



## **Regional Consultation on the ICGLR Private Sector Forum in preparation for the Great Lakes Investment and Trade Conference (GLITC)**

Hotel Serena, Kigali, Rwanda, 4 May 2019

### **Conclusion of deliberations**

Following the regional consultation meeting on the planning for the Great Lakes Investment and Trade Conference (GLITC)<sup>1</sup> held on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2019 in Kigali, the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) and the Office of the Special Envoy of the UN Secretary General for the Great Lakes Region (OSES-G-L) convened a meeting on 4 May 2019 in Kigali with Chambers of Commerce's representatives of ICGLR Member States and other regional stakeholders (Cf. List of Participants annexed).

The main objective of the meeting was to exchange ideas to empower the ICGLR Private Sector Forum Interim Board to convene its General Assembly and to lead towards the GLITC scheduled on 14-16 October in Kigali. The meeting was chaired by the DRC and Kenyan representatives of the interim Board.

After extensive discussions and a review of the deliberations of the consultation meeting held the previous day on the GLITC, the meeting concluded with the following recommendations:

#### **➤ Operationalization of the ICGLR Private Sector Forum**

- The participants welcomed Kenya's offer to host the ICGLR Private Sector Forum and to convene a General Assembly late June 2019 in Nairobi to allow the establishment of the permanent Governing Board.

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<sup>1</sup> The second Private Sector Investment Conference is to be titled "Great Lakes Investment and Trade Conference" with the acronym "GLITC". This title is in line with the focus on cross-border trade and investment as a catalyst for regional integration. It also and better captures need to attract investments from the private sector and from regional and international financial institutions international investments in through the promotion of structural investment projects in the border areas of the countries of the region.



- They urged the interim Board of the ICGLR Private Sector Forum, with the support of ICGLR and O/SESG-GL, to expedite the convening of such a meeting in order to enable the regional private sector body to play, as expected, a leadership role in the GLITC process.

➤ **Follow-up on the conclusions of the consultation meeting on planning for the GLITC**

- After expressing appreciation to O/SESG-GL and ICGLR for convening the regional consultation on 3<sup>rd</sup> May, the participants re-affirmed the regional private sector's commitment, ownership and leadership role towards the GLITC. In this regard, the meeting requested all Chambers of Commerce to engage with their Governments on the conference and to promote the GLITC in their countries, including the organization of in-country sensitization meetings.
- It agreed that for a success of the GLITC, it is crucial to have Head of States and Government endorsement. Therefore, it was suggested that outreach activities, at the highest level, through the O/SESG-GL, ICGLR and the representatives of the private sector of the region be carried out all the ICGLR Member States as early as possible.
- Given the time constraints, the meeting decided to set up immediately a Steering Committee, co-chaired by PSF/Rwanda (host country) and FEC/DRC (the previous host country), to lead the Conference's preparations process.
- The following six sub-Working sub-groups are to be created within the Steering Committee:
  - ✓ **Sub-WG on Contents** (Agenda, Panels, Key note speakers, list of participants, promotion activities): O/SESG, ICGLR Secretariat and Private Sector Forum, RDB, Uganda CCI, East Africa Chamber of Commerce, COMESA Business Council, ICGLR PSF Interim Chair;
  - ✓ **Sub-WG on Projects identification**: ICGLR Secretariat and Private Sector Forum, CEPGL and O/SESG-GL;



- ✓ **Sub-WG on Finances:** EA Chamber of Commerce, Kenya Chamber of Commerce and O/SESG-GL;
  - ✓ **Sub-WG on Logistics and Security:** RCB (supported by ICGLR and O/SESG),
  - ✓ **Sub WG on High-Level Political Segment:** OSESG-GL, ICGLR, Rwanda, DRC;
  - ✓ **Sub WG on Communication and outreach:** O/SESG-GL, ICGLR and CEPGL.
  - ✓ **Sub WG on Registrations and Welcome:** RCB (supported by ICGLR and O/SESG)
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- The meeting urged ICGLR Secretariat to brief about its deliberations all ICGLR members at all necessary levels and to be fully part of the GLITC preparation process. O/SESG-GL will support to engage also South Africa, which is a signatory country of the PSC-Framework.
  - The meeting requested respective Chambers of Commerce to provide, for consideration, to the Secretariat (O/SESG and ICGLR), additional eligible integrating projects with necessary supporting materials. It urged CEPGL to submit, as soon as possible, the status of progress on the 7 integrating projects it coordinated. O/SESG will contact other sponsors of the relevant regional projects featured among the 25 Investment Opportunities Brief, especially the WBG and the European Investment Bank.

At the end of the meeting, the co-chairs re-iterated the national and regional private sector commitments to take a leading role during the GLITC's process. The participants also expressed appreciation to the ICGLR and the O/SESG-GL and requested their continued active support during the whole process.

The participants thanked the Government and the People of Rwanda for the warm hospitality extended to all participants and for all the facilities availed which made the meeting a resounding success.