo province, carrying out a campaign to raise awareness among the population to contribute to the 2025 elections.

Each person at least 17 years old is called upon to pay at least 1,000 Bif to cover an amount of 4 billion that Butanyerera province needs to better participate in these elections. The team in charge of this collection goes household by household while taxing at will and by force people of voting age regardless of their political affiliation. At the least resistance, the Imbonerakure accompanying the collectors intimidate them and end up paying.

In Bujumbura mairie, bars, shops, stores and other income-generating activities: hairdressing salon; carpentry workshop; welding workshop, etc were targeted for this collection and the owners were ordered to pay to continue operating in this locality and avoid being abused by these young Imbonerakure. Each person of voting age who is a member of the ruling party should pay 1,000 Bif to finance the campaign of this party.

In other provinces, notably the provinces of Cankuzo and Ruyigi, this money collection activity started with fundraising meetings on August 21, 2024, while in Muyinga province, the meeting took place on August 22, 2024. It should be noted that on May 20, 2024, Ir Gérard Barutwanayo, provincial secretary of CNDD-FDD party in Muyinga province, had distributed invitations of this party inviting the population to participate in these meetings. He invited people who carry out activities in this province such as civil servants, CNDD-FDD party members working in the province city and in the communes, all traders in the province city and those in the communes.

Let's recall that the Government of Burundi has, in the past, imposed a system of supposedly voluntary contributions to finance the May 2020 elections. However, it was realized that these contributions were of a coercive nature by the ruling party and the Imbonerakure militia. Today, these forced contributions not only worsen the already precarious economic situation, but also put additional pressure on a largely impoverished population.

It should be noted that at Ingoma stadium in Gitega, on August 12, 2024, the President of the Republic of Burundi, Evariste Ndayishimiye, specified that these contributions would be voluntary unlike the 2020 elections where contributions were compulsory and chopped from the salaries of civil servants¹.

Implementation of CECI members in different provinces

In Bururi province, on August 22, 2024, Annonciate Niyokwizera, member of CEPI Burunga, introduced CECI members. In each commune, the ruling party has 3 or more members. Even those who appear on the lists as representatives of civil society, institutional memory are known as CNDD-FDD members. "In Bururi commune, she introduced 3 from CNDD FDD but in reality there are 6 of them since apart from one member from UPRONA others actually are from CNDD FDD party".

"In Matana commune, she introduced 3 from CNDD-FDD party, but in reality there are 4 because the one representing CENI is actually from the ruling party".

In Gitega province, the presentation session took place on August 23, 2024 in Bugendana communal room by three members of CEPI Gitega. Out of 7 members making up CECI Bugendana (Merging of Bugendana-Mutaho communes), 4 are from CNDD-FDD although some appear to represent associations or churches.

¹<https://presidence.gov.bi/2024/04/12/le-president-ndayishimiye-interpelle-les-burundais-a-participer-aux-elections-de-2025-en-toute-unite-et-solidarite/>

The composition of the CECI of Mwaro commune is also the same, 3 are CNDD FDD members. The other political parties raise the same problem regarding the choice of CECI members in Muramvya province. This is the case of CECI Muramvya and Kiganda where out of the 7 members, only one was officially presented as sent by CNDD-FDD, but five are actually members of the party.

In Cankuzo province, on August 22, 2024, the CEPI of Buhumuza province presented, in the meeting room of Cankuzo communal Lycée de, the members of CECI of Cankuzo, bringing together the former communes of Cankuzo and Kigamba. In total, 7 members, including 5 men and 2 women, 3 from CNDD-FDD, 1 from CNL, 1 from UPRONA, 1 from CAPS⁺ association and one from COMIBU, Islam. According to witnesses, except for one from UPRONA, all the other 6 are from CNDD FDD because CNL is

1.2. JUDICIAL CONTEXT

Flagrance trial in Kayanza commune and province

On August 20, 2024, in a flagrante trial, the Kayanza TGI headed by the president of the Court, François Havyarimana pronounced a sentence of one year and a fine of 500 000 each against Jean Paul Nyabenda aged 34, former communal secretary of Kabarore, Ferdinand Manirambona, aged 48, Étienne Buhinja alias Mwansi, aged 38, Issa Ntakiyiruta, aged 16 and Fleury Barekebavuge, aged 24, all imbonerakure of Kabarore commune accused of fraud of seven bags of coffee. According to sources on site, Fleury Barekebavuge was secretly buying coffee from Jean Paul Nyabenda with a capital of 170,000Bif but that Jean Paul had a grudge against Fleury because he did not give him back the capital or the interest. According to the same sources, Jean Paul Nyabenda had information dated August 19 that Fleury and Issa had coffee that they wanted to sell in Rwanda. Nyabenda then sent Ferdinand Manirambona and Étienne Buhinja to wait for them in Mwogera Valley separating Burundi and Rwanda and then informed the communal administrator Berchimas Nsaguye and the latter alerted the communal commissioner Nyeganyega. Around 4 a.m., Manirambona and Buhinja seized this coffee in Mwogera Valley and was sent to Rwanda before the police and the administration arrived in Mwogera. All four people were arrested on the morning of August 20, 2024 and Nyabenda was arrested the same day after Fleury's testimony of collaboration and then transferred to Kayanza police station cell before being sentenced in the afternoon.

1.3. SECURITY CONTEXT

1.3.1. PERSONS KILLED BY UNIDENTIFIED PEOPLE

A member of CNDD-FDD party killed in Mpanda commune, Bubanza province

Information received by Ligue Iteka on August 20, 2024 indicates that on August 10, 2024, around midnight, on Gifurwe hill, Mpanda commune, Cibitoke province, Edouard Bamporubusa, aged 59, a member of CNDD-FDD party was killed by unidentified people using machetes. According to witnesses on the scene, fights and disputes between the owners of the land who are the victim's neighbors broke out around a pit that was to be his grave on Gifurwe hill. According to sources close to his family, the family had refused the burial without the investigations revealing the perpetrators and reasons for this killing. The administrator of Mpanda commune, Nadine Nibitanga, ordered that the body be buried at Mpanda cemetery following misunderstandings about the place of this burial. This administrative authority promised the family that investigations are underway to identify the perpetrators and punish them in accordance with the law.

A body found in Makamba commune and province

On August 20, 2024, very early in the morning, in Makamba II quarter, in Makamba commune and province, a body of Cédric Nkeshimana, aged 23, a pharmacist, was found hanging on a mango tree in a plot of land in Makamba commune and province. According to witnesses, the victim left his home around

9 p.m. the day before after the meal he shared with Antoine Gahungu with whom he lived. The police and the administration are talking about suicide, even though he was hanging on this mango tree, he did not show any signs that could prove suicide, given his clothes and his bare feet that touched the ground. Some of the neighbors think he was murdered and hanged on this mango tree. Two people including Antoine were arrested and taken by the police to the police station cell in Makamba for investigations. The police, in the presence of OPJ Félix in collaboration, took his body with the administration including Kigwati quarter head, the head of Makamba zone to Makamba hospital mortuary then buried the same day after medical examination that gave the result of suicide.

A body found in Cankuzo commune and province

On August 19, 2024, in the bush, on Nyabisindu hill, Cankunzo zone, commune and province, a body of Venant Gomba, aged about 58, married, from Kamuna sub-hill, Nyabisindu hill, 9 km from Cankuzo commune town, was found hidden under the grass placed above the latter. According to sources on site, he was strangled by unknown people when he was returning from Cankuzo market and thrown into the bush on this hill. Juvénal Ntungumburanye, head of SNR, asked the Red Cross to intervene and around 2 p.m., the Red Cross provincial secretary, Emmanuel Nkundwanabake, with his team intervened to disinfect this already rotten body for its burial the same day. According to his neighbors, he had been missing since August 16, 2024. Boniface Banyiyezako, Governor of the said province; the head of intelligence service and an OPJ went to the scene to make a report.

A body of a woman found in Muyinga commune and province

On the night of August 20 to 21, 2024, in a displaced persons site, on Bwiza hill, Cumba zone, Muyinga commune and province, the body of Angela Hatungimana, aged 83, was found, strangled by unknown persons. According to witnesses on site, the body of the deceased was found in her house. The same witnesses add that this woman had been without a trace since August 18, 2024 and that the house was closed from outside with a padlock but with an open window. The head of Cumba zone, Shabani Nimubona, indicates that those who strangled Angela Hatungimana used her loincloth. These executioners wanted a sum of 600 000 Bif from the sale of a plot of land belonging to the victim. The same sources add that the deceased lived alone in the house.

1.3.2. OTHER SECURITY INCIDENTS

Illegal mining in Mabayi and Bukinanyana communes, Cibitoke province

At least 23 gold miners, including 14 gold miners in Mabayi commune and 9 gold miners in Bukinanyana commune in Cibitoke province working outside the legal framework, were arrested by Mabayi police on the orders of Jeanne Izomporera, communal administrator of Mabayi and Christian Nkurikiye, administrator of Bukinanyana commune on the sites of Gafumbegeti, Rutabo, Rutorero, Ruhororo in Mabayi commune and the sites of Mvyave, Bumba, Nderama and Rusenda in Bukinanyana commune.

Information received by Ligue Iteka on August 19, 2024 indicates that on July 13, 2024, the police arrested 8 gold miners and 6 others on July 15, 2024.

According to administrative sources, not all of the gold miners arrested are affiliated with cooperatives recognized by law and the production of gold extracted from different sites is not sold to the BRB.

These arrests occur while 20 clandestine gold miners died on July 5, 2024 while searching for gold several hundred meters away in messily dug holes on Gafumbegeti gold mining site in Butahana zone, Mabayi commune. Police Colonel Evariste Ntahobatageze, a civil protection police officer, reassures the victims' family members and indicates that the arrested persons are being interrogated by SNR agents in Cibitoke province. According to witnesses on site, these illegal gold miners benefit from the cover of some

bigwigs close to CNDD-FDD party to whom they sell gold.

Concerning the allegations of the miners, especially close to CNDD-FDD, who in turn sell huge quantities of gold abroad outside the usual circuit recognized by the Central Bank of Burundi and the OBR services, OPC1 Carême Bizoza, Governor of Cibitoke province threatens to severely punish anyone accused of undermining the country's economy and illegal gold trading.

Obscurantist beliefs in Gahombo commune, Kayanza province

Information received by Ligue Iteka on August 24, 2024 indicates that on August 11, 2024, on Rukago hill, Gahombo commune, Kayanza province, around 9 a.m., Gloria Bigeganingabire, aged 15, a 7th year student, Parfaite Igiraneza, aged 13, a 6th year student, and Marie Reine Kanyamuneza, aged 11, a 5th year student, were taken to a location not yet known by their mother, Léa Dusabe, a member of the followers of Eusebie of Businde. According to their father Pascal Minani, he had left for the 1st morning mass, leaving his daughters at home and found no one when he returned. According to the information he received from neighbors, his wife came to take the three children in order to prevent them from participating in the population census and took them to an unknown location. His wife who worked at Muhanga health center and who had not returned home since June, had left the job. The husband informed the administration but they have not yet found where the children are.

II. CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

Burundi is one of the countries adhering to the international covenant on civil and political rights (1965) and its optional protocol (1976) without any reservation on May 9, 1990, which as part of its implementation, Burundi took measures in domestic legislation in particular in its constitution of June 7, 2018 (Main Law) in its article 19 which guarantees that all the rights proclaimed and guaranteed by regularly ratified international texts are an integral part of this constitution, implementing texts are put in place, namely the penal code of December 29, 2017 and the criminal procedure code of May 11, 2018 and other institutions for the protection of human rights in Burundi have been created.

II.1. RIGHT TO LIFE

The law guarantees it, human dignity must be respected and protected by the State and in the event of infringement, sanctions should be applied to the alleged perpetrators, art 21 of the constitutional law of the country, as for the observed and convincing facts, the political will overrides it.

II.1.1. PERSONS KILLED BY IMBONERAKURE

A member of CNL party killed in Muha commune, Bujumbura Mairie

On August 17, 2024, around 1 a.m., Emmanuel Ndarurinze, a fisherman working at the fishing port commonly called Olympic, was stabbed to death with broken bottles by Ferdinand Gapora and Adonis, Imbonerakure, members of the joint security committee very close to his home in Uwingare cell of Ruziba quarter, Kanyosha zone, Muha commune, Bujumbura Mairie and succumbed to his injuries at CDS Ruziba after denouncing his killers. According to the victim's neighbors, these alleged perpetrators had asked him to buy them drinks, after selling his plot in this very locality, but he refused, indicating that he had an urgent project to carry out, which frustrated these criminals. These residents specify that Ferdinand was arrested by the police in Nyamugari while Adonis was arrested in Nyabugete and are all detained at the SNR office near the Cathedral.

A person killed in Mugina commune, Cibitoke province

On August 19, 2024, on Rugajo hill, Mugina commune, Cibitoke province, Audace Ngendahayo, aged about fifty, was killed in a banana field by Imbonerakure including Matayo alias Cobra and Pierre Nzokizwa. The administrator of Mugina commune, Julienne Ndayishimiye and Rugajo zone head, Ézé-chiel Ziremakwinshi alias Mobutu, indicate that the victim was a thief because he had been arrested many times in the past accused of robbing household objects in his neighborhood. According to a police source, Ngendahayo was caught red-handed by Imbonerakure stealing in banana fields located on Rugajo hill, Mugina commune in Cibitoke province. According to witnesses on site, Imbonerakure hit the victim several times before cutting off his head with a machete. On the orders of Julienne Ndayihaya, administrator of Mugina commune, Imbonerakure immediately went to bury the victim not far from where he was killed without the presence of his relatives.

II.2. THE RIGHT TO PHYSICAL INTEGRITY

II.2.1. GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

The Law on Gender-Based Violence adopted in Burundi in 2016 constituted a major step forward. It guaranteed better protection, notably by providing a definition of rape that took into account the question of consent and by prohibiting harmful traditional practices.

A person injured in Kabarore commune, Kayanza province

Information received by Ligue Iteka on August 24, 2024 indicates that on August 16, 2024, on Yanza hill, Muruta commune, Kayanza province, Louis Ntahomvukiye, aged 40, a farmer, was beaten up by his wife Dancille Mukeshimana, 28, a farmer and member of CNDD-FDD. According to eyewitnesses, the couple lived in perpetual marital conflicts because the man accused his wife of infidelity and the man indulged in very alcoholic drinks as a refuge. On August 16, 2024, the husband returned home early but drunk, leaving his wife at Yanza center having a drink at the bar. Dancille, arrived home around 6 p.m., her husband asked her to stop her infidelity and the woman took the machete to decapitate him. The machete took off part of his ear. Dancille was arrested and then released on August 17 by administrator of Muruta communal Audace Hacimana who accused the man of failing in family responsibilities because he continued to get drunk without providing anything to support his family.

A girl raped in Rango commune, Kayanza province

Information received by Ligue Iteka on August 24, 2024 indicates that on August 15, 2024, on Nyabibuye hill, Rango commune, Kayanza province, around 2 p.m., D. I, aged 14, a 7th year student at ECOFO Nyabibuye was raped by Lambert Gahungu, aged 25, a motorcyclist and married. According to the victim, Lambert went to visit her bringing two Fanta and took advantage of the absence of her parents to take her by force in the room. According to the same victim, she screamed and then the neighbors rushed for rescue. The alleged perpetrator was arrested and taken to Rango communal police station and the victim was evacuated to Gasenyi health center for treatment.

A girl raped in Ruyigi commune and province

Information received by Ligue Iteka on August 24, 2024, indicates that on August 8, 2024, in Sanzu II quarter, Ruyigi commune and province, around 6 p.m., E., aged 15, a domestic worker was raped by her boss nicknamed Mututsi, a teacher at Kigamba Communal High School. According to witnesses on the scene, the victim was raped when the wife of the alleged perpetrator had not yet returned home. The victim cried for help but the act took place despite the intervention of neighbors because the medical expertise of Ruyigi hospital confirmed it. Mututsi was arrested on August 9, 2024 and taken to Ruyigi central prison. According to the same witnesses, the family climate was bad between Mututsi and his wife because Mututsi does not provide food to his wife, teacher as well.

II.2.2. PERSONS TORTURED

Person injured in Mutaho commune, Gitega province

On August 22, 2024, around 8 p.m., on Mutaho hill and commune, Gitega province, Jules Irankunda was injured by Ndihomeye Kassim, leader of Imbonerakure of Mutaho center accompanied by two Imbonerakure Nimbona Dismas and Eric using a spear. According to eyewitnesses, Jules, aged 25, single, was with his cousin Nshimirimana Désiré, aged 28, over a drink and these Imbonerakure came to where they were sitting asking them why they were there at night. Désiré tried to explain to them that he was 100 meters from his home and that Jules, his cousin, had come to visit him. According to the same eyewitnesses, Désiré was accused of inviting criminals to disturb security. When they got up to go home, Kassim threw a spear at them which hit Jules in the ribs. He is in critical condition at Mutoyi hospital. The two Imbonerakure Kassimu and Dismas were arrested by the population but the police intervened before settling the scores and are being detained in Mutaho police cell as well as Nshimirimana Désiré. Désiré's family does not understand why he is being jailed with the criminals who tried to kill him.

II.3. RIGHT TO LIBERTY

II.3.1. PERSONS ARRESTED ARBITRARILY

A person arrested in Kayanza commune and province

Information received by Ligue Iteka on August 24, 2024 indicates that on August 19, 2024, on Musave hill, Kayanza commune and province, Alexis, aged 45, a teacher at ECOFO Canzara, was arrested by police officers from Kayanza police station after a search was carried out in his room but nothing suspicious was found. According to witnesses on site, on August 18, 2024, Alexis had fled to his family in Mukoro quarter because his wife, Adrienne Gahinja, aged 43, a nurse at Kayanza hospital, member of CNDD-FDD, her servant and her son Abdoul Irishura were beating him, accusing him of not participating in family life. When he returned on August 19, 2024, Adrienne had already called the police telling them that her husband possessed weapons but nothing was found. According to eyewitnesses, the victim had not been in a good terms with his wife for six years and they were separated. According to the same witnesses, Alexis Nkurunziza narrowly escaped a coup by his wife and child. The police officers from Kayanza police station also took the opportunity to search the neighborhoods but nothing compromising was found.

III. ECONOMIC SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

Burundi ratified accession to the international covenant on economic, social and cultural rights dated March 14, 1990, adopted in New York on December 16, 1966.

Corruption and interference by the administration and CNDD FDD party officials in the fuel and cement trade in Cibitoke province

Information received by Ligue Iteka on August 25, 2024, indicates that in Cibitoke province, corruption and interference by the administration and CNDD-FDD party officials in the fuel and cement trade is noticeable at the highest level. At the head of this fuel trade is Colonel Carême Bizoza, Governor of Cibitoke province. According to witnesses, for each delivery, he draws up a list of vehicle owners who must be served first and in addition to that, he adds his own order of 500 to 1,000 liters. Gas stations like Engen Cibitoke, Kobil of Cibitoke, Rugajo of Mugina are victims of this interference and are doubly concerned because they must also contribute money to CNDD-FDD party.

The communal administrators and communal secretaries of CNDD-FDD party place huge orders exceeding their fuel needs, pretexting that they need it for their services.

As an illustration, on July 7, 2024, in Mabayi, the governor sent a slip with a list of those who must receive the fuel and the total number of liters to be supplied exceeded the number of liters received. When it was explained to him that not all the lists could have fuel, he ordered them to start on private vehicles and serve the rest of the needs of the communes and hospitals.

On August 5, 2024, in Mabayi, out of the 5,000 liters to be served, he sent a slip of 1,000 liters. And in the same week from August 5 to 11, 2024, Mabayi commune received 500 liters and CNDD FDD party 500 liters while the party only has 2 motorcycles. For cement, it should first be noted that since 2020, no commune in Cibitoke has a large construction site, a school or a health center. Nevertheless, with each cement delivery, the administration officials who place large orders and are served before the others. As well as CNDD-FDD party officials. The most recent case of fraud is that of early August 2024 where the communal administrator of Mabayi Jeanne Izomporera and the communal secretary of Mugina Jean-Marie Hakizimana distributed 2100 bags of cement delivered to Mabayi. Three days later, the population that needed cement for its different construction works was forced to buy cement at 51,000 Bif per bag while the price set by the Government and BUCECO is 38,500 Bif. The only commune where this interference is never reported is Bukinanyana commune where the fuel and cement trade is held by Prime Minister Gervais Ndirakobuca.

In Mugwi, the interference of the administration or CNDD-FDD party in the fuel trade is not known because there is no gas station there.

Irregularities in the sale of sugar in Nyanza-lac commune, Makamba province

On August 24, 2024, on Bukeye hill and zone, Nyanza-lac province, Makamba province, sugar was distributed to the population in Nyanza-lac commune in a climate of violence where the strongest are served and the weakest had no place. According to eyewitnesses, this distribution was done under the order of the Governor of Makamba province, Tantine Ncutinamagara and security agents to ensure order but the vulnerable, including pregnant women, the elderly or the physically disabled, are unable to get a small bag of 1 kg because only the strongest could buy this product that has become rare. At each point of sale, the beneficiaries (populations of Nyanza-lac) must first present to the Imbonerakure the contribution receipts for the upcoming elections. If you have not yet contributed, you are not entitled to any kg of

IV. CATEGORICAL RIGHTS

IV.1. WOMEN'S RIGHTS

A person killed in Nyarusange commune, Gitega province

On August 21, 2024, around 5 a.m., on Murambi hill, Nyarusange commune, Gitega province, Aline Nsabimana, aged 28, widow was killed by her partner named Emmanuel on the way to Ntita hospital in Gishubi commune for the prenatal consultation. According to eyewitnesses, the day before, the victim had asked her sister-in-law, Josiane Niyokindi to take care of her two children while waiting for her to return. Around 5 a.m., neighbors heard cries of alarm, they went to the scene and found Aline agonizing with many injuries to the throat and head. At that time she was able to say that Emmanuel wanted to kill her with a machete after having sex in the bush next to the road. She was quickly rushed to Kibuye hospital in Bukirasazi commune where she died in the afternoon. According to the same eyewitnesses, the perpetrator was arrested around 10am where he was hiding and taken to the police who transferred him to Gitega central prison with Josiane Niyokindi, the victim's sister-in-law, because the alleged perpetrator told the police that he was trying to accomplish the mission entrusted to him by this lady, the victim's sister-in-law. According to Niyonzima Annonciate, Josiane's older sister, there was no conflict between the victim and her sister-in-law. Even Simon Gateranya, Murambi hill head, confirms that it is Emmanuel who wants to involve Josiane in this case. The burial took place on August 24, 2024 in Kibuye cemetery

of Bukirasazi commune. The fragrance trial was scheduled for August 25, 2024 in TGI Gitega according to our source in Nyarusange commune.

V. CONCLUSION

Ligue Iteka notes a continued deterioration of human rights situation across the country.

It protests against the impunity of the crimes observed and asks the Minister of Justice to ensure the strict application of the law against the perpetrators of the crimes.