

# INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE GREAT LAKES REGION CONFÉRENCE INTERNATIONALE SUR LA RÉGION DES GRANDS LACS

LEVY MWANAWASA REGIONAL  
CENTRE FOR DEMOCRACY AND GOOD  
GOVERNANCE



CENTRE RÉGIONAL LEVY MWANAWASA  
POUR LA DÉMOCRATIE ET LA BONNE  
GOUVERNANCE

## CAPACITY BUILDING BULLETIN N°2 - MAY 2015

### Editorial by the Executive Director

I am pleased to present this issue of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR)'s Levy Mwanawasa Regional Centre for Democracy and Good Governance (LMRC) **Capacity Building Bulletin**.

This is an important tool for the LMRC because it will strengthen implementation of its mission which is “to reinforce the capacities of social and political institutions of ICGLR Member States in the areas of Democracy, Good Governance, Human Rights and Civic Education”. The objective of the *Bulletin* is to facilitate better sharing of information, knowledge and experiences generated or compiled by the Centre on Capacity Building.

Indeed, the ICGLR Levy Mwanawasa Regional Centre is a Regional *Think Tank* established by the Heads of State and Government of ICGLR Member States (namely Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Kenya, Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of Congo, Rwanda, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia) in the *Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region* adopted on 15th December 2006. With its operationalisation in 2011, the LMRC is the scientific and technical body of the ICGLR. Its main intervention cover five areas which complement each other. These are Operational Research and Analysis to inform policy making processes; Training and Capacity Building for Strengthening Governance Processes; Supporting Implementation of ICGLR Pact and Protocols through Monitoring and Evaluation; Facilitating multi-actor Dialogue on Governance Reform Agenda in order to build Consensus on key policy Issues; and Establishing an information Hub on Democracy, Good Governance and Human Rights.

This issue of the *Bulletin* focuses on the launching of the ICGLR Peer Learning Platform on the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) which took place during an Event and Workshop organised in Lusaka, Zambia, from 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> April 2015 with the support of ICGLR – GIZ Programme. This was an important event as the EITI is one of the six tools of the Regional Initiative on Natural Resources (RINR) adopted by the ICGLR Special Summit of Heads of State and Government in Lusaka, on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2010, in order to implement the Protocol against illegal exploitation of Natural Resources which is one of the ten Protocols contained in the *Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region*. The three day workshop gave opportunity to the stakeholders from ICGLR Member States and representing Governments, Civil Society Organisations and Chambers of Mines for dialogue and debate on critical issues regarding the implementation of the EITI in the governance of natural resources in the Region. We thank all participants for their relevant contributions through sharing respective experiences and lessons learned as well as ICGLR – GIZ Programme for its support.

Lastly, I would like to let our esteemed readers know that all contributions to Capacity Building issues are welcome and that the LMRC will facilitate disseminate those valued contributions to all key stakeholders through this *Bulletin*.

Frank Okuthe, PhD  
Executive Director

### In this Issue:

#### Launching of ICGLR Peer-Learning Platform on Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI):

1. **High Expectations of the Regional Peer Learning Platform on EITI**
2. **A dynamic two day Peer Learning Workshop on EITI**
3. **Commitments to advocate for accelerated implementation of the EITI and the RINR**



## Launching of the ICGLR Peer-Learning Platform on Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI)

The International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR)'s Levy Mwanawasa Regional Centre for Democracy and Good Governance launched the *ICGLR Peer-Learning Platform on Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (EITI) in the Great Lakes Region* during a three day Event and Workshop organised in Lusaka, Zambia, from 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2015, at Radisson Blu Hotel, with support of ICGLR-GIZ Programme. The sixty two participants were from ICGLR Member States comprising of representatives of Governments, Civil Society Organisations and Private Sector mainly the Chambers of Mines as well as from the Conference Secretariat and Cooperating Partners.



*Group Photo: Participants at the Launching of the ICGLR Peer-Learning Platform on EITI with the Guest of Honour, Permanent Secretary in the Zambian Ministry of Mines, Energy and Water Development, Mr. Paul Chanda, on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2015.*

The main objective of the Regional Peer-Learning Platform is to encourage ICGLR Member States to share experiences and to become EITI implementing countries. Indeed, the EITI is one of the six tools of the Regional Initiative on Natural Resources (RINR) adopted by the ICGLR Special Summit of Heads of State and Government in Lusaka, on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2010, in order to implement the Protocol against illegal exploitation of Natural Resources which is one of the ten Protocols contained in the *Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region* signed in 2006. In this perspective, the launching of the Peer-Learning Platform provided the opportunity to bring together key stakeholders in the area of natural resources governance to deliberate and share good practices and advance efforts in promoting transparency and accountability of Extractive Industries in the Great Lakes Region.

### 1. High Expectations of the Regional Peer-Learning Platform on EITI

The Opening Ceremony was honoured by Mr. Paul Chanda, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Mines, Energy and Water Development representing the Zambian Government. In his official opening speech, he commended the ICGLR- Levy Mwanawasa Regional Centre (LMRC) for organising the Peer-Learning Event and Workshop on EITI in the Great Lakes Region which was a key step in assessing progress made in implementing the RINR five years after its adoption by ICGLR Lusaka Special Summit. In his opening speech, Ambassador Vicente Muanda, the ICGLR Deputy Executive Secretary, shared expectations of the Conference Secretariat regarding the Peer-Learning Platform and encouraged all ICGLR Member States to accelerate the implementation of not only the EITI but also the RINR as a whole as all the six tools are key if the general populace of the Great Lakes Region are to benefit from the abundant natural resources.

The representative of the German Development Cooperation, Dr Frank Hofmann, Counsellor and Head of Development Cooperation at the German Embassy in Zambia, emphasised that good governance of extractive industries was key for the transformation of natural assets such as minerals, oil and gas into sustainable development, creation of jobs and alleviation of poverty. Participants were welcomed by the host, the Levy Mwanawasa Regional Centre's Executive Director, Dr. Frank Okuthe, who indicated that the Event and Workshop would contribute in promoting evidence based policies for governance agenda. Earlier, the participants were also welcomed by the ICGLR National Coordinator in Zambia, Lt. Gen. Solomon Mumbi.

A High Level Panel Discussion under the theme "Transparency and Accountability in the Extractive Industries: a factor for Peace and Economic Development in the Great Lakes Region" kicked off the Peer-Learning Event on EITI on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2015. The Panellists, from Zambia and the Region, analysed different dimensions of the above topic and shared challenges for effective implementation of transparency and accountability in the Extractive Industries as well as in the whole management of natural resources in the Great Lakes Region. The active participation of the audience during the plenary discussion illustrated interest and relevancy of the theme.





*Photo: Panellists at the High Level Panel Discussion with the Moderator, Executive Director of LMRC, Dr. Frank Okuthe (3<sup>rd</sup> from right).*

## 2. A Dynamic Two Day Peer-Learning Workshop on EITI

The two day Peer-Learning Workshop on EITI on 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> April 2015 began with a presentation of research findings on the “Status and Challenges of Implementation of the EITI in ICGLR Member States” which enabled participants to share experiences guided by the following topics identified in the Report as key challenges:

- Contribution of EITI in strengthening transparency and accountability on natural resources governance;
- Setting up of National Legal Frameworks enabling EITI implementation;
- Modes of collaboration among members of Multi-Stakeholders Groups (MSGs);
- Development of technical skills for analysing EITI reports and figures;
- Integrating Artisanal Small Mining (ASM) into EITI;
- Adoption of EITI and management of “confidentiality clauses” included in the contracts with mining companies.

Based on shared experiences and challenges, delegates from ICGLR Member States identified policy options to accelerate the implementation of EITI, the fifth tool of the RINR and the other five tools in general namely, the Regional Certification Mechanism, Harmonisation of National Legislations, Regional Database on Mineral flows, Formalisation, and Whistle-Blowing Mechanism.

## 3. Commitments to Advocate for Accelerated Implementation of the EITI and the RINR

After the two days of active debate and sharing of experiences on lessons learned and strategic options to overcome challenges in implementing EITI, the Peer-Learning Workshop was concluded with presentation of Certificates of participation to Delegates by the Guest of Honour, the Director of Mines Mr. Mooya Lumumba representing the Ministry of Mines, Energy and Water Development. All participants committed to advocate for accelerated implementation of EITI in particular and the RINR in their respective countries and the region as a whole.



*Photo: Amb. Vicente Muanda, ICGLR Deputy ES (right) receiving a Certificate of Participation from the Guest of Honour, Mr. Mooya Lumumba (center) Director in the Ministry of Mines, Energy and Water Development while Dr. Frank Okuthe, the Executive Director of LMRC (far left) looks on.*

The Zambian Government, as Host of the Event and as an implementer of the EITI, committed to contribute actively in implementation of the EITI in the Region by collaborating with the ICGLR Levy Mwanawasa Regional Centre (LMRC) in operationalising the Peer-Learning Platform through sharing of best practices. The ICGLR Conference Secretariat encouraged GIZ and other partners to support the Peer-Learning Platform on EITI in the Region.

The Conference Secretariat also emphasised the need for all Member States to remain committed and to accelerate the implementation of the six tools of the RINR as decided by the 5<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Summit of ICGLR Heads of State and Government held in Luanda, Angola, on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2014.

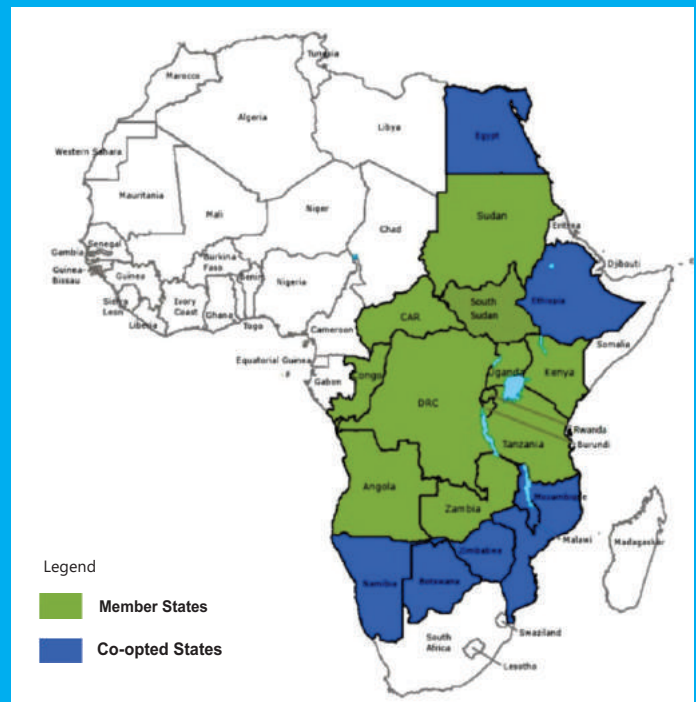


The German Cooperation through GIZ renewed its commitment to supporting the Regional Peer-Learning Platform on EITI in close collaboration with the ICGLR Levy Mwanawasa Regional Centre for Democracy and Good Governance. The latter expressed its readiness to continue providing a Platform for key stakeholders to debate and share substantive experiences that would accelerate the implementation of the RINR and in particular the EITI in order to contribute towards achieving socio-economic development in the Great Lakes Region as well as capacity building of key social and political institutions.

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