

**OUTCOME DOCUMENT OF THE 10TH ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
OF THE WOMEN'S PLATFORM FOR THE PEACE, SECURITY AND COOPERATION
FRAMEWORK FOR THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO AND THE REGION**

NAIROBI, KENYA, 13 FEBRUARY 2019

1. On 13 February 2019, the Advisory Board (hereinafter the Board) of the Women's Platform for the Great Lakes Region (GLR) held its 10th meeting in Nairobi, Kenya, under the chairmanship of the Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General (SESG) for the Great Lakes Region, Said Djinnit. *The list of participants is attached for ease of reference.*
2. The Board discussed the activities conducted in 2018 and planned for 2019 to advance women's meaningful participation in political and peace processes, address conflict-related sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), and enhance women's socio-economic empowerment. It considered the recommendations of the solidarity missions to Burundi, the Central African Republic (CAR), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), and South Sudan and of the Gender Ministers meeting held in Uganda in November 2018, including agreement to speed up efforts to achieve a minimum quota of 30% women's representation in political and peace processes by 2020 in observance of the 20th Anniversary of UNSCR 1325 (2000).
3. Following their deliberations, the Board:

On the political, security, and humanitarian developments

4. Congratulated the DRC on the holding of peaceful elections and expressed their expectation that President Felix Tshisekedi will implement the 30% quota in his new cabinet as a first immediate step towards advancing the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda in the DRC.
5. Congratulated the Government of the CAR on the peace deal with 14 armed groups under the auspices of the African Union (AU) and called for the involvement of women in the follow-up mechanism of agreement. Supported the ongoing efforts to implement the peace agreement in South Sudan. Called on the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) and other partners to support the capacity building of women in peace agreements in the region.
6. In order to strengthen women's political participation in elections scheduled for 2020 in Burundi, CAR, Sudan, and Tanzania encouraged the ICGLR, in consultation with the AU, UN Women, the Office of the SESG-Great Lakes (O/SESG), and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) to undertake a lessons-learned exercise involving countries that underwent electoral and dialogue processes in 2017 and 2018. In support thereof, requested ICGLR and O/SESG, in consultation with the Office of the AU Special Envoy for WPS, UN Women and relevant regional bodies, to organize a consultative meeting on women's political participation with women representatives from Burundi, CAR, Sudan, and Tanzania.

7. Committed to support countries in the region to share and implement strategies to reach the minimum 30% quota and requested the ICGLR and other partners to provide the necessary technical and financial support to facilitate these efforts.

8. Welcomed the initiative of O/SESG, ICGLR, and the Government of Uganda to convene a meeting in March 2019 on durable solutions for forcibly displaced populations in the region, in line with the theme of the AU in 2019.

9. Called for the swift ratification and implementation of the Kampala Convention for the protection and assistance of internally displaced persons in Africa.

On the implementation of the recommendations of the 2018 solidarity missions

10. Commended O/SESG for facilitating the missions of senior Board members to advance WPS matters in Burundi, CAR and DRC, and the engagements of the AU Special Envoy for WPS and the UN Deputy Secretary-General in South Sudan and welcomed the recommendations from these missions.

11. Welcomed the Board's representation at the 9th Regional Oversight Mechanism (ROM) Summit in Uganda in October 2018 and the commitment by Heads of State and Government to achieve full gender parity and ensure in the interim a minimum of 30% representation of women in peace and political processes by 2020. Encouraged O/SESG and ICGLR, in collaboration with UN Women and the AU, to consider concrete measures to remind signatory countries of the commitments made and provide technical assistance, as appropriate and within available resources. Proposed that the Board and members of the Technical Support Committee (TSC) meet jointly by August 2019 to assess progress in achieving this objective.

12. Expressed concern over continued cases of SGBV and delays in investigating them, particularly in countries experiencing conflict. Welcomed plans by ICGLR and OSESG to convene a meeting of Justice Ministers in May 2019, to and encouraged the meeting to address impunity in relation to gender-related violence, including measures to establish and strengthen national mechanisms fast-track the prosecution of SGBV cases.

13. Welcomed the joint UN/Norway pledging conference on SGBV in humanitarian crises to take place in Oslo, Norway, in May 2019.

On the Regional Action Plan on UNSCR 1325 (2000)

14. Welcomed the adoption of the ICGLR Regional Action Plan (RAP) on the implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) by the Gender Ministers in Entebbe on 23 November 2018, and the identification of priority actions for 2019. Encouraged the member states to oversee its timely implementation, including by allocating sufficient resources to the RAP budget and partners to support its operationalisation. Commended GIZ and EU for their efforts through the joint planning workshop with ICGLR and UN held in Bujumbura over 29-31 January 2019.

15. Welcomed the adoption by the AU Peace and Security Council of the AU Continental Results Framework (CRF) for the Reporting and Monitoring on the Implementation of the WPS Agenda in Africa (2018-2028) and its launch during the 32nd AU Ordinary Assembly. ICGLR Ministers of the Great Lakes region agreed to use the CRF for monitoring and reporting. Encouraged member states to work in partnership with the ICGLR Gender Observatory to monitor progress.

On the financing of key initiatives

16. Encouraged joint efforts for resource mobilisation for the implementation of regional commitments and to address the underlying constraints to women's political participation. Further called on the donors to provide earmarked funds for women in their electoral support to member states, regional institutions, and the UN.

17. Agreed to explore partnerships with the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and the African Development Bank (AfDB) and others on financing mechanisms to support women's political participation. Requested UN Women to examine options for such mechanisms and report on progress at the next Gender Ministers' meeting.

On the regional Centres of Excellence

18. Called on partners to support the Regional Centres of Excellence, such as the ICGLR Regional Training Facility (RTF) and the Levy Mwanawasa Regional Centre in promoting the WPS agenda through data collection, analysis, and capacity building.

19. Called on the ICGLR to consider supporting the Kinshasa based Regional Women Research Centre (CERED-GL), as part of its Centres of Excellence, and supported the call to visit the Kinshasa Women Research Centre.

20. Further called on ICGLR to support for the operationalisation of Regional Women's Forum

On future Joint Missions

21. Welcomed the commitment of Rwanda to receive a delegation of the Board on dates to be agreed as part of ongoing efforts to exchange experiences and lessons learned. Agreed to dispatch a delegation to the Republic of Congo and Sudan in consultation with the countries concerned. It also encouraged the Co-chair of AU FemWise-Africa to undertake at the earliest convenience a follow up visit to the DRC in coordination with the Government of the DRC.

Regarding the terms of reference of the Advisory Board

22. Requested Board members to examine the redrafted ToR, which aim to further advance the WPS agenda and promote further synergies between actors in the region, and convey their observations to the Secretariat for approval at the next Board meeting.

23. Noted the announcement by the UN Secretary-General on the appointment of Mr. Huang Xia as new SESG for the Great Lakes region, and expressed appreciation to Ambassador Said Djinnit, outgoing SESG, for his commitment to the WPS agenda and achievements during his mandate, including by maintaining over 50% women's representation in his Office since 2017.

24. Thanked O/SESG for convening the 10th meeting of the Board and agreed to hold its 11th meeting at the AU HQs in Addis Ababa, in coordination with the Office of the AU Special Envoy on WPS, AU FemWise-Africa and ICGLR.

Participant List

10th Advisory Board Meeting 13.02.2019

Advisory Board Members

1. SESG Said Djinnit
Special Envoy of the UN Secretary General
for the Great Lakes Region
Nairobi, Kenya
2. H.E. Mme. Catherine Samba-Panza
Coprésidente, Réseau des Femmes
Africaines pour la prévention des conflits et
la médiation
Bangui, République Centrafricaine
3. H.E. Mme. Chantal Safou Lopusa
Ministre du genre de la famille et de l'enfant
République démocratique du Congo
Kinshasa, RDC
4. S.E. Mme. Aline Gisèle Pana
Ministre de la promotion de la Femme,
de la Famille et de la Protection de l'enfant
République Centrafricaine
5. H.E. Madame Awut Deng Acuil
Minister of Gender, Child, and Social
Welfare, Republic of South Sudan
Juba, South Sudan
6. Amb. Liberata Mulamula
Visiting scholar
Elliot School of International Affairs,
George Washington University
Washington DC, U.S.A.
7. Mr. Felix Ngendabanyikwa
Secrétaire Permanent
Ministère des Droits Humaine, des Affaires
Sociales et du Genre
Bujumbura, Burundi
8. ACP Steven Rukumba
Police Attache
Embassy of Rwanda in Kenya

9. Mr. Mohammed Ahmed Higair
First Secretary
Embassy of the Republic of the Sudan
in Kenya

10. Ms. Marie Immaculee Ingabire
Focal Point, ICGLR Regional Women's
Forum, Rwanda
Kigali, Rwanda

11. Dr. Jean Bosco Butera
Special Advisor and Head of Office to the
Special Envoy on Women, Peace and
Security African Union
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

12. Mme. Juliette Biao Koudenoukpo
Director and Regional Representative for
Africa
United Nations Environment
Nairobi, Kenya

13. Ms. Eliane Berthe Mokodopo
Gender Advisor
ICGLR
Bujumbura, Burundi

14. Ms. Florence Mularika Boloko
ICGLR Women's Forum, DRC
Kinshasa, DRC

15. Ms. Mona Sharan
Gender Specialist
African Development Bank Group
Nairobi, Kenya

Observers

16. Madame Zenia Chrysostomidis
Minister Counsellor/Deputy Head of
Mission
Royal Norwegian Embassy in Kampala

17. Mr. Nathan Byamukama
Ag. Director, ICGLR (RTF) on the
Prevention and Suppression of SGBV -
Great Lakes
Kampala, Uganda

18. Madame Lubuma Vitalie
Directeur General
Centre Régional de recherche et de
documentation sur les Femmes, le Genre et
la Construction de la Paix dans la région des
Grands-Lacs
Kinshasa, DRC

19. Mme. Yolande Nambokinena
Administrateur des Affaires Sociales, Chef
de service d'appui à l'information et à
l'éducation en matière du genre/ République
Centrafricaine

20. Madame Ruphina Mbua Monono
Political Adviser to the Director-General,
UNON/ Team Leader, Liaison Team of the
UN Department of Political Affairs and
Peace Building
Nairobi, Kenya

21. Madame Damaris Mungai
Gender and Youth Officer
UN Environment
Nairobi, Kenya

22. Madame Soetkin Meertens
Advisor, Peace and Security
GIZ Burundi

23. Madame Sabrina Nizigama
Advisor SGBV
GIZ Burundi

24. Madame Lina Ekomo-Ikoli
Présidente
Réseau Leadership Femmes RCA,
Coordonnatrice Femmes leaders paix
Bangui, CAR

25. Madame Malenga Omoy Charlotte
Ministre Conseiller
Embassy of the Democratic Republic Congo
in Kenya

26. Mr. Kennedy Walusala
President Emeritus and Executive
Committee member,

ICGLR Youth Forum, Kenya
Nairobi, Kenya

27. Madame Njeri Rugene
Chairperson
The Woman's Newsroom Foundation
Nairobi, Kenya

28. Madame Patricia Nyaundi
Nairobi Director
Crisis Action
Nairobi, Kenya

29. Madame Dorothy Kweyu
Gender Media Expert
Nairobi, Kenya

30. Mr. Naftali Mwaura
31. Reporter
Xinhua News Agency
Nairobi, Kenya

32. Mr. Reuben Kyama
Correspondent Kiswahili Service
Deutsche Welle
Nairobi, Kenya

33. Madame Séraphine Hatungimana
Assistant to the Programme Officer for
Gender, Women & Children
ICGLR Executive Secretariat
Bujumbura, Burundi

OESG

34. Ms. Donata Garrasi
Director, Political Affairs Unit

35. Ms. Nene Bah
Political Affairs Officer/Senior Gender
Adviser a.i.,

36. Ms. Micheline Ravololonarisoa
OESG Gender Consultant
London, UK

37. Ms. Theresa Pirkel
Special Assistant to the OESG

38. Mr. Gabor Beszterczey
Senior Programme Officer

39. Mr. Benoit Pylyser
Political Affairs Officer

40. Mr. Penangnini Toure
Public Information Officer

41. Ms. Dinah Karimi
Administrative Assistant

42. Ms. Laetitia Ndetto
Team Assistant

43. Mr. Abdikarim Said Haji
Public Information Consultant