

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT  
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
ON THE GREAT LAKES REGION



SECRÉTARIAT EXÉCUTIF  
CONFÉRENCE INTERNATIONALE  
SUR LA RÉGION DES GRANDS LACS

## **LUSAKA DECLARATION OF THE ICGLR SPECIAL SUMMIT TO FIGHT ILLEGAL EXPLOITATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION**

**LUSAKA, ZAMBIA  
15 DECEMBER 2010**

## PREAMBLE

**We**, Heads of State and Government of Member States of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) gathered in Lusaka, Zambia, on 15 December 2010;

**Concerned** about the persistent illegal exploitation of natural resources in the Great Lakes Region and its linkage to the proliferation of small arms and light weapons, financing of armed groups and perpetuation of crimes against humanity;

**Aware** of the need to streamline the activities of local, regional and multinational actors involved in the exploitation of natural resources;

**Cognizant** of the commitment, mutual trust and cooperation in the implementation of the Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region;

**Recalling** the decision of the Mini-Summit held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2010, in which the ICGLR Secretariat and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) Government were urged to organize a Special Summit to address the issues related to illegal exploitation of natural resources in the Great Lakes Region;

**Deeply** concerned about the negative impact of the illegal exploitation of natural resources which deprives states of resources needed to fight poverty and aggravates environmental degradation;

**Fully aware** of the endemic conflicts and persistent insecurity caused by armed groups in the Great Lakes Region financed through the illegal exploitation of natural resources and trade in minerals, in particular Gold, Colombo-Tantalite, Wolframite and Cassiterite; and further concerned about the negative impact these armed groups have had on our population in the region including, crimes against humanity, and massive violations of human rights such as, Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV);

**Conscious** that illegal exploitation of natural resources constitutes a violation of States' right of permanent sovereignty over their natural resources, territorial integrity and represents a serious source of insecurity, illegal migration, displacement, instability, tension and conflicts in the region;

**Taking note** of the various existing transparency and certification initiatives in the mineral sector among others, the Kimberley Process and the need for a regional approach to curb the illegal exploitation of natural resources;

**Reaffirming** our commitment to put in place a Regional Certification Mechanism with the view to fulfilling the regional and international market requirements on transparent mineral trade;

**Welcoming** the establishment of the Regional Committee on the fight against illegal exploitation of natural resources, the conclusions of the joint Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development OECD/ICGLR consultative meeting (29-30 September 2010) and the meeting of ICGLR Ministers of Mineral Resources held in Nairobi, Kenya, on 1 October 2010;

**Considering** our commitment to jointly fight illegal exploitation of natural resources in the Great Lakes Region in line with the Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region, in particular the Protocol on the Fight against Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources;

**Hereby:**

1. **Commit** ourselves to fighting the illegal exploitation of natural resources through national, regional and international legal means;
2. **Approve** the six tools developed to curb illegal exploitation of natural resources namely, (1) *Regional Certification Mechanism*; (2) *Harmonization of National Legislation*; (3) *Regional Database on Mineral Flows*, (4) *Formalization of the Artisanal Mining Sector*; and (5) *Promotion of the Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (EITI)* and (6) *Whistle Blowing Mechanism*; with the understanding that some tools are still work in progress that needs further reflection and refinement.



3. **Urge** member states to improve the security situation in mining areas through cooperation between the ICGLR Regional initiative and the respective national security institutions;
4. **Further urge** the member states to involve their institutions in charge of justice and security in the implementation of the tools, agreed upon to curb illegal exploitation of natural resources in the region.
5. **Direct** the relevant institutions in Member States to implement the above six tools, particularly the Regional Certification Mechanism which has been developed for the monitoring and control of the exploitation and trade of natural resources in the Great Lakes Region;
6. **Commit** ourselves to putting in place infrastructure as well as joint projects and industries in the extractive sector at national and regional levels to enhance value addition of the raw materials produced in the Great Lakes Region;
7. **Reaffirm** our commitment to ensure that prior to the exploitation of natural resources in Member States, environmental and social impact assessments are carried out taking into account the needs of the specific groups such as women, youth, people with disabilities and vulnerable groups’;
8. **Commit** ourselves to intensifying efforts and measures to combat the illegal exploitation of natural resources, Sexual Gender Based Violence ( SGBV) in all its forms in accordance with existing national, regional and international instruments, in particular the ICGLR instruments on SGBV, the UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820, the Goma Declaration and other relevant resolutions;
9. **Commit** ourselves to domesticating in our respective countries the Protocol on the Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources in the Great Lakes Region;

10. **Encourage** the various transparency and certification initiatives involved in the Great Lakes Region such as ITRI Tin Supply Chain Initiative (ITSCI) and the Certified Trading Chains (CTC) in Mineral Production, Regional Economic Communities and other relevant institutions to join efforts and harmonize their instruments with the ICGLR Initiative on the Fight against Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources as the overarching system for transparency in the mineral sector in the Great Lakes Region;

11. **Call on** the Multinational Companies to put an end to unfair protectionism and working with illegal or criminal organized groups in the region to the detriment of security in the region

12. **Endorse** the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict Affected and High Risk areas as crosscutting to the Regional Initiative on the Fight against Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources and **Call upon** companies sourcing minerals from the Great Lakes Region to comply with the six tools and the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas;

13. **Direct** the ICGLR Secretariat and the Regional Committee on Natural Resources to integrate the processes and standards of the OECD Due Diligence Guidance on Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict- Affected and High Risk Areas into the six tools of the Regional Initiative against the Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources;

14. **Further direct** the ICGLR Secretariat in collaboration with the Regional Committee on Natural Resources to work out the financial mechanism and modalities to support the regional initiative and report to the next Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee for approval;

15. **Call upon** the international community to support and strengthen the ICGLR Regional Initiative against the Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources (IENR) as the mandated system in the Great Lakes Region, by:

(a) harmonizing their bilateral and regional sectoral support to the objectives of the ICGLR Regional Initiative on the Fight against the Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources and;

(b) demonstrating consumer responsibility through the introduction of complementary transparency systems within their jurisdictions;

16. **Appreciate** the support and financial assistance extended to the ICGLR Secretariat by the German and Netherlands Governments through GTZ, Canada, the Group of Friends and Special Envoys, UN agencies, AfDB as well as the support by other regional and international partners in the fight against the illegal exploitation of natural resources;

17. **Commend** the ICGLR Secretariat under the leadership of the Executive Secretary, *Ambassador Liberata Mulamula*, for the outstanding contribution towards peace, security, democracy, good governance and development in the Great Lakes Region;

18. **Decide to** extend the mandate of the ICGLR Executive Secretary, Ambassador Liberata Mulamula for another one year.

19. **Thank** the Government and the people of the Republic of Zambia for the hospitality and warm welcome extended to all the delegations and for hosting this Special Summit on the Fight against the Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources in the Great Lakes Region.



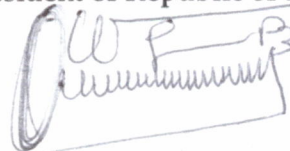
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, WE, the heads of State and Government or our duly authorized representatives, have signed this declaration.

Done in Lusaka, on 15 December 2010, in the English, French and Portuguese languages, all texts being equally authentic.

1. H.E. JOSE EDUARDO DOS SANTOS  
President of Republic of Angola



2. H.E. PIERRE NKURUNZIZA  
President of Republic of Burundi

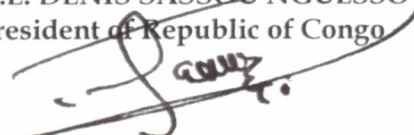


3. H.E. FRANCOIS BOZIZE  
President of Central African Republic

P.O. 

*Pr. Faustin Archange TOUADERA  
Premier Ministre, Chef du Gouvernement.*

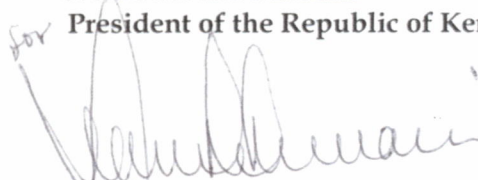
4. H.E. DENIS SASSOU NGUESSO  
President of Republic of Congo



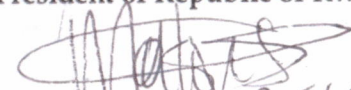
5. H.E. JOSEPH KABILA KABANGE  
President of the Democratic Republic of Congo



6. H.E. MWAI KIBAKI  
President of the Republic of Kenya

for 

7. H.E. PAUL KAGAME  
President of Republic of Rwanda




8. H.E. OMAR HASSAN AHMED EL-BASHIR  
President of Republic of Sudan



9. H.E. JAKAYA MRISHO KIKWETE  
President of the United Republic of Tanzania

P/O MIN. FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
*Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete*

10. H.E. YOWERI KAGUTA MUSEVENI  
President of Republic of Uganda



11. H.E. RUPIAH BWEZANI BANDA  
President of Republic Zambia

