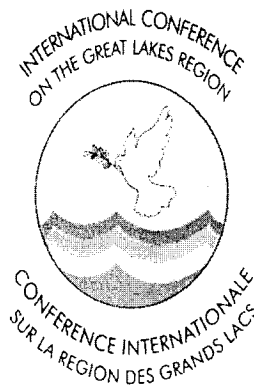


**EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON THE GREAT LAKES REGION**



**SECRETARIAT EXÉCUTIF
CONFÉRENCE INTERNATIONALE
SUR LA RÉGION DES GRANDS LACS**

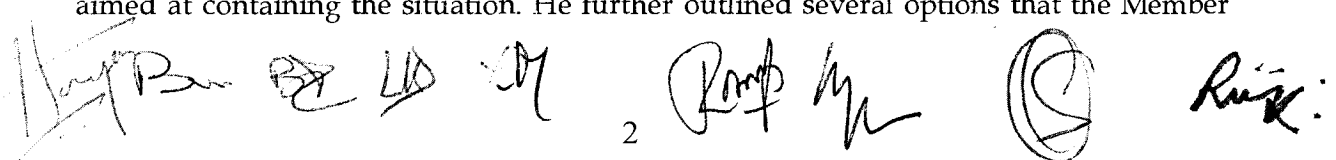
REPORT

OF

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE GREAT LAKES REGION (ICGLR) REGIONAL INTER-MINISTERIAL EXTRAORDINARY MEETING ON THE SECURITY SITUATION IN EASTERN DRC

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 11th July 2011

1. The extraordinary meeting of the ICGLR Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee and Ministers of Defence on the security situation on Eastern DRC was held at the AUC Headquarters, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 11th July 2012. The meeting was convened on the request of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The meeting was opened by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Uganda, Honourable Okello Oryem, Chairperson of the RIMC.
2. The meeting was attended by Ministers of Foreign Affairs, namely H.E. Ambassador Laurent Kavakure of the Republic of Burundi; Honourable Raymond Tshibanda N'Tungamulongo of the Democratic Republic of Congo; Honourable Richard Onyonka of the Republic of Kenya; Honourable Louise Mushikiwabo of the Republic of Rwanda; Honourable Bernard K. Membe of the United Republic of Tanzania; Honourable Zacharie Bowao, Minister for Defence of the Republic of Congo; Honourable Asuman Kiyingi, Minister in Charge of Regional Cooperation of the Republic of Uganda; Honourable Given Lubinda of the Republic of Zambia. Representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Angola was H.E. Ambassador Arcanjo do Nascimento; representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Sudan was H.E. Ambassador Omer Siddig, the National Coordinator.
3. Also in attendance were Ministers of Defence, namely Honourable Charles Zacharie Bowao of the Republic of Congo; Honourable General James Kabarebe of the Republic of Rwanda; Honourable General (Rtd) Jeje Odongo of the Republic of Uganda; H.E. Luba Tambo, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for National Defence and Former Combatants of the Democratic Republic of Congo.
4. The ICGLR Secretariat was represented by the Executive Secretary, the Executive Director of Lusaka Centre and Senior Staff.
5. The Objective of the Meeting was to discuss the security situation in Eastern DRC and make decisions in the context of the **Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region** in order to take concrete actions to address the situation.
6. The Meeting was addressed by Mr. Ramtane Ramamra, the Commissioner for Peace and Security of the African Union. The Commissioner told the Meeting that the African Union had great expectations from the Ministers in the quest for a durable solution to the security challenges in Eastern DRC.
7. The Meeting received a report from the Executive Secretary of the ICGLR. In his report, the Executive Secretary presented an overview of the security and humanitarian situation in the Eastern DRC, noting that the emergence of the M 23 rebel movement had not only worsened the security situation in Eastern DRC, but also had strained relations between Rwanda and DRC. He also reviewed recent initiatives by the Conference Secretariat aimed at containing the situation. He further outlined several options that the Member

A series of handwritten signatures and initials in black ink, including a large signature on the left, several smaller initials, a circled 'S', and a signature on the right.

States could discuss with a view to ensuring that peace and stability in the Region is maintained including:

- a) Organizing and consolidating Regional responsibility for the management of security at common borders;
- b) Establishing a Regional Mechanism for control and monitoring of common borders including borders between DRC and Rwanda;
- c) Strengthening measures against negative forces and illegal armed groups;
- d) Fast tracking the implementation of the Regional Initiative against the Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons;
- e) Making full use of the Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre in Goma and the Lusaka Centre for Democracy and Good Governance;
- f) Fighting against impunity including the implementation of the existing Protocols;
- g) Strengthening the Regional Initiative on the Fight against Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources;

8. The Ministers also received the report of the National Coordinators and Experts Meeting containing recommendations which informed the discussions of the Meeting of the Ministers on how to address the security situation in Eastern DRC.
9. The Ministers noted with appreciation the cordial atmosphere that characterized the deliberations of the National Coordinators and Experts.
10. The Ministers in their deliberations observed that insecurity in Eastern DRC was a risk factor in destabilizing the neighbouring countries and the Region as a whole. The Ministers further observed that the ICGLR needed to take its responsibility by taking the necessary steps to put an end to the crisis and seek sustainable solutions to the question of insecurity in the Great Lakes Region.
11. The Ministers commended the role played by Rwanda and DRC in trying to achieve a peaceful resolution to the conflict in Eastern DRC, and urged the two Member States to work out implementation of the mechanisms they had put in place.

Decisions

12. After their deliberations, the Ministers made the following decisions:

- (i) Condemn in the strongest terms the actions of the M23 and other negative forces operating in the Region and support the efforts deployed by the Government of the DRC for the restoration of peace and security in the North Kivu Province.
- (ii) Condemn in the strongest terms the continued and unfettered activities of the FDLR and call for the immediate military action to eradicate this threat.

Handwritten signatures:
Hongo
Ben

Handwritten initials:
LD LM

3

Handwritten signature:
Ramp

Handwritten signature:
Ruz

Handwritten signature:
Ruz

- (iii) The ICGLR to work with the AU and the UN for an immediate establishment of a neutral International Force to eradicate M23, FDLR and all other Negative Forces in Eastern DRC and patrol and secure the Border Zones;
- (iv) The ICGLR Ministers of Defence should reconvene in the shortest possible time to review, oversee and fast track the implementation of the decisions on negative forces in the Great Lakes Region made during their meeting in Kigali on 9 September 2011.
- (v) All the Negative Forces, in particular M23, should immediately stop armed activities and no support should be given to any Negative Force to destabilize the Region and Eastern Congo in particular.
- (vi) The ICGLR Member States to fully implement the **Pact on Security, Stability and Development** and in particular the **Protocol on Non-Aggression and Mutual Defence in the Great Lakes Region**.
- (vii) Urge the Governments of DRC and Rwanda to fully implement their existing bilateral mechanisms in addressing the insecurity in the East of DRC and specifically the full operationalization of the **Joint Verification Mechanism** and should open up the latter to other Member States.
- (viii) Call upon the International Community to provide an appropriate humanitarian support to victims of violence in the Eastern DRC, especially in the North Kivu Province as a matter of urgency, and extend assistance to the victims wherever they maybe.
- (ix) Urge Officials in Member States of the Great Lakes Region are urged to ensure that their actions, behaviour, speeches, public statements, contributions and any other utterances be inscribed in the logic of peace, security and stability and be artisans and promoters of peace.
- (x) The immediate establishment of a Follow-up Mechanism by the revival of the Team of Special Envoys namely H.E. Benjamin Mkapa and H.E. General Olusegun Obasanjo to address the root causes of the problem of insecurity in Eastern DRC and propose a sustainable solution. The Secretary General of the UN to be requested to facilitate the exercise.
- (xi) Put in place an *Ad-Hoc* Group of Experts composed of six independent experts as per Article 25 of the **Pact** that would prepare and submit a report on Eastern DRC to the next RIMC Meeting.

Ly

4

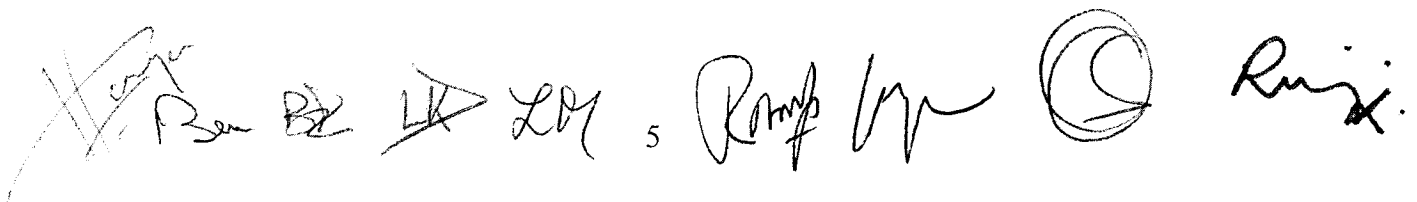
Olusegun Obasanjo

Ben

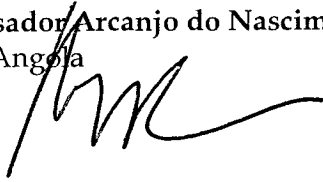
Benjamin Mkapa
Ruzi

- (xii) Propose to the Heads of State of the ICGLR attending the AU Summit in Addis Ababa to convene an Extraordinary Summit on Eastern DRC to deliberate on the decisions of the Extraordinary RIMC Meeting.
- (xiii) Direct the ICGLR Secretariat to follow up on the implementation of the decisions of the Extraordinary Meeting of RIMC and provide regular reports thereof.

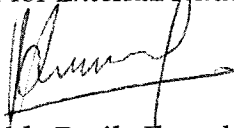
Done in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
On 11th July 2012

A series of handwritten signatures and initials in black ink, including a large signature on the left, several smaller initials, a circled 'C', and the name 'Ruzi' on the right.

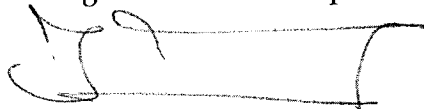
H.E. Ambassador Arcanjo do Nascimento
Republic of Angola



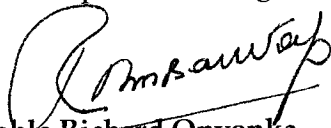
Honourable Laurent Kavakure
Minister for External Relations and International Cooperation of the Republic of Burundi



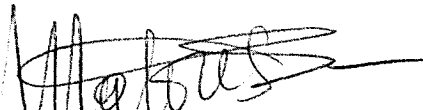
Honourable Basile Ikouebe
Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Republic of Congo



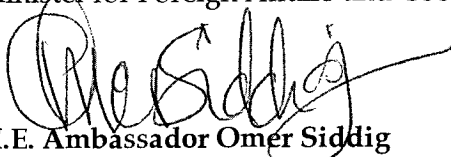
Honourable Raymond Tshibanda N'Tungamulongo
Minister for Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Francophonie of the Democratic Republic of Congo



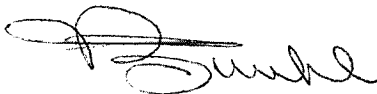
Honourable Richard Onyonka
Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kenya



Honourable Louise Mushikiwabo
Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Republic of Rwanda



H.E. Ambassador Omer Siddig
National Coordinator of the Republic of Sudan



Honourable Bernard K. Membe
Minister for Foreign and International Cooperation of the United Republic of Tanzania



Honourable Oryem Henry Okello
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uganda

Honourable Given Lubinda
Minister for Foreign Affairs and Tourism of the Republic of Zambia