



Regional Experts and Stakeholders Consultations on Natural Resources and Good Governance for Sustainable Peace, Development and Transformation of the Great Lakes Region

Co-organized by ICGLR and O/SESG-GL

5-6 July 2017, Nairobi, Kenya
Safari Park Hotel

Concept note

Summary

A two-day experts and stakeholders' consultation meeting co-organized by the ICGLR and O/SESG will take place in Nairobi from 5th to 6th July 2017. The meeting will be in two segments. The first day will focus on overall brief on the progress of implementation of the Regional Initiative on Natural Resources (RINR) and will identify areas of specific challenges and ways to support the full implementation of the RINR and also focus on guidelines and legal initiatives towards combating illegal exploitation of natural resources in the Great Lakes Region. The second segment will seek to identify the illegal exploitation activities by negative forces in the GLR and the criminal networks that facilitate the illegal exploitation and trade within and outside the region.

The outcome of the consultations will be submitted to the ICGLR Regional Committee on Natural Resources and ICGLR National Coordinators for purposes of technical analysis and further guidance.

The consultation is in line with the request, made on 20th July 2016 in Nairobi, Kenya, by Defence Ministers from ICGLR and SADC Member States to the Executive Secretary of the ICGLR and the UN Special Envoy 'to convene a dedicated meeting on the issue of illegal exploitation and trade of natural resources.' The recommendation was endorsed by the Seventh High-Level Meeting of the Regional Oversight Mechanism (ROM) of the Peace and Security and Cooperation (PSC) Framework on 26th October 2016 in Luanda, Angola.

Objectives

1. Share updates and challenges on implementation of the ICGLR Regional Initiative on Natural Resources and other strategies aimed at combating the illegal exploitation of natural resources in the Great Lakes Region in general and in eastern DRC, in particular.
2. Assess collaboration and coordination trends or lapses, identify opportunities, and risks, and make concrete recommendations on collaboration and coordination in order to reinforce the implementation of the ICGLR Regional Initiative on Natural Resources; and
3. Assess how ICGLR and O/SESG and especially the Executive Secretary and the Special Envoy can facilitate and coordinate stakeholders' efforts and add value at political, regional and international contexts.

Outcomes

1. Report on strategies and recommendations aimed at implementation of the Regional Initiative on Natural Resources in order to combat the illegal exploitation of natural resources in the Great Lakes Region with special attention to eastern DRC with concrete recommendations on collaboration and coordination.
2. Initial mapping of forms, size and consequences of international crime, sustained by the illegal production and trade of natural resources and its links to non-state armed forces in eastern DRC;
3. Assessment and tracking of ways to undercut the financial sources of the negative forces in eastern DRC and the region.
4. Recommendations for regional cooperation of stakeholders' efforts facilitated and coordinated by ICGLR and O/SESG.

Draft Programme
(Under Chatham House Rule)

DAY 1	
5 July 2017	
08:30 – 09:00	Arrival and Registration of Participants
09:00 – 09:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcome remarks by the ICGLR National Coordinator in Kenya - Welcome Remarks by Ambassador Said Djinnit, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region - Remarks by Remarks by Ambassador Stefano Dejak, EU Head of Delegation, Kenya - Remarks by Mr. Maman Sidikou, SRS/SG/MONUSCO - Remarks by Ambassador Zachary Muburi-Muita, Executive Secretary, International Conference on the Great Lakes Region - Remarks by Hon. Dan Kazungu, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Mining of the Republic of Kenya - Opening Statement by H.E. Pierre Kangudia Mbayi, Minister of State in charge of Budget of the Democratic Republic of Congo and Guest of Honour
09:45 – 10:15	PHOTO
10:15 – 13:00	<p>Panel Discussion: Ongoing implementation of ICGLR Regional Initiative on Natural Resources to combat the illegal exploitation of natural resources in the Great Lakes Region</p> <p>Discussion</p>
13:00 – 14:30	LUNCH BREAK
14:30 – 16:30	<p>Panel discussion: Partners' perspectives on ongoing implementation of ICGLR Regional Initiative on Natural Resources to combat the illegal exploitation of natural resources in the Great Lakes Region</p> <p>Discussion</p>
16:30 – 17:00	BREAK
17:00 – 18:00	Summary of salient issues from Day 1 sessions
END OF DAY ONE	

DAY 2		6 July 2017	
09:00 – 09:15	- Remarks by Erik Solheim, UN Environment Executive Director - Summary of Day 1 and Presentation of the objectives - Moderators		
09:15 – 11:00	Discussions in break-out groups - Following up on UN (and other) sanctions - Detecting and addressing illicit trade and financing (e.g., gold and charcoal) - Undercutting financial resources of negative forces - Fiscal harmonization		
11:00 – 11:30	BREAK		
11:30 – 13:00	Information sharing on regional projects and activities related to: - sustainable gold and charcoal production - cross-border cooperation in the Virunga park (and other bordering areas) - tracking criminal networks, smuggling and illicit financial flows		
13:00 – 14:30	LUNCH BREAK		
14:30 – 16:00	Donor and stakeholder coordination: Information sharing on partners' objectives, as well as ongoing projects and outcomes		
16:00 – 16:30	BREAK		
16:30 – 17:45	Presentation and adoption of the recommendations		
Closing Ceremony			
17:45 – 18:00	- Remarks by the ICGLR National Coordinator in Kenya - Remarks by Ambassador Said Djinnit, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region - Remarks by Ambassador Zachary Muburi-Muita, Executive Secretary, International Conference on the Great Lakes Region - Closing Statement by Hon. Dan Kazungu, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Mining and Guest of Honour.		
END OF MEETING			