**GENERAL**

*Country Name*: Conventional long form: Republic of Burundi
Conventional short form: Burundi

*Capital*: Bujumbura

*Location*: Central Africa, east of Democratic Republic of the Congo

*Area*: Total: 27,830 sq km
Land: 25,650 sq km
Water: 2,180 sq km

*Land Boundaries*: Total: 974 km
Border countries: Democratic Republic of the Congo 233 km, Rwanda 290 km, Tanzania 451 km.

*Climate*: Equatorial; high plateau with considerable altitude variation (772 m to 2,670 m above sea level); average annual temperature varies with altitude from 23 to 17 degrees centigrade but is generally moderate as the average altitude is about 1,700 m; average annual rainfall is about 150 cm; two wet seasons from February to May and September to November, and two dry seasons from June to August and December to January.

*Terrain*: Hilly and mountainous, dropping to a plateau in the eastern part.

*Natural Resources*: Nickel, uranium, rare earth oxides, peat, cobalt, copper, platinum, vanadium, arable land, hydropower, niobium, tantalum, gold, tin, tungsten, kaolin, limestone.

*Environment-Current Issues*: Soil erosion as a result of overgrazing and the expansion of agriculture into marginal lands, deforestation (little forested land remains because of uncontrolled cutting of trees for fuel): habitat loss threatens wildlife population.

**SOCIAL**

*Age Structure*: 0-14 years: 46.3% (male 1,884,825/female 1,863,200)
15-64 years: 51.1% (male 2,051,451/female 2,082,017)
65 years and over: 2.6% (male 83,432/female 125,143)
(2006 estimates)

*Population Growth Rate*: 3.7% (2006 estimates)
Infant Mortality Rate: Total: 63.13 deaths/1,000 live births
Male: 70.26 deaths/1,000 live births
Female: 55.79 deaths/1,000 live births (2006 estimates)

Life Expectancy at Birth: Total population: 50.81 years
Male: 50.07 years
Female: 51.58 years (2006 estimates)

Fertility Rate: 6.55 children born/woman (2006 estimates)

Ethnic Groups: Hutu 85%, Tutsi 14%; Twa 1%, Europeans 3,000, South Asians 2,000

Religious: Christian 67% (Roman Catholic 62%, Protestant 5%); Indigenous Beliefs 23%, Muslim 10%

Languages: Kirundi (official), French (official), Swahili (along Lake Tanganyika and in the Bujumbura area).

Basic Education: Primary school enrolment for girls: 53% (2003 – 2004)
Primary school enrolment for boys: 65% (2003 – 2004)

Literacy: Definition: age 15 and over can read and write
Rate for total population: 51.6%
Male: 58.5%
Female: 45.2% (2003 estimates)

HIV/AIDS

Adult Prevalence Rate: 6% (2003 estimates)
People Living with HIV/AIDS: 250,000 (2003 estimates)

GOVERNEMENT

Administrative Division: 17 provinces
Independence: 1 July 1962 (from UN Trusteeship under Belgian administration)

ECONOMIC

Economy-Overview: Burundi is a landlocked, resource-poor country with an underdeveloped manufacturing sector. The economy is predominantly agricultural with more 90% of the population
dependent on subsistence agriculture. Economic growth depends on coffee and tea exports, which account for 90% of foreign exchange earnings. The ability to pay for imports, therefore, rests primarily on weather conditions and international coffee and tea prices.

**GDP**
- Real Growth Rate: 1.1% (2005 estimates)
- Per Capita: $700 (2005 estimates)
- By Sector: Agriculture (46.3%); Industry (20.3%); Services (33.4%) (2005 estimates)

**Currency**
- Burundi francs (BIF)

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