



**JOINT COMMUNIQUE ON THE OFFICIAL VISIT OF HER EXCELLENCY MADAM SAHLE-WORK ZEWDE, PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA TO THE REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI FROM 09 TO 10 FEBRUARY 2021**

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1. At the invitation of His Excellency Mr. Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE, President of the Republic of Burundi, Her Excellency Madame Sahle-Work ZEWDE, President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, paid the first official visit as Ethiopian Head of State to the Republic of Burundi, from 09 to 10 February 2021.

2. On her arrival at Melchior NDADAYE International Airport, Her Excellency Madame Sahle-Work ZEWDE, President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, accompanied by a high-level delegation, was welcomed by Her Counterpart, His Excellency Mr. Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE, President of the Republic of Burundi, accompanied by several high-level Burundian authorities.

3. During this visit which was aimed at strengthening the relations of friendship and cooperation existing between the Republic of Burundi and the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, the two Heads of State had a fruitful meeting on issues of common interest at bilateral, regional and international levels, during which ways and means of deepening and diversifying the ties of friendship and cooperation between the two countries were explored.

4. After assessing the cooperation between the two countries through the status of implementation of existing bilateral agreements, the two Heads of State urged concerned sectorial

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cabinet ministries to put in place a strategy that would revitalize this cooperation, in particular through the working sessions of the Joint Permanent Commission between Burundi and Ethiopia to be convened soon.

5. They also reiterated their firm determination to maintain close and permanent contact between the two countries.

6. Her Excellency Madam Sahle-Work ZEWDE commended the commitment to economic development and consolidation of democracy undertaken with determination and conviction by His Excellency Mr. Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE, President of the Republic of Burundi.

She praised Burundi's participation in various peacekeeping missions, particularly in Somalia and the Central African Republic.

7. His Excellency Mr. Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE appreciated Ethiopia's substantial participation in peacekeeping missions in Africa, and more specifically in Somalia.

8. The two Heads of State stressed the need to strengthen continental, regional and sub-regional organizations in the promotion and consolidation of peace, security, stability and sustainable development.

9. At the end of her visit to Burundi, Her Excellency Madam Sahle-Work ZEWDE, expressed her warm thanks to her brother, His Excellency Mr. Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE, to the Government and to the people of Burundi, for the warm welcome and legendary hospitality extended to her and her delegation.



10. Her Excellency Madame Sahle-Work ZEWDE, took this opportunity to invite Her Burundian counterpart to pay an official visit to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

11. His Excellency Mr. Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE accepted the invitation with pleasure. The dates of this visit will be convened by mutual agreement through diplomatic channels.

**Done in Bujumbura, 10 February 2021**

