



DECLARATION OF MINISTERS OF JUSTICE

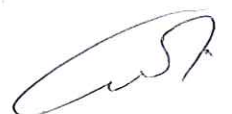
Livingstone, Zambia

25 - 26 August 2015

Ministers of Justice of Member States of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) or their Representatives including the Republic of Angola, Republic of Burundi, Central African Republic, Republic of Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of Kenya, Republic of Rwanda, Republic of The Sudan, Republic of South Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania, Republic of Uganda and Republic of Zambia met in Livingstone, Zambia, from 25 to 26 August 2015 and resolved as follows:

1. Adopt the Domestication Road Map 2015-2018 developed by the National Coordinators and Legal Focal Points;
2. Undertake to speed up and complete the domestication process of the Protocols, specifically the four priority Protocols (Protocol on Non-Aggression and Mutual Defense in the Great Lakes Region, Protocol on Judicial Cooperation, Protocol on the Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children and the Protocol against the Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources) by 2016 and complete the domestication process of the remaining Protocols by 2018;

3. Direct the ICGLR Secretariat to fast track the drafting of model Laws in order to accelerate the implementation of domestication of the three protocols namely:
 - The Protocol for the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity and all Forms of Discrimination
 - The Protocol on the Protection and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons
 - The Protocol on Property Rights of Returning Persons
4. Direct the ICGLR Secretariat to initiate a process with national stakeholders on the use of Model Laws in the domestication process;
5. Carry out a legal audit of the respective national laws for conformity with the Pact and Protocols and direct the ICGLR Secretariat to support the Member States in this exercise;
6. Commit to provide to ICGLR Secretariat half yearly reports on the progress made at national level on implementation of the domestication roadmap;
7. Commit to submit half yearly reports to the ICGLR Secretariat on measures put in place to strengthen the Judicial Cooperation specifically in the area of extradition of fugitives or accused persons and mutual enforcement of Justice;
8. Promote Mutual Legal Assistance in order to combat transnational crimes specifically terrorism in the Great Lakes Region;
9. Provide budgetary and logistical support for the implementation of the national action plans;
10. Direct the ICGLR Secretariat to draft Model laws of the remaining Protocols;
11. Commit to meet annually to evaluate the legal implementation of the Pact, the domestication process of the Protocols, the judicial cooperation and mutual legal assistance among Member States;



12. Bring the Declaration of the Ministers of Justice to the attention of the next ordinary Summit.

The meeting appreciated the offer of the Republic of Uganda to host the next meeting of Ministers of Justice at a date to be agreed with the ICGLR Secretariat.

The meeting expressed its profound gratitude to the Government and the people of the Republic of Zambia for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to all delegations.

Done in Livingstone, Zambia, on 26 August 2015

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Antonio Bento Bembe", written over a horizontal dashed line.

Hon. Antonio Bento Bembe
Minister of State for Human Rights of the Republic of Angola and
Chairman of the Meeting