
→ CHRONOLOGY

- 1996 - The United Nations Office in Burundi (UNOB) is established as a confidence building measure to facilitate the restoration of constitutional rule in Burundi after a six-nation regional summit earlier that year.
- 1999 - Talks between warring factions are held under the auspices of former Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere.
- August 2000 - The Government and several Hutu and Tutsi groups sign the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement, the basis of the Burundi peace process, however two main Hutu groups refuse to join.
- October 2001 - Talks brokered by Nelson Mandela lead to the installation of a transitional government under which Hutu and Tutsi leaders will share power. Main Hutu rebel groups refuse to sign the ceasefire and fighting intensifies.
- January 2002 - Jean Minani, leader of the main Hutu party FRODEBU, is elected President of the Transitional National Assembly set up to bridge ethnic divide.
- November 2003 - President Ndayizeye and FDD leader Pierre Nkurunziza sign an agreement to end the civil war at a summit of African leaders in Tanzania. Nkurunziza and other FDD members are given ministerial posts. Smaller Hutu rebel group, Forces for National Liberation (FNL), remains active.
- June 2004 – The United Nations Operation in Burundi (ONUB) is deployed to assume peacekeeping duties from African Union troops.
- December 2004 - The UN and the Government begin to disarm and demobilise thousands of soldiers and armed groups.
- January 2005 - The President signs a law to set up new a national army, incorporating Government forces and all but one Hutu rebel group, the FNL.
- March 2005 - Voters back a power-sharing Constitution.
- August 2005 - Pierre Nkurunziza is elected President by the two houses of Parliament after his party won the parliamentary elections in June.
- September 2005 – The FNL rejects the Government’s offer of peace talks.
- April 2006 - A curfew, imposed during ethnic violence in the early 1970s, is lifted by the Government. ONUB continues to observe it from 11 PM until 6 AM.
- June 2006 - The Hutu rebel Party for the Liberation of the Hutu People-Forces for National Liberation (Palipehutu-FNL) and the Government agree to end hostilities during peace talks mediated by South Africa. However, the two sides fail to resolve differences over reforming the military.
- September 2006 - Palipehutu-FNL and the Government sign a Comprehensive Ceasefire Agreement in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.
- 31 December 2006 - ONUB mandate ends.
- 1 January 2007 - The United Nations Integrated Office in Burundi (BINUB), established by Security Council Resolution 1719, starts its mandate for an initial period of one year.

Sources: United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations, United Nations Operation in Burundi and BBC News Ltd. 2006