

RESPONSE TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE ON INDICATORS OF PROGRESS

A. Progress made on work on the themes of progress, development and well-being

1) In Burundi, various pieces of work, reports and other contributions have been carried out or produced on themes relating to development, the fight against poverty, prospects in terms of progress, access to healthcare, education, etc.

Other work has also been contributed in order to establish the current situation of aspects relating to the environment, agricultural development and particularly the coffee sector, improvement of the business climate, public-private partnership, the development of the private sector and the financial sector with the ultimate objective of improving the country's indicators of progress and economic development.

The following is an illustrative and non-exhaustive list of these pieces of work, reports and contributions:

- Council of Ministers (*Cabinet du Président*), *Programme du gouvernement du Burundi 2005-2010* (Burundi Government Programme 2005-2010)
- Cochet H (2001), *crises et révolutions agricoles au Burundi* (agricultural crises and revolutions in Burundi), INAPG/Karthala, Paris
- EIU (Economic Intelligence Unit) (2008), *Burundi: Country Profile, 2008*, London
- IMF (2006), Report on National Economies no. 06/311: Burundi, 2006 consultation, article IV.
- IMF (2007), *Cadre stratégique de croissance et de lutte contre la pauvreté - CLSP* (Strategic framework for growth and the fight against poverty), Bujumbura and Washington
- IMF (2008a), Burundi, 2008 consultations article IV.
- IMF (2008b), Burundi: selected issues, Washington
- IMF (2009), *Cadre stratégique de croissance et de lutte contre la pauvreté: rapport de la première année de mise en œuvre* (Strategic framework for growth and the fight against poverty, report on the first year of implementation), Bujumbura and Washington.

- Geourjon A-M and Laporte B. (2008), *Impact budgétaire de l'entrée du Burundi dans l'Union Douanière de la Communauté Est africaine* (Budgetary impact of Burundi's entry into the Customs Union of the East-African Community), PAGE, Bujumbura
- International Alert (2007), *Réformes de la filière café au Burundi : Perspectives d'avenir pour la participation, la prospérité et la paix* (Reforms of the coffee sector in Burundi: Future prospects for participation, prosperity and peace), London
- Minister in the Office of the President responsible for Sound Governance, Privatisation, the State Inspectorate General and Local Authorities (2008): *Etude diagnostique sur la gouvernance et la corruption au Burundi* (Diagnostic study of governance and corruption in Burundi).
- Ministry for Agriculture and Animal Husbandry (2005), *Plan de relance et de développement du secteur agricole (2006-2010)* (Plan for the recovery and development of the agricultural sector (2006-2010)), December, Bujumbura
- WTO (2003): *Examen des politiques commerciales: Burundi* (Examination of trade policies: Burundi), Geneva
- UNDP and Deputy Minister for Planning (2008), *Etude nationale prospective: Burundi 2025* (Prospective national study: Burundi 2005), Bujumbura.
- RCN [Citizen's Network] (2004): *Etude sur les pratiques foncières au Burundi, Essai d'harmonisation* (Study of land practice in Burundi, an attempt at harmonisation), *Programme Justice et Démocratie* (Justice and Democracy Programme).
- Sirabahenda A. (1991), *L'appui de l'Etat à la production et les conditions de progrès de l'agriculture vivrière au Burundi* (State support for production and the conditions necessary for progress in the food crops sector in Burundi), University of Burundi, FSEA.
- USAID (2006a), Burundi: Expanding External Trade and Investment
- USAID (2006b), *Vers un secteur privé inclusif au Burundi: Opportunités et contraintes* (Towards an inclusive private sector in Burundi: Opportunities and constraints)
- USAID (2008), Burundi Policy Reform, 2008 Annual Report

- Deputy Minister for Planning (2008), *Economie Burundaise 2007* (The economy of Burundi 2007), Bujumbura.
- Marlagne Capital Advisors, AGRER and Eureka Consulting (2008), *Désengagement de l'Etat du Burundi dans la filière café* (Disengagement of the Burundi State in the coffee sector), PAGE, Bujumbura.
- Zacharie A. and Rigot V. (2007), *La privatisation de la filière café au Burundi* (Privatisation of the coffee sector in Burundi), CNCD (National Centre for Development Cooperation), Brussels.

2) The Economic Council of Burundi has been operational since 2007 and is in its first term of office, as the previous Councils were never operational. It has already turned its attention to a number of themes relating to the measurement of progress, development and well-being. The following is an illustrative list of subjects that have been studied and analysed during our sessions:

- IMF (2007), *Cadre stratégique de croissance et de lutte contre la pauvreté - CSLP* (Strategic framework for growth and the fight against poverty), Bujumbura and Washington
- IMF (2009), *Cadre stratégique de croissance et de lutte contre la pauvreté: rapport de la première année de mise en œuvre* (Strategic framework for growth and the fight against poverty: report of the first year of implementation), Bujumbura and Washington.
- Minister in the Office of the President responsible for Sound Governance, Privatisation, the State Inspectorate General and Local Authorities: *Etude diagnostique sur la gouvernance et la corruption au Burundi* (Diagnostic study of governance and corruption in Burundi).
- UNDP and the Ministry for Development and Reconstruction Planning (2005), *Rapport National sur le développement humain 2005* (National Report on Human Development 2005), Bujumbura.
- UNDP and Deputy Minister for Planning (2008), *Etude nationale prospective: Burundi 2025* (Prospective national study: Burundi 2025), Bujumbura.

- Marlagne Capital Advisors, AGRER and Eureka Consulting (2008), *Désengagement de l'Etat du Burundi dans la filière café* (Disengagement of the Burundi State in the coffee sector), PAGE, Bujumbura.

3) The following are themes on which the Burundi ECS has been working since the beginning of 2010 or on which it intends to work, and which relate to the measurement of progress, development and well-being:

- Mid-term evaluation of the strategic framework for growth and the fight against poverty
- Policy for gender integration in Burundi culture
- Environmental impact of sewerage disposal and waste in Lake Tanganyika
- Analysis of the national housing policy
- Strategy for the development of the private sector in Burundi
- Development of micro-finance and the problems of access to financial services in rural areas in Burundi
- Analysis of the sectoral plan for Development of Education and Training
- Analysis of the new Mining Code
- State of advancement of Burundi's adhesion to the East-African Community's Monetary Union
- Analysis of the national policy to combat HIV/AIDS in Burundi
- Analysis of the new Commercial Code
- Analysis of the national policy to combat diabetes

4) Not applicable for the Burundi ESC

B. National interest in work in this area.

5) Our institution's interest in the themes relating to the measurement of progress, development and well-being is apparent in the different subjects and themes which we have discussed in our sessions relating to these matters.

These themes are of interest to our institution because they go to the heart of the socio-economic problems and are questions that cannot be ignored, particularly for developing countries where the different indicators of progress and well-being are alarming.

6) The areas that are currently of interest to us have already been mentioned under point 2.

7) Civil society in Burundi is very active and participates alongside other State actors in the construction and development of the country. Its contribution adds value to the various pieces of work and reports concerning the measurement of progress, development and well-being.

In a country like ours, where schooling and healthcare for children aged under five and women giving birth have been free for five years, civil society has turned its attention to questions surrounding the quality of care and education resulting from these measures adopted by the government; measures which are commendable but which can be accompanied by undesirable effects. In addition to the subjects mentioned, civil society contributes widely to the building of a prosperous country where progress and the well-being of the people go hand-in-hand with development.

C) Proposals for future work in the area of the measurement of progress, development and well-being

8) The main challenges in the measurement of progress, development and well-being concern, in addition to the studies carried out to measure changes, improving the well-being of the population. This improvement of well-being is the very foundation of development and requires access to healthcare, education for all, access to drinking water, food, work, the fight against illnesses such as HIV/AIDS, malaria, etc. The challenge is to attack the heart of the problem of under-development and poverty, rather than the way in which progress, well-being and development is measured.

9) The important dimensions in the measurement of progress, development and well-being concern the key sectors of health, education, agriculture, unemployment, the environment, production and the primary, secondary and tertiary sectors with particular emphasis on industrial development.

10) An illustrative, non-exhaustive, list of the relevant indicators for the measurement of progress, development and well-being is set out below:

- The human development indicator (HDI)
- The gender-specific human development indicator (GSHDI)
- The equally distributed life expectancy index
- The equally distributed income index
- The human poverty indicator
- The gender empowerment measure
- The number of jobs by sector
- Changes in the rate of unemployment
- Changes in Gross Domestic Product
- The school enrolment rate, teacher to pupil ratio, repetition rate
- The literacy rate
- Health situation indicator (indicators relating to infrastructures, personnel and financial resources)
- Food and nutrition indicators

11) Measuring progress, development and well-being requires financial as well as human resources. As regards human resources, civil society has a major role to play in making its contribution to these studies and also in the construction and development of the country.

As far as financial resources are concerned, these are generally provided by State structures or international organisations responsible for development matters covering a wide field. These structures and organisations must allow civil society to play its part so that it can influence the measurement of progress, well-being and development.

Dr Louis NDIKUMANA
Secretary General of the Burundi ESC