

Job 21-00646 (communication from Burundi on implementation of the Nuclear Terrorism Convention – fair copy)

*Translated from French*

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Burundi to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in Geneva and has the honour to refer to the Office's letter of 30 September 2020 in which it invited Burundi to support the Office's work by submitting information on the country's implementing legislation as a party to the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism since 24 October 2008. In that regard, the Permanent Mission has the honour to provide the Office with the information below.

The Government of the Republic of Burundi is doing its utmost to combat drugs and terrorism effectively through the following mechanisms:

1. The Criminal Code of Burundi as a legal and regulatory framework: the Code contains clear provisions establishing acts of terrorism and bioterrorism as offences (arts. 637–642) and setting out severe penalties for the commission of such acts. Those provisions were established following the adoption of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism. The Code contains revised provisions on dealing in or using drugs and narcotic substances (arts. 505–513) and on acts that threaten the internal and external security of the State, including participation in mercenary activities, plots, massacres or insurgencies or involvement in armed gangs (arts. 591–630).
2. The Code of Criminal Procedure of Burundi: article 49 of the Code establishes special criminal investigation methods for offences such as terrorism, the manufacture of and trafficking in drugs, killings committed by organized gangs and the unlawful possession of firearms and ammunition. Those methods are aimed at the preservation of clues and evidence and the prosecution of such acts as quickly and efficiently as possible.
3. The establishment under Decree No. 100/186 of 12 December 2019 of an operations centre to counter all acts of terrorism.
4. Furthermore, in accordance with the strategic and operational planning documents of the National Police, which identify counter-terrorism activities as a strategic priority, commendable efforts have been made to strengthen the capacity of intervention units.

In line with that priority, equipment has been upgraded and a series of training activities have been carried out at all levels of command, in particular, through targeted training exercises. The National Police also continues to track down offenders in general, and traffickers and drug users in particular, through regular search and seizure operations.