



**Declaration of the Heads of State and Government of
the Member States of the International Conference on
the Great Lakes Region**

at

**The Fourth Ordinary Summit and Special Session on
Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)**

**15th - 16th December, 2011
at Munyonyo Commonwealth Resort,
Kampala, Uganda**

Preamble

WE the Heads of State and Government of the Member States of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR); gathered in Kampala Uganda on 15th- 16th, December 2011, at the 4th Ordinary Summit and Special Session on Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) under the theme *"United to prevent, end impunity and provide support to the Victims of SGBV"*

HAVING considered the report of Ministers responsible for Gender, on SGBV, the report of Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee (RIMC), and the Declaration of the First Ladies from the Region in preparation to this 4th Ordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government from the ICGLR Member States, highlighting efforts made by the Member States, challenges and gaps on prevention, ending impunity and support to survivors;

FURTHER considering that Sexual and Gender Based Violence in its various manifestations occurs in peacetimes, during conflict and in post conflict settings;

DEEPLY concerned that the incidence of SGBV in the Great Lakes Region remains alarmingly high, despite the existence of institutional, policy and legal frameworks for the prevention of SGBV and punishment of perpetrators;

RECOGNIZING the severe impact of SGBV on the individual, family, community and the State;

CONSCIOUS of the serious threat that SGBV pose on security and development of the Great Lakes Region;

RECALLING commitments made under the Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region (2006) and the Protocol on Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children (2006);

MINDFUL of other relevant international instruments and mechanisms including the UN Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)(1979) and UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009) and 1960 (2010) and the Africa UNiTE campaign to end Violence against Women and Girls;

AWARE of the importance of the theme of this Summit and the Special Session on SGBV;

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HAVING considered the report and recommendation from the high level consultative meeting of Ministers responsible for Gender held in Arusha, Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee (RIMC) report preceding the Summit and the Kampala Declaration of the First Ladies on Sexual and Gender Based Violence;

DO HEREBY commit to the following:

Prevention of SGBV

1. Within an agreed time-frame to eradicate existing armed groups in the Region in conformity with the ICGLR Protocol on Non Aggression and Mutual Defense;
2. Fully domesticate and implement the Protocol on Non aggression and Mutual Defense, the Protocol on Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children as well as the Protocol on Judicial Cooperation, in order to eradicate existing armed groups, combat Sexual and Gender Based Violence and cooperate in matters of extradition, judicial investigation and prosecution of perpetrators;
3. Increase financial and technical support for judicial and security sector reform on human and women's rights and SGBV eradication. This will provide institutional capacity and accountability to protect women, girls, men and boys from Sexual and Gender Based violence in peace time, during conflict and post-conflict situations as a political and security strategy within 12 months;
4. Direct responsible institutions to strengthen or establish national level structures for prevention, protection and support of women and children against SGBV and establish early warning mechanisms within 12 months after this 4th Ordinary Summit and Special Session on Sexual and Gender Based Violence to facilitate reporting and documentation of SGBV cases from the grassroots and fast track prosecution of those responsible for perpetrating sexual violence to make sure that justice is done swiftly and effectively;
5. Integrate SGBV in the national planning frameworks and allocate budget lines for prevention, and response to SGBV particularly the ministries of

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Gender, Health, Defense, Security, Interior, Local Government, Justice, Education and Youth;

6. To establish Gender desks (where they do not exist), strengthen them where they exist and allocate relevant budget to facilitate the fight against SGBV within the next financial year.

Ending Impunity for SGBV

7. Declare « Zero Tolerance Now » on SGBV crimes and impunity. Launch national campaigns for zero tolerance on SGBV simultaneously including men in all member states of the ICGLR after this Summit and Special Session of SGBV (2011);
8. Direct concerned ministries to establish and strengthen special courts, sessions and procedures in order to fast track SGBV cases in the Police and the Judiciary (with adequate financing, facilities and gender sensitive officers) within 12 months after this Summit and Special Session on SGBV (2011) to improve access to justice and protect SGBV victims/survivors in line with Article 6 (5) of ICGLR Protocol (2006) on Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children;
9. Establish appropriate mechanisms to investigate and prosecute sexual violence crimes, including crimes that amount to genocide, war crimes or crimes against humanity committed in the region.

Providing support to victims/survivors of SGBV

10. Fast-track the contribution to ICGLR special fund for reconstruction and development so that assistance for victims/survivors of SGBV is provided in line with Article 6 (8) of the ICGLR Protocol (2006);
11. Fast track the establishment and scale up "Recovery Centres" that provide comprehensive services of free medical, psychosocial, forensic, judicial/prosecution services within the next two years of this Summit and Special Session on SGBV. Such centres should be user friendly particularly to women, youth, children, persons with disabilities and men;
12. Direct the relevant ministries and public agencies to establish and strengthen income generating programmes and initiatives to support

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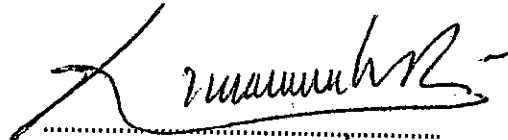
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women especially those in cross-border trade areas, targeting survivors of SGBV.

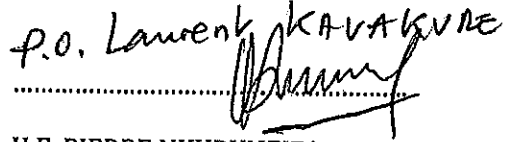
General Resolution

13. Strengthen the Levy Mwanawasa Regional Centre for Democracy, Good Governance, Human Rights and Civic Education in order to fulfill its mandate;
14. We take note of Uganda's offer to host the Regional SGBV Training Facility and direct the ICGLR Secretariat to prepare the financial requirements (budget) for the establishment of the Facility and present it to the next meeting of RIMC for decision;
15. Put in place national and regional media strategy for sustainable use of electronic and print media especially radios, news papers, televisions and traditional /community based means to expose the atrocities of sexual and gender based violence, facilitate the sensitization and fight against SGBV;
16. Direct the Secretariat to strengthen the inter-linkages between the Regional Initiatives on Natural Resources (RINR) and the Regional Initiative on Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) by supporting Member States to mainstream gender aspect into their national policies on the natural resources sector and foster regional exchange and cooperation for sustainable development of the natural resources sector;
17. Direct the Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee (RIMC) at their next meeting in Bangui, Central African Republic (CAR) to discuss unemployment, more especially among youth, within the context of infrastructure development and investment and present the report to their respective Heads of state for relevant action and later report to the next Summit;
18. Empowerment of Professional and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) such as International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA) and all the others in the Great Lakes Region that provide support to victim/survivors of SGBV;
19. Direct ICGLR Secretariat to follow-up the implementation of the above resolutions and report on regular basis to RIMC and the Summit during

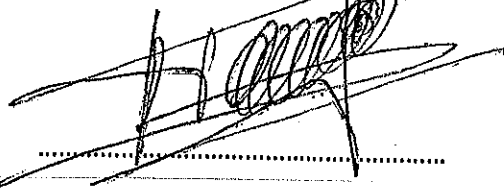
Done at Kampala, Uganda on, 15th December 2011

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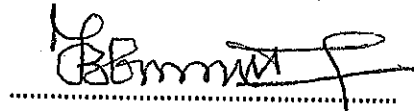
H.E JOSE EDUARDO DOS SANTOS
President of the Republic of Angola

2. 
P.O. Laurent KAVUKURE

H.E PIERRE NKURUNZIZA
President of the Republic of
Burundi

3. 

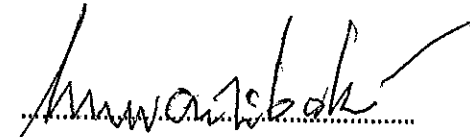
H.E FRANCOIS BOZIZE
President of the Central African
Republic

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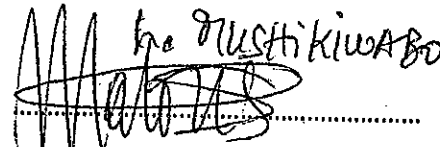
H.E DENIS SASSOU-NGUESSO
President of the Republic of Congo
P.O. le ministre de la defense Nationale

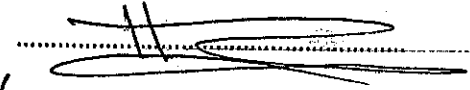
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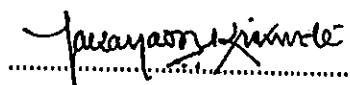
H.E JOSEPH KABILA
President of the Democratic
Republic of Congo

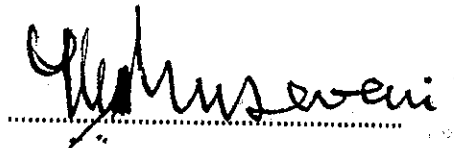
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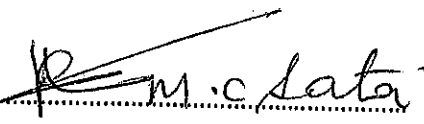
H.E MWAI KIBAKI
President of the Republic of Kenya

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

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

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

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

11. 
H.E MICHAEL CHILUFYA SATA
President of the Republic of
Zambia