

**DECLARATION OF FEBRUARY 26, 2011 ON THE CONCERNS OF CNDD-FDD MEMBERS AND OTHER BURUNDIANS WITH REGARD TO CORRUPTION, EMBEZZLEMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS AND OTHER CRIMES.**

From some points in time, Burundi citizens and the international community note a deplorable conduct of embezzlement of public funds on the side of Government's officials, some of them being members of the CNDD-FDD. This state of affairs is as such despite the many anticorruption institutions. Some persons may think that all members of the CNDD-FDD support those crimes. No, not all; a large number of party members do not support such crimes. Loyal party members, who actually abided by the spirit of the party do not have a say. In addition to getting a hold of the entire people and putting aside the welfare of the nation, there are awful killings and political assassinations being committed in the country while families of victims do not receive relevant explanations.

Since the CNDD-FDD was a Movement, its motto was JUSTICE – DEMOCRACY - DEVELOPMENT. Numerous members remained loyal to the party and abided by that motto. Today, many of them are distressed and sorrowful for reasons that they have no say. A **tiny felons' group**, supported by beggars, has got hold of their party, which was the fundamental framework of exchanging views. This situation messed up democracy inside the party, which, as a ruling party, would have served as a model to other parties, and to the entire nation.

It is in this sense that all these loyal party members have urged us to bring to the knowledge of the National and International opinion the following:

1- Corrupted persons, embezzlers of public funds are in tough competition. Some of them command key positions in the Direction of the ruling party. They organized themselves as a gang in such a way that no loyal party member can have a say, so that things can take the right direction. Meetings and general assemblies were intended to discuss crucial issues regarding both the party and the nation, but now offer the occasion for joking, dismissing some members from positions of the direction of the party, creating doubts and distrusts between members, and other trivial things which are useless for the party or the nation. Any idea or information related to state's Affairs is discussed in the road.

2- It would be a mistake to say that opponents of the CNDD-FDD or members of non governmental organization or civil society can give advice about what's happening in the country while party members themselves can not give their opinion inside the party. A **tiny felons' group** composed of robbers and embezzlers of public funds keeps an open eye on their challengers. The same **tiny felons' group** participates in the dismissal of some persons from their responsibility positions, pretending that it is an instruction from "above" or a decision of President of the Republic himself. At the end of the day, you will find that there was no reason to remove such person from his/her position. There is another group of

individuals whose mission is to collect money from different groups of persons. Arguing that money to be collected is a contribution for this or that, the group focuses on persons occupying important responsibility posts of Government, managers of industrial organizations, traders and businessmen, etc... This group is composed of some among persons in charge of the Youth League of the CNDD-FDD. These convey part of money collected to their persons in command and the remaining part is kept in their pockets.

3- Instead of safeguarding Independance of Burundi, and honoring RWAGASORE and NDADAYE, the heroes, Democracy is dying out in the entire nation and in the ruling party. This behaviour lets down blood of Burundians, which was shed in order to preserve Independance and Democracy.

4- Members of the **tiny felons' group** are fully prepared for embezzlement of public funds, corruption, as well as other crimes. Some key Governmental institutions provide support and protection for them. Some of executives of such institutions were appointed there for that reason after paying bribery and signing affiliation to that group. Crimes committed by these persons dishonor the party and its members.

5- This group is also responsible for the violation of Human Rights, and does not care about peace in Burundi for, its members take the advantage of chaos to amass wealth. At the greatest extent, member of the group highly involve in the violation of law. For them, respect of the law deprive them the opportunity to enjoy wealth.

6- This behaviour brought about a problem with International Cooperation where donors do not seem to be in good terms with the Government of Burundi and hesitate to allot aid.

7- Loyal party members who actually strugvlgled for its survival still have courage and will not let Democracy be spoiled by a group of individuals who strive for their selfish interests. These are going to stand as one and highly denounce such crimes in order to eliminate suspicion, killings, hatred, lies, .... There, public funds will be respected, peace will be for every citizen, political and non political associations will be at peace and harmony, we will all live peacefully as Burundians aiming all at sustainable development.

8- It is not an easy task to ensure that disarmement program has covered the entire nation. Instead of decreasing, illegal detentions of fire arms increase as new armed groups are emerging. Though some call them groups of bandits, foolishmen and other names, what is evident is that citizens are killed. No matter what is the name of the group, victims are citizens. We can not keep looking on citizens dying for political purposes while it is known that such killings are rooted in the electoral process where a number of political parties denounced electoral frauds. Negotiations are imperative. Remember taht, in times of CNDD-FDD Movement, the Government used to name us as it wants, but later accepted

negotiations. Out of negotiations talks, there is no other way through for the country and citizens to recover peace.

9- Fortunately, an ordinary congress of the CNDD-FDD party will be held soon. If organized by loyal members who care about their nation, and in case party members will be given the opportunity to speak and freely give their opinions, we hope that this congress will help to change many things inside the party, as well as things related to State's affairs. In that case, party members will take measures to fight against embezzlement of public funds, corruption, and other crimes. Otherwise, party and its members will have been betrayed by intruders.

In concluding, be informed that this declaration intends to warn embezzlers of public funds, corrupted persons and authors of all other crimes that **CNDD-FDD member decline any responsibility, that they should not, in any event, be involved.** Many of them have gone through the recent anonymous handout and found that lots of ideas expressed therein are relevant and can serve as a decision basis for congressists, for the best interest of the nation.

Persons who approved that handout will use it to develop themselves, their party, and the nation we inherited from our ancestors. For those who disapproved that handout, we beg their pardon as a number of party members have pardoned them during all this time.

Signed at Bujumbura , February 26, 2011

Hon. Manasse NZOBONIMPA

Secretary, Board of wise persons of the CNDD-FDD