



## JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ

### **The ICGLR Conference Secretariat and the office of the Special Envoy of the UN Secretary General for the Great Lakes Region agrees to Strengthen Cooperation and Reinforce Operational Links between the two Institutions.**

1. On 10-11 August 2016, a joint meeting was held between the Executive Secretariat of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) and the Office of the United Nations Special Envoy of the Secretary General for the Great Lakes Region (O/SESG). The meeting was co-chaired by Amb. Zachary Muburi-Muita, ICGLR Executive Secretary, and Amb. Said Djinnit, UN Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region.
2. The objective of the coordination meeting was to further strengthen collaboration, cooperation, interaction as well as reinforce the operational links between the two institutions.
3. The co-chairs were pleased to note that the collaborative efforts by the two organisations have led to the implementation of a number of ground-breaking initiatives. These include the convening of the Special Summit on Youth unemployment, in July 2014 in Nairobi, the successful organization of the Private Sector Investment Conference in February 2016 in Kinshasa, DRC, and the recently concluded restricted meeting of Defence Ministers in July 2016 in Nairobi, Kenya.
4. The meeting reviewed progress in the implementation of the ongoing initiatives and cooperation, including on peace and security, economic development, judicial cooperation, democratization, good governance and the rule of law, natural resources, human rights, gender, youth and civil society.
5. While noting progress in certain areas, the two organizations recognized that there is still room for improvement and enhanced output. The meeting recommended as follows:
  - a) To further reinforce and formalize the existing collaboration and cooperation between the two organizations;
  - b) To pursue greater synergy in the areas of information sharing, joint programme design, implementation and monitoring;
  - c) To follow-up on ongoing initiatives and explore potential areas of further cooperation in support of the implementation of both the ICGLR Pact on Security, Stability and Development and the Peace, Security and Cooperation (PSC) Framework;
  - d) To increase engagements with relevant regional stakeholders, in particular the Guarantors of the PSC Framework, namely the African Union (AU) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC).
6. The meeting agreed to hold regular coordination meetings between the two organizations.

*Done in Bujumbura, Burundi, 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2016*

