



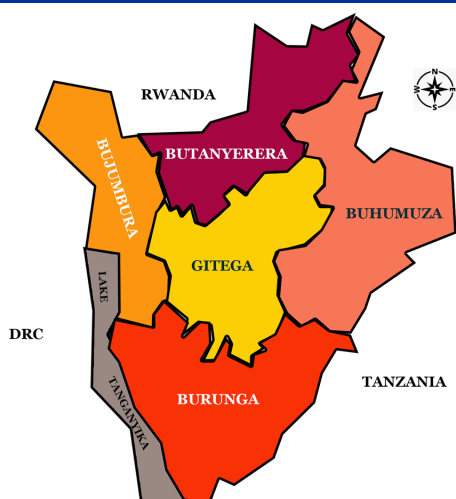
LIGUE BURUNDAISE DES DROITS DE L'HOMME " ITEKA "

BULLETIN HEBDOMADAIRE

"Iteka n'Ijambo"

N°480 from 23 to 29 June 2025

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



In memory of Madam Marie Claudette Kwizera, treasurer of Ligue Iteka, reported missing since December 10, 2015. From December 2015 to June 29, 2025, Ligue Iteka has documented at least 745 cases of enforced disappearances.

Ligue ITEKA :

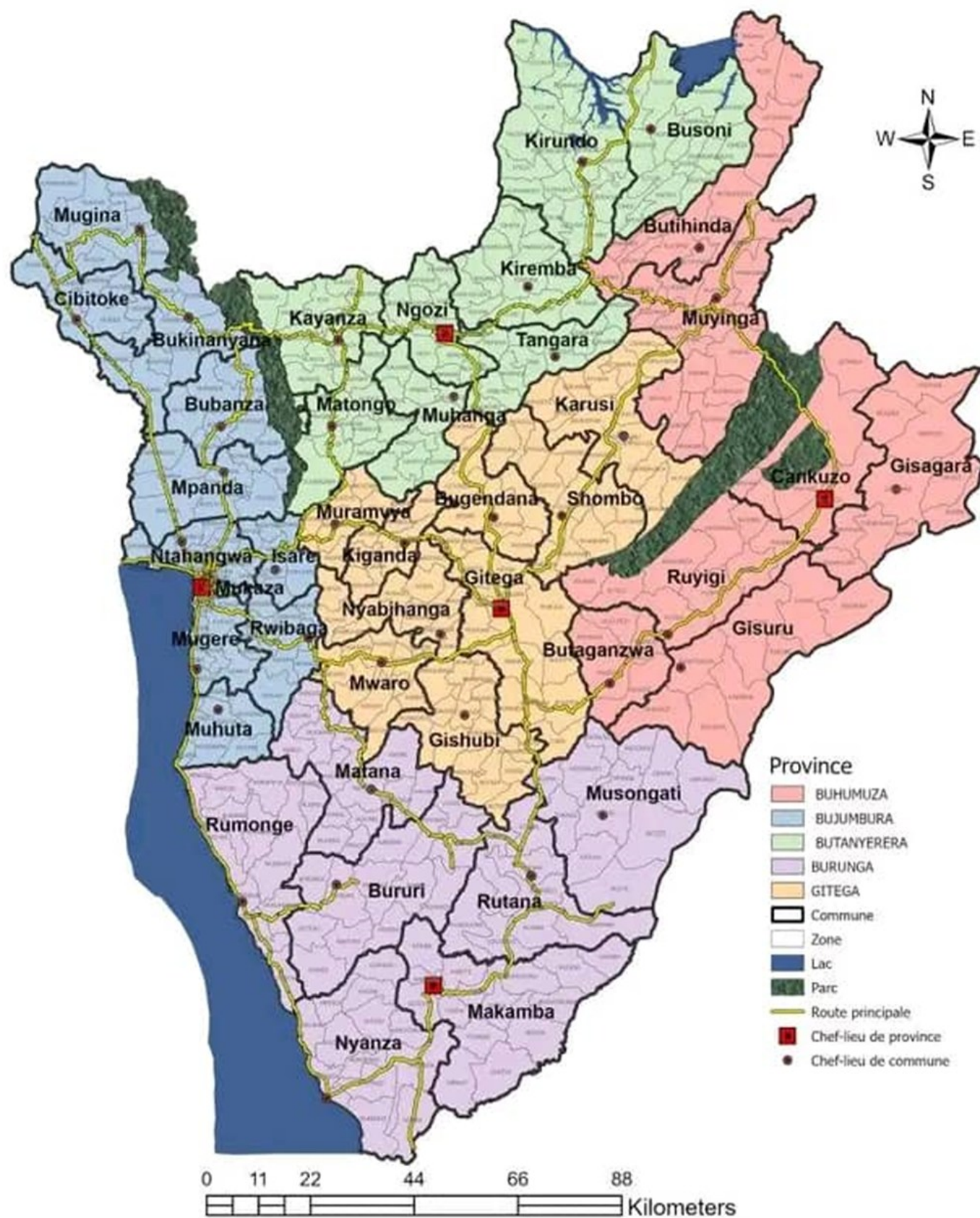
- ♦ « Is a member of the Inter-African Union for Human and Peoples' Rights (UIDH), is an affiliate member of the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH),
- ♦ Has observer status with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights under reference number OBS.236, and is a member of ECOSOC."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

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ADMINISTRATIVE MAP OF BURUNDI

NEW ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION OF 16 MARCH 2023



ACRONYMS

ANAGESSA	: <i>National Agency for Food Security Stock Management</i>
BANCOBU	: <i>Commercial Bank of Burundi</i>
BRARUDI	: <i>Brewery and Lemonade of Burundi</i>
CGM	: <i>General Commission for Migration</i>
CNDD-FDD	: <i>National Council for the Defense of Democracy-Forces for the Defense of Democracy</i>
CNL	: <i>National Congress for Liberty</i>
CNPK	: <i>Kamenge Neuro-Psychiatric Center</i>
DCE	: <i>Communal Direction of Education</i>
DRC	: <i>Democratic Republic of Congo</i>
EAC	: <i>East African Community</i>
ECOFO	: <i>Fundamental School</i>
FDNB	: <i>Burundi National Defense Force</i>
FNASEEB	: <i>National Federation of Unions in the Teaching and Education Sector of Burundi</i>
GH	: <i>Grand Home</i>
M23	: <i>March 23 Movement</i>
OPJ	: <i>Judicial Police Officer</i>
POLYCEB	: <i>Central Polyclinic of Bujumbura</i>
PSR	: <i>Special Traffic Police</i>
RN	: <i>National Road</i>
RPP	: <i>Educational Productions Agency</i>
SNR	: <i>National Intelligence Service</i>
SOGEMAC	: <i>Central Market Management Company</i>
UPRONA	: <i>Union for National Progress</i>

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0. INTRODUCTION

This report presents the human rights situation in Burundi during the week of June 23-29, 2025. The period was characterized by a reduction in political tensions following the June 5 elections. In this report, Ligue Iteka also reviews political, security, judicial, and governance context. It also addresses civil and political rights, as well as socioeconomic and cultural rights.

The human rights violations observed and documented by Ligue Iteka include the following: at least six people killed, all found dead; four people abducted, from Kanyosha cell in Mugere commune; four people tortured; five victims of gender-based sexual violence, including four minor girls; and one woman who was a victim of gender-based violence. In addition, two cases of arbitrary detention have been reported.

The main suspected perpetrators of these violations are administrative officials, police officers, and young Imbonerakure affiliated with the ruling CNDD-FDD party.

I. CONTEXT

1.1. POLITICAL CONTEXT

The National Assembly of Burundi concerned about some sectors of national life: pharmacies, hospitals, and ANAGESSA

The National Assembly held a plenary session on June 26, 2025, to address crucial issues, including strategic maize management and the problems facing public hospitals. The government announced the imminent closure of more than 2,700 pharmacies in Burundi not meet legal opening requirements due to management shortcomings.

This statement was made by the Minister of Public Health and the Fight Against AIDS, Dr. Lydwine Baradahana, in response to oral questions related to the analysis of audit reports on the management of several facilities, such as Bururi Hospital and Karuzi National Hospital.

Additionally, the Minister revealed that another 4,500 hospitals require support for their

recovery, while stating that Burundi needs a total of 1,400 functional pharmacies.

The major challenges identified by this authority fall into three categories: (i) the legislative framework, (ii) the lack of an Administrative and Accounting Procedures Manual, and (iii) disparities in procurement procedures between hospitals.

Dr. Baradahana explained that the territorial reorganization, which reduces the number of provinces to five, will now influence the legal structure of health services in Burundi.

She also detailed the hospital classification into three groups: (1) health centers, (2) community hospitals, and (3) national hospitals; each new province must have a national hos-

1.1. POLITICAL CONTEXT (continued from page 5)

pital. She also mentioned several specialized hospitals, such as the one in Kibumbu, known for its treatment of tuberculosis, and Kamenge Neuro-Psychiatric Center (CNPK), which specializes in mental illness.

During the plenary session, MPs urged the Ministry of Health to invest more in Karusi Hospital to develop it into a regional hospital specializing in CT imaging, which requires qualified and adequate staff to maintain the equipment.

The debates highlighted the need for increased collaboration between different ministries, citing the failures in wastewater management as an example. MPs also denounced cases of corruption among some administrators, who allegedly misappropriated funds in violation of public procurement rules, raising questions about the authorizations issued to non-compliant pharmacies.

In response, Dr. Baradahana reported criminal practices within the ministry, exemplified by the attempted omission of 500 numbers from the official pharmacy register, intended to allow their illegal resale.

She explained that officials involved in this fraud had managed to clandestinely issue li-

censes, skirting the register. After the thefts were discovered and some individuals were arrested, the ministry declared a moratorium on the issuance of new pharmacy opening licenses, limited to the renewal of existing licenses.

However, a network of fraudsters circumvented this measure by passing off new openings as renewals. Another incident of fraud involved the disappearance of eleven ambulance starter keys, thus jeopardizing their availability for intervention.

Education : Worrying deterioration in the quality of education in Burundi

In Burundi, the quality of education is experiencing a worrying deterioration, as highlighted by the National Federation of Teaching and Education Sector Unions (FNASEEB) by denouncing programs that do not meet students' needs, the lack of adequate teaching materials, and insufficient teacher training. Although educational reforms are considered crucial, their imple-

mentation is hampered by a lack of financial resources.

According to Antoine Manuma, President of the FNASEEB, several structural factors are at the root of this difficult situation, including inappropriate curricula and a lack of adequate teacher preparation.

In a recent statement, Minister François Havyarimana acknowledged that many

1.1. POLITICAL CONTEXT (continued from page 6)

challenges remain and emphasized the need to restructure some educational programs. During his presentation to the National Assembly on June 17, 2025, he presented the analytical report of the Standing Committee on Education and Youth, which is based on the final report of the Court of Auditors concerning the audit of the management of the Régie des Productions Pédagogiques (RPP).

Havyarimana acknowledged that student achievement, particularly in learning foreign languages such as French, is declining, as is the relevance of existing programs. He attributes this situation to insufficient class hours and a lack of teaching materials in classrooms. Data reveals that the Ministry of Education invests more than one billion Burundian francs each year to acquire school materials.

Faced with these alarming findings, reforms are therefore essential, requiring considerable financial resources. These changes involve not only a revision of curricula, but also the hiring of former teachers, as well as the need to produce or import appropriate

teaching materials. Some elements of the old education system could be reintroduced, while incorporating the recommendations from the General Assembly on Education.

Furthermore, the National Assembly suggested fostering close collaboration between the Régie des Productions Pédagogiques (Pedagogical Production Agency), the General Directorate of Curricula and Pedagogical Innovations, and all departments involved in the design and production of textbooks, in order to avoid duplication and interference in the educational process.

Strategic management of maize, assessment, and recommendations of the National Assembly

The National Assembly recently focused its debates on the strategic management of maize, an essential commodity for the country's economy. This topic occupied a considerable portion of the discussions among MPs, who recognized the vital importance of the production and marketing of this resource for Burundi.

On June 25, 2025, during a plenary session, MPs assessed the progress of the recommendations made on February 27, 2025, linked to the management of maize harvests by the

National Agency for Food Security Stock Management (ANAGESSA).

The officials in charge, Prosper Dodiko, Minister of the Environment, Agriculture, and Livestock, and Marie Chantal Nijimbere, Minister of Trade, Transport, Industry, and Tourism, were invited to share their perspectives on this crucial topic. The discussions clearly revealed the importance of effective maize management to ensure food security and boost the country's economic development.

1.1. POLITICAL CONTEXT (continued from page 7)

The Assembly also explored the issue of corn processing, in relation to beer production. Given the importance of exports to the national economy, MPs emphasized the need to balance the needs of the foreign market with those of domestic consumption, stressing the urgency of allocating a substantial portion of production to local consumption, especially in a context where the State is investing in the production of Brarudi. Comments were made regarding the overly sweet taste of Amstel Bright and its high cost, even though the corn used comes from domestic production.

In response, Minister Nijimbere attributed the scarcity of Amstel Blonde to ongoing maintenance work at BRARUDI, while assuring that replenishment on the local market was imminent. She clarified that corn only represented about 30% of the raw materials used for Amstel Bright, with imports of the remainder justifying the high price.

Regarding the quality of the product, Gélase Ndabirabe, the Speaker of the National Assembly, recommended extending fermentation time and reevaluating distillation methods, while suggesting that the shortage of Amstel Blonde could be a marketing strategy aimed at strengthening the brand image.

Furthermore, the Speaker drew attention to the Strategic Sales Depots (SSD), emphasizing that the management of these depots was beyond BRARUDI's control, leading to distribution complications. Another area of concern was seed quality and management, with fraudulent practices denounced regarding the sale of non-germinable hybrid maize seeds falsely presented as certified seeds.

In response to these concerns, Minister Dodi-ko announced the creation of a list of approved seed multipliers to ensure a reliable and high-quality supply to producers. The debates also focused on maize exports, with MPs emphasizing the need to involve ANAGESSA in this process to monitor flows and ensure that farmers receive fair compensation for their efforts. The plenary session called for rigorous planning and broad consultations when setting maize prices, involving various stakeholders to avoid speculation and ensure a fair distribution of benefits.

To improve maize stock management, the Ministry of Environment, Agriculture, and Livestock has committed to adopting international standards, notably through the upcoming acquisition of two large-capacity silos in Bujumbura and Gitega.

The question of ANAGESSA's institutional affiliation, whether with the Ministry of Agriculture or Trade, remains unresolved, and the Government will decide based on its core missions.

Currently, ANAGESSA has identified approximately 71,000 tons of corn, 20,000 tons of which are unfit for human consumption and intended for animal feed, while a smaller quantity (500 kg) is completely spoiled, and 15,000 tons remain stored and available.

Burunga province: CNDD-FDD and Imbonerakure mobilize through meetings and sports activities

In Burunga province, CNDD-FDD party actively organized meetings in several communes, while young Imbonerakure participated in sports activities every Saturday. For example, information transmitted to Ligue Iteka on June 23, 2025, revealed that in Rutana commune, young Imbonerakure from the ruling party met for team sports every Saturday.

Similarly, in the commune of Makamba, in Kayogoro zone, CNDD-FDD members were busy setting up avocado nurseries. On June 21, 2025, a Bagumyabanga meeting was held in Rutana to assess the June 5 elections of the same year. At the same time, young Imbonerakure continued their weekly sports activities. That same day, in Musongati, there was also a team sport for young Imbonerakure from Bayumbu hill, in Mugondo zone, where CNDD-FDD meetings were taking place on all the hills of the commune. The agenda included the assessment of the legislative and communal council elections, as well as the preparation of avocado tree nurseries and the organization of

the celebration of the victory won in the elections of June 5, 2025.

In Gitanga zone, still on June 21, 2025, CNDD-FDD meetings were held on all the hills to assess the elections of June 5, 2025 and to prepare for the next elections. Similarly, in Musongati commune, on the same date, meetings were held on each hill, addressing topics such as the assessment of the parliamentary and communal councilor elections, the preparation of avocado tree nurseries, and planning for the celebration of the victory achieved in the June 5, 2025 elections.

1.1. POLITICAL CONTEXT (continued from page 9)

Submission of applications for hill/quarter councilors in Musongati commune

Information received by Ligue Iteka on June 23, 2025, indicates that in Giharo zone, Musongati commune, Burunga province, anyone wishing to submit their candidacy to become a hill or quarter councilor must first obtain the approval of the hill head of CNDD-FDD party. For example, on Kanyererwe hill, in Giharo zone, those wishing to run must first bring together local

officials of the ruling CNDD-FDD party. According to local sources, the week of June 16-22, 2025, saw the submission of applications for hill and quarter councilors in all the communes of Burunga province.

1.2. SECURITY CONTEXT

Attempted suicide by a young man in Buhiga commune, Gitega Province.

On the night of Thursday to Friday, June 26, 2025, at around 11:30 p.m., a 22-year-old Imbonerakure named Citegetse Onésime attempted suicide.

His mother quickly alerted neighbors, which enabled them to intervene before he could commit suicide. The incident occurred on Rwingoma hill, in Buhiga zone and commune, while his three aunts were present to claim inheritance (division of the family property). After his father's death, the boy's aunts, came to claim their share, and the local authorities peacefully distributed the

property, satisfying everyone.

However, what happened that night shocked the neighbors. The young man did not reveal the problem that was plaguing him and, to this day, remains silent about it.

The next morning, when asked what he wanted to do, he simply replied that he didn't know.

Police attack in front of BANCObU, Bujumbura province: A citizen beaten up over a printer

On June 25, 2025, around 1 p.m., a regrettable incident occurred on the road to BANCObU bank headquarters, near NDAMAMA HOUSE. A man named Léonard was assaulted by a police officer, losing consciousness following blows, only because he was carrying a printer. According to reports, Léonard had just picked up his repaired printer from a local technician. He was stopped by a

police officer from SOGEMARC police station, who demanded an explanation as to the printer's origin.

After clarifying that it had just been repaired, Léonard was forced by the officer to hand over the device. Worried about unjustified confiscation, Léonard refused, which provoked a violent reaction from the police offi-

1.2. SECURITY CONTEXT (continued from page 10)

cer. The officer then acted with great brutality, hitting Léonard, particularly on the head, until he fell unconscious to the ground.

This attack sparked outrage among the witnesses present, who attempted to intervene to protect Léonard.

Nevertheless, the quick intervention of other police officers, who used tear gas, dispersed the crowd. Léonard was then taken to POLY-CEB for medical treatment.

This incident raises significant concerns regarding the abuse of police power and the protection of citizens' rights.

Threat of assassination following family conflicts in Bugendana commune, Gitega province

For more than three months, on Kibari sub-hill, Mirama hill, Mugera zone, Bugendana commune, Gitega province, Jean RUSHIGAJE has been threatened by members of his paternal uncle Simon MUKOMA's family over disputed family land.

According to local witnesses, Simon MUKOMA, Jean RUSHIGAJE's paternal uncle, openly stated that if RUSHIGAJE continues to demand the division of the family land, he will face the consequences. The victim claims that three months ago, he narrowly escaped being ambushed by two unknown

assailants near his home as he was returning home at night.

Local administrators, including Bernard NIVYUBUSA, head of Mugera zone, report that they are calling on family members in conflict to resolve their cases peacefully instead of seeking justice.

Cases of theft in Kirundo commune, Butanyerera province

Cases of theft of all kinds have recently been reported in Kirundo commune, Butanyerera province. On June 28, 2025, after community service, Nkurunzi Bosco, head of Nyange-Bushaza hill, sounded the alarm for a terrible moment and urged the people for vigilance.

According to local witnesses, he spoke of fuel theft from cars parked in compounds, theft from residential homes, and so on! In other locations not close to Kirundo city center, for example, on June 24, 2025, on Ninda hill, Kiyonza zone, Kirundo commune, half a hec-

tare of Hakizimana Therence's sorghum field was harvested overnight. A week ago, on Ruhehe hill, Bugabira zone, Kirundo commune, four goats belonging to Ndikumana Celeus, a returnee from Mahama camp in Rwanda, were slaughtered in their stable, and only blood was found.

The population does not understand what is happening, as groups of Imbonerakure patrol at night, and they believe the latter are responsible.

1.3. JUDICIAL CONTEXT

Accused of robbery and embezzlement, three soldiers are jailed in Bururi prison.

As of June 23, 2025, three soldiers including Corporal-chef Niyonzima Serges, 46 years old, son of Minani André and Nziguheba Suzanne, from Nyambuye hill, new commune of Gishubi, Gitega province, head of post assigned to the construction site of the Jiji-Murembwe hydroelectric dam in the new commune of Matana, BURUNGA province, Warrant Officer Major Manirakiza Désiré, son of Sabukunkiza Jean and Ndiokubwayo Angèle from Rusama hill, new commune of Matana, BURUNGA province, company commander of the troops responsible for ensuring security at the Jiji-Murembwe construction site are jailed in Bururi prison.

They are accused by the Bururi prosecutor's office of robbery and embezzlement of 203 bags of cement from ORASCOM stores, a company constructing this dam in May of this year. They were arrested on Wednesday, June 18, 2025, and taken to Bururi provincial police station cell.

Another civilian named Hagerimana Jean

Marie, aged 23, son of Nsumiyabandi and Nibitanga, from Muzamba hill, Matana commune, Burunga province, has also been jailed in the same prison since June 20, 2025, and is being prosecuted by the same prosecutor's office for complicity in this robbery. He was arrested and taken to Bururi provincial police station cell on June 17, 2025.

All these bags of cement were seized by the police on the same day of the theft in a Fuso vehicle at Kiryama center in the same commune. Some residents of Matana commune are calling on the prosecutor's office to conduct thorough investigations, particularly among the employees of this company.

1.4. GOUVERNANCE CONTEXT

Suspension of a decision deemed arbitrary and unfounded by the administrator of the former Rugombo commune in Cibitoke by Governor Carême Bizoza

On June 27, 2025, Carême Bizoza, Governor of Cibitoke province, ordered the immediate suspension of Letter No. 532.0506/46/2025, issued on June 26, 2025, by Gilbert Manirakiza, administrator of Rugombo commune. This letter resulted in the expulsion, without compliance with the required administrative procedures, of Jeannine Uwizeyimana, who, although a native of Bugabira commune, resides on Mparambo II hill in Rugombo commune. The administrator justified this expul-

sion by alleging a "disturbance of public order," arguing that Uwizeyimana was cohabiting with Alfred Ntahimpera, the legal partner of Yvonne Ndereyimana, who was currently migrating abroad in search of opportunities.

To support this decision, the administrator mobilized a police officer, known as AP1 Félix Ntanyungu, attached to the local police station. However, the provincial authority considered this procedure to be a violation of

1.4. **GOUVERNANCE CONTEXT** *(continued from page 12)*

the fundamental rights of the citizen involved.

In response, Governor Carême Bizoza took corrective action through Letter No. 531.05/336/2025, dated June 27, 2025, which reversed the decision of Rugombo administrator. He cited Article 33 of the Constitution of Burundi stipulating that "Every Burundian has the right to move freely throughout the national territory, to reside there, to leave it, and to return there without any hindrance."

The governor's decision garnered widespread support within the province's civil society, particularly from women's rights organizations and residents of Rugombo commune. This support was seen as a victory against abuses of power, while highlighting a tendency among some local administrators to act without legal basis or respect for human rights. A human rights defender who has long worked in Cibitoke province reported similar occurrences in other communes such as Mabayi and Mugina, where measures had been put in place to systematically exclude non-local women from some positions, particularly in the beverage sector. These discriminatory practices had also been cancelled for incompatibility with national values.

Governor Bizoza affirmed that his decision was in accordance with current laws and emphasized that the communal administrator did not have the power to eject a citizen without judicial approval. He recommended that, when faced with conflicts or suspicions of violations of morality or social

peace, local authorities should appeal to the competent courts rather than adopting arbitrary decisions.

In short, he warned administrators engaging in such practices that they risk disciplinary and legal sanctions if they persist in this illegal behavior.

Generally speaking, it is crucial to ensure strict respect for the fundamental rights of every Burundian citizen, regardless of their geographic origin. Local administrators should also be reminded of their prerogatives and the legal procedures to be followed, while ensuring ongoing awareness-raising regarding the importance of respecting human rights and the principles of good governance.



Uwo uri wese ubahirizwa

II. CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

II.1. RIGHT TO LIFE

II.1.1. INTENTIONAL HOMICIDE

II.1.1.1. BODIES FOUND

A newborn's body found on Mutanga campus, Ntahangwa commune, Bujumbura province

A baby's body was discovered on the evening of Monday, June 23, 2025, on Mutanga campus of the University of Burundi, behind the GH VIII girls' residences.

According to local sources, the newborn's body was wrapped in clothes and fabrics and was discovered by a shepherd who was keeping goats in the area. Police officers responsible for campus security made the report and took the body to the mortuary of Kamenge military hospital. The perpetrator remains unknown, and investigations have started, according to the same sources.

Residents living near this campus deplore the fact that this phenomenon of killing and

dumping newborns has become commonplace on this campus. They indicate that on March 11, 2025, another newborn's body was discovered on the same campus, and the perpetrator was arrested.

These residents say that poverty and poor living conditions on this campus encourage debauchery among female students. They call on the government to improve living conditions to address this situation.

A body found on Mugutu hill, in Gitega commune and province

A person identified as Ndikumana Diomède, aged 32, single and from Mugutu hill in Gitega commune and province, son of Karunganuje Gaspard and Gakobwa Euphémie, was found dead in a cassava field near Gitega-Karusi National Road on Monday, June 23, 2025, at around 8 a.m.

According to information gathered, the victim was unclothed when he was discovered. According to a relative, Ndikumana had left his home on Sunday, June 22, 2025, to attend mass, an activity that had become routine for him, although he did not return home that day, an incident deemed unusual by those close to him. It was only on the morning of June 23 that his family was informed of the body discovered in a cassava field. Upon visiting the scene, they identified their

son. The body had an injury to his cheek.

The Judicial Police Officer (O.P.J) Bitangimana Évelyne, who was present at the scene, informed the parents that initial findings suggested the victim had been killed, given the condition of the scene, indicating a possible fight or struggle at the time of death.

At the family's request, the O.P.J. agreed for the body to be released for burial. It should be noted that the deceased was an active member of Imbonerakure within his locality.

II.1.1.1. BODIES FOUND (continued from page 14)

A body found in Bugendana commune, Gitega province

On June 19, 2025, at around 6:45 a.m., the surrounding community discovered the body of a 67-year-old woman, Ndereyimana Mathilde, hanging by a rope inside her home on Kinyinya hill, in Rwisabi zone of Bugendana commune, Gitega province. This elderly woman, living alone, left behind a tragic mystery. According to information gathered on site, her body had serious injuries to her neck and face, while her feet were touching the ground.

Niyonsaba Rémy, the head of Kinyinya hill, firmly expressed his opinion, stating that the victim did not kill himself. He stated that Ndereyimana Mathilde had been the target of sorcery accusations for some time. In recent days, she had regularly gone to the former commune of Mutaho to seek protection

and voice her complaints about these allegations.

Police officer Rwankineza Georges, who arrived at the scene of the tragic incident, confirmed that the woman had been killed before being hung from the rope, a staged incident orchestrated by unidentified individuals who claimed it was a suicide. Furthermore, a neighbor, whose identity has not yet been established, was arrested and jailed at Mutaho police station for investigations into the murder.

A body found in Gitega commune.

The body of an unidentified person was found on the banks of Ruvubu River, near Mubuga hill and zone in Gitega commune and province. The discovery took place around 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, June 29, 2025.

According to our source, the body was already in a state of decomposition and had no identification. Alerted by the surrounding population, Misigaro Emmanuel, head of Mubuga hill, then alerted the provincial administrative and police authorities.

The latter ordered him to proceed directly with the burial of the body, without any investigation being conducted, our source specifies. The body was buried on the banks of this river.

Discovery of a body in Gishubi commune.

On June 25, 2025, at around 10:30 a.m., on Mugaruro sub-hill, Mikore hill, Gishubi commune, Gitega province, the body of 13-year-old Sabiraguha Steve, son of Hakizimana Olivier and Sabimana Chantal from the same hill, was discovered tied to a rope suspended from an avocado tree.

According to our source in Gishubi commune, on Monday, June 25, 2025, at around 10:30 a.m., Sabiraguha Steve left home without notifying his parents. The latter thought he was staying with the neighbors.

At around 10:30 a.m., the victim's parents learned that a body had been discovered hanging from an avocado tree in the locality.

II.1.1.1. BODIES FOUND (continued from page 15)

Those who first saw it immediately untied the body, thinking it was still alive, before bringing it home.

The O.P. J. Bayubahe Ernest, who went to the scene to make a report, found that the body had already been moved by the population.

Still according to our source, the body had injuries to the neck as well as traces of a

rope. A neighbor named Irakoze J. Bosco was arrested for investigation due to his relationship with the victim.

This police officer ordered the burial despite some believing it was a case of suicide and others believing the victim was killed.

A body found in Butihinda commune, Buhumuza province.

On June 22, 2025, the body of Sibomana Antoine, alias Bujisho, aged 32, from Kamara zone of Butihinda commune and a member of CNDD-FDD party, was found outside Karamagambo hospital on Sunday morning around 5:00 a.m.

According to some sources, he had spent Saturday evening, June 21, at a Bantu Boy bar owned by Gérard. Some of the bar's servers are being jailed in Butihinda communal po-

lice station cells.

His family is asking the administrator of Butihinda commune, Gilbert Ndikumasabo, to use his diligence to conduct thorough investigations and arrest the perpetrators of this crime.

II.1.1.2. ABDUCTIONS AND/OR ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCES

Four people taken from the cell at night to an unknown destination: serious concerns about their safety and compliance with legal procedures.

On June 27, 2025, four individuals were taken from their detention in a cell to a mysterious location. These individuals resided in Kanyosha zone, in Mugere commune, more precisely in Musama quarter, located in Bujumbura province. They had been arrested at separate times and jailed in the zonal cell.

According to reports from the scene, the first to be arrested was Butoyi Mélissa, aged 29, on June 14, 2025. She was accused of stealing an infant named Buntubwimana Anny Adorah. In response to the allegations, she maintained that she was pregnant and had recently given birth, a claim the authorities refused to accept.

Nevertheless, Mélissa persisted in claiming she gave birth in a Congolese-owned health center in Gisyo. Individuals pretending to be child rights defenders recovered the infant, Buntubwimana Anny Adorah, on June 26, 2025.

The second individual to be arrested was Ruranyeguye Gaspard, Mélissa's stepfather, as well as Hatungimana Innocent, Ruranyeguye's son, who had been registered in the registry office. Minani Janvier, a well-known Imbonerakure in Musama quarter, was also arrested for blocking the arrest of these individuals. He testified that Mélissa was indeed pregnant and had given birth to the baby.

II.1.1.2. ENLÈVEMENTS ET/OU DISPARITIONS FORCÉE (continued from page 16)

The administration contacted Melissa's husband, who works in Kenya, and he confirmed that they had recently had a baby.

During the night of June 27, 2025, these four people were taken from the cell to an unknown destination. It is important to note that Melissa, married for seven years, had experienced repeated pregnancy failures, systematically ending in miscarriages.

II.2. PHYSICAL AND/OR MENTAL INTEGRITY

II.2.1. TORTURE, CRUEL, INHUMAN, OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT

A person tortured in Mukaza commune, Bujumbura province

On June 25, 2025, in the city center of the economic capital of Burundi, in Mukaza commune, Bujumbura province, a citizen carrying a box containing a printer that he had just had repaired by a technician was tortured until he lost consciousness.

This incident occurred around 12:40 p.m. on the road in front of BANCOBU bank headquarters (near Ndamama House).

According to a source on the scene, the victim's name is Leonard. He was stopped by a police officer assigned to SOGEMARC station. The officer asked him where the printer came from, and Leonard replied that he had just had it repaired by a technician because it had a problem.

The officer then demanded that he hand over the printer, but the citizen refused, fearing it would be confiscated. The officer then jumped on him and began hitting him, repeatedly hitting him in the head until he lost consciousness.

According to the same source, the outraged citizens present at the scene attempted to attack the officer, but other officers quickly arrived and fired tear gas. The victim was transferred to POLYCEB for all necessary care.

A person tortured by police officers on Rubindi hill, Nyanza commune, Burunga province

The Human Rights Ligue ITEKA received information dated June 24, 2025, indicating that on June 20, 2025, a resident named Adrien Nshimirimana was seriously tortured

by a group of two police officers from the police station.

According to this information, it was around 9 p.m. at the bar located on the road to Rumonge, when Adrien was sharing a drink

II.2.1. TORTURE, CRUEL, INHUMAN, OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT (continued from page 17)

with his friend, a mason. The two police officers who were next to them realized that they had received their salaries and left the place.

After drinking, they were returning home, but along the way, they were intercepted by these two police officers who forced them to stop and drop on the ground all the money they had in their pockets. Adrien's friend fled, and the two police officers attacked him

with Kalashnikovs and punched him for several hours.

The victim was taken to Nyanza Lac District Health Hospital for emergency treatment.

So far, there has been no response from Commissioner J. Claude Nduwimana, and the perpetrators of this incident remain unfraid. The local population demands justice.

A man tortured in Buhiga zone of Karusi commune in Gitega province.

On the night of June 28-29, 2025, a tragic incident occurred on Rwingoma hill, in Buhiga zone. A young man named Thomas NZEYIMANA, a 32-year-old CNDD-FDD member, was violently attacked by three Imbonerakure members: Dieudonné TWAGIRAYESU, aged 26, Charles BIGIRIMANA, aged 30, and Issa TUYISENGE, aged 25. This attack was orchestrated on the orders of NKESHIMANA, a 57-year-old neighbor, also a CNDD-FDD member.

The victim, after visiting friends on this hill, was falsely accused of theft. As a result, he sustained injuries to his arms and body, leaving visible scars.

The next day, June 29, accompanied by his friends, NZEYIMANA went to the hill head's house to file a complaint. After hearing both parties, the head decided to fine NKESHIMANA of 30,000 Bif to cover the victim's medical expenses.

Regarding the three Imbonerakure, they were punished by the quarter head, who is from the same hill as NZEYIMANA, who ordered them to be taken to a punishment center with sticks. This tragedy not only highlights tensions within the community, but also highlights the violence that can arise from false accusations and personal rivalries.

A person tortured in Kirundo commune, Butanyerera province

On June 25, 2025, at around 9 p.m., on Rusugi hill, Bugabira zone, Kirundo commune, Butanyerera province, Habarugira Aloys, alias Swingi, aged 42, a member of CNDD-FDD and a farmer living in Rusugi, was beaten by a group of Imbonerakure led by a man nicknamed Mutama, 41 years old when he was from Canzo bar. According to local wit-

nesses, Aloys encountered this group of Imbonerakure and accused them of not having participated in the previous election, from which they beat him with sticks. According to the same witnesses, he disappeared from the locality and fled. The local administration did nothing even though his wife filed a complaint.

II.2.2. RAPE AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

A 15-year-old girl raped on Gikangaga hill in the Ruyaga zone, Mugere commune, Bujumbura province.

On June 26, 2025, a 15-year-old girl from Gikangaga hill, Ruyaga zone, Mugere commune, Bujumbura province, was raped by a shopkeeper. The girl was N.N., daughter of H.L. and N.M.C., a 9th-grade student at ECOFO Ruyaga.

She was raped by ARAKAZA Aimé, a 25-year-old high school graduate and shopkeeper. He visited her that day, as they were friends.

Upon arrival, he closed the door behind him and began forcibly touching her. Despite the young girl's protests, he took advantage of his physical superiority to forcibly undress her and raped her.

The victim returned home in tears and told her parents what happened. They immediately took her to Ruyaga health center for treatment to prevent infection or unwanted pregnancy. The assailant, however, fled after the incident.

A 16-year-old girl raped in Kajiji, Mugere commune, Bujumbura province

On June 23, 2025, in Kajiji quarter of Mugere commune, Bujumbura province, a 16-year-old girl named I.A.L, with N.J.B. and M.G. as parents, a 8th-grade student at ECOFO KANYOSHA, was raped by a motorcyclist named Bigirimana Melchiade, 37 years old, who drove her to school every day. That day, he picked the girl from school as usual and then suggested they come over to

his home to share lunch. The girl agreed but didn't realize she was trapped. Arriving at the motorcyclist's home, he immediately closed the door and raped her. She came home crying and reported what had happened to her parents. For the time being, she is at Seruka Center for care. As for the perpetrator, he has disappeared.

A little girl raped by a young teenager in Gitega commune

On June 14, 2025, around 3 p.m., on Rukoba hill in Gitega commune and province, a 6-year-old girl named I. B. was sexually abused. The perpetrator is a 23-year-old young man, Niyonkuru Josias, from Mahonda hill, which borders Rukoba hill. The victim's parents are N. B. and B. P. from Rukoba hill.

According to witnesses, Josias was returning from Gitega city that day. Arriving at the entrance to the victim's parents' home, he saw the girl and asked her for water. Seeing that the child was alone at home, he mana-

ged to convince her to come with him by promising her mangoes. The people around, suspecting abnormal behavior, decided to discreetly follow him.

The assailant was caught in a eucalyptus plantation committing this crime, threatening her with: "If you scream, I'll kill you."

The perpetrator was immediately arrested by witnesses and taken to Gitega provincial police station cell. The victim was taken to Humura Center for medical care and psychosocial support.

II.2.2. RAPE AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (continued from page 19)

The O.P.J., Astère of Humura Center, and Célestin, Rukoba hill head, confirmed that the perpetrator must be severely punished.

A girl raped in Buhiga zone of Karusi commune in Gitega province

On June 21, 2025, around 8 p.m., on Mayenzi hill, Buhiga zone, Gitega province, a 15-year-old girl named I. was raped by Kazubwenge, a 41-year-old CNDD-FDD member and motorcyclist. He found her at home while her parents were at the bar.

According to local witnesses, he called him outside while his younger sisters were inside and raped him.

According to the same witnesses, the girl had genital injuries and was taken to Rutonganyikwa Health Center for treatment.

The perpetrator was arrested on June 22, 2025, by the police and taken to the provincial police station cell.

A woman abused by her husband in Musongati commune, Burunga province

On June 13, 2025, on Nyange sub-hill, Musenyi hill, Musongati commune, Burunga province, Jacqueline Niyimpaye, mother of four, was abused by Nestor Nikobambereye, in collaboration with his mother, Valérie Gahoza, by destroying Jacqueline's house.

According to local sources, Nestor Nikobambereye told his wife to apply for a loan from the association of which Jacqueline is a member, for 400,000 Bif at 10% interest. Upon receiving it, Nestor transferred the entire amount to his second wife.

When time came to repay the interest, her husband refused, saying that Jacqueline herself would pay, even though she had not used the loan. As the days passed, the interest increased to 600,000 Bif. After this increase, he decided to flee to Tanzania with his second wife. Arriving in Tanzania, he ordered his mother, Valérie Gahoza, to sell the metal sheets on Jacqueline's house. Valérie finally obeyed, but in Jacqueline's absence.

Upon Jacqueline's arrival, she discovered that her house was destroyed.

According to the same sources, she went to Marie Nyawenda's house, the head of 10 houses, and told her to wait for her husband, Nestor, even though he had left with his second wife. Jacqueline continues to seek intervention. She also went to Jacques, the head of Nyange sub-hill. He also said the same thing as the head of 10 houses. Even Eric Nduwayezu, the hill head, responded the same way.

After this search for intervention here and there but with no effect, Nestor told his mother to take her children back and expel Jacqueline. Her mother, Valérie Gahoza, did it as ordered by her child. Now, the woman is at her father's and asks to return home and Valérie, who is the first to harm her, build her house and give her children back so that they do not continue living orphans' life while they still have parents. Among these

II.2.2. RAPE AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (continued from page 20)

children, two are under 5 years old, and as a result, the first child dropped out of school to look after his younger brothers.

II.3. RIGHT TO FREEDOM

II.3.1. ARBITRARY ARRESTS

A 15-year-old boy arbitrarily arrested for picking 5 lemons

Information received by ITEKA human rights League on June 24, 2025, revealed that a 15-year-old boy was arrested at Kabenzi police station, where he was jailed after picking five lemons on June 16, 2025.

This incident occurred in Mugere commune. The boy, known as IRAMBONA Landry, is a student at ECOFO GAKUNGWE and is the son of MIBURO Emmanuel and Jacqueline

NAHIMANA. He was accused of taking the five lemons from their neighbor, Dieudonné BARANDEREKA, who described the act as robbery.

Following this accusation, the child was arrested by the police and was forced to spend the full school exam period in cell.

A detainee accused of tearing down CNDD-FDD flag in Muramvya commune, Gitega province.

Butoyi Fulgence, aged 37, son of Gasage and Nzohabonayo, from Namande hill, Yanza zone, Nyabihanga commune, Gitega province, and a member of UPRONA party, was arrested by Imbonerakure accused of tearing down a CNDD-FDD flag.

The victim currently resided on Remera hill, Shombo zone, Muramvya commune, Gitega province. On June 26, 2025, a group of six Imbonerakure from Remera hill, led by 31-

year-old Ngezahayo Vénérand, came to his home with a torn CNDD-FDD flag and placed it in his compound.

According to our sources on the ground, he had repeatedly refused to join their party. They roped him and took him and the flag to Muramvya communal police station, where he has been jailed ever since.



Uwo uri wese ubahirizwa

III.1. RIGHT TO EDUCATION

Secondary school volunteers refuse to submit student reports due to non-payment in Cibitoke

In several public secondary schools in the former province of Cibitoke, young graduate volunteers are refusing to submit student reports due to non-payment of the bonus promised by the Government. While principals are still waiting for government funding, tensions are rising, and the school year risks disruption.

For some time now, a tense situation has prevailed in secondary schools in Cibitoke province. Volunteer teachers, young volunteers deployed to schools to help with the critical shortage of teachers, are expressing their frustration: they no longer want to submit student reports until they receive the bonus promised by the government.

One of these volunteers, assigned to a public school, claims to have received no payment for eight months. "They keep telling me I will be paid soon, but I don't see anything coming. I can't go on like this," he laments.

At Cibitoke, Butara, and Mère de Sauveur high schools, though boarding, as well as at Cibitoke Communal Technical High School and other schools, volunteers also claim to refuse to submit reports. They explain that they live in extreme poverty, some of them being threatened with eviction by their landlords for failure to pay their rent.

Faced with this situation, several school principals have decided to suspend the distribution of school reports to students, as the volunteer teachers have not submitted their reports.

According to our sources, school principals say they are still waiting for the government to funds to pay these young teachers.

Joseph Nyandwi, provincial director of education in Cibitoke, acknowledges that the volunteers have not yet received their bonuses, but he condemns their behavior, warning them: "Holding grades hostage is not a solution. This type of behavior could lead to severe disciplinary action."

As for an education specialist, these young volunteers are right to demand what they are owed. They cannot be expected to work continuously without compensation. The government should instead seek an urgent solution to pay them instead of threatening them.

Disagreement between the principal and teachers following the theft of exams at Mukungu Communal High School, in Nyanza commune of Burunga province.

On June 25, 2025, ITEKA human rights League was alerted to an incident that occurred at Mukungu Communal High School, one of the largest schools in Nyanza com-

mune, founded in 1994. A theft of exams was reported in the 2nd grade classroom, during the Science and Technology course, on June 16, 2025.

III.1. RIGHT TO EDUCATION *(continued from page 22)*

According to some statements from teachers, disagreements emerged between the principal and the teachers.

Faced with the question of whether to organize new exams or keep the results of the first exam, which was marred by cheating, the principal, Mr. Venant Nizigiyimana, convened a meeting of the teaching staff on June 23, 2025, supported by the management committee, to find an appropriate solution, but without a conclusive result.

Now, the case is in the hands of the communal director of education, who is currently reviewing the situation. It was also reported that during the previous school year, 20 students were caught with answers during the educational psychology exam, and the principal did not react.

Furthermore, during the State exam, two of these students were caught in action and were expelled from the exam room.

It should be noted that the principal Venant previously headed this technical school, the period he was involved in numerous administrative irregularities, resulting in his dismissal.

Furthermore, he is an influential member of CNDD-FDD party, enjoying a degree of impunity that allows him to go in schools at night, escorted by three young Imbonerakure members of the school community.

III.2. RIGHT TO HEALTH

Children of Congolese refugees affected by the measles epidemic at Makombe transit camp in Rumonge commune, Burunga province.

Information received by the human rights organization ITEKA on June 24, 2025, indicates that a measles epidemic has been affecting Makombe transit center, located on Mutambara hill in Gatete zone, Rumonge commune, Burunga province, in southwest Burundi.

The main victims are Congolese refugee children fleeing violence in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo.

According to center officials, more than 1,090 Congolese refugees are currently sheltered there. Every day, new arrivals, mostly women and children, cross Lake Tanganyika to reach Rumonge from Fizi territory and surrounding areas in South Kivu. They are

fleeing increasingly violent clashes between the Congolese army, supported by local "Wazalendo" militias, and Burundi, against the M23 armed group.

The precarious conditions in which these refugees live - poor hygiene, and overcrowding - favor the spread of measles, a particularly dangerous disease among young children. Cases of measles have been recorded among new arrivals, particularly during their stay at the General Commission for Migration (CGM) in Rumonge.

Faced with this alarming situation, Burundian health services intervened urgently. A vaccination campaign was conducted within

III.2. RIGHT TO HEALTH (continued from page 23)

the camp to immunize children not yet infected and treat those already infected. According to this information, officials at Makombe center specify that this site is only a transitional stage. The refugees are staying there temporarily before being transferred

to the refugee camp located in Giharo, in Rutana province.

IV. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Ligue Iteka notes and denounces the persistent deterioration of human rights across the country. It condemns the impunity of perpetrators of crimes and urgently calls on:

- ♦ The Government of Gitega to end impunity by bringing perpetrators of human rights violations to justice and holding them accountable for their actions.
- ♦ The same government to take measures to improve the security situation in the country, particularly by combating violence and crime.
- ♦ Investigate and shed light on the cases of people found dead in different communes and bring justice to the victims.