



**Statement by Amb Yasir I.A Mohammed Deputy Executive
Secretary of ICGLR on behalf of the Guarantors at the
Closing Session of the Launching Seminar of the Contact
and Coordination Group**

6th May 2021

Honorable Minister

Honorable Representative of the National Oversight Mechanism

Honorable Representative of the African Union

**Honorable Representative of UN Special Envoy for the Great Lakes
Region**

Honorable Heads of delegations of Signatory States

Dear Participants

Ladies and Gentlemen

All protocols observed

It gives me great pleasure to address you today on behalf of the Guarantors (the UN, the African Union, ICGLR, and SADC) at this closing session of the launching Seminar of the Contact and Coordination Group.

I would like first of all to express thanks and appreciation to the Government and people of the Democratic Republic of Congo for

hosting this important Seminar and providing all facilities needed to ensure its success.

Ladies and Gentlemen

As you know the need to establish the CCG emerged from the agreement among the Chiefs of Intelligence and Security Services in GLR that military pressure alone would not achieve needed results in the area of consolidation of peace and stability, and that there is a need for a comprehensive approach to deal with peace issues; therefore, it was recommended that military pressure be strengthened and complemented with non-military measures to put an end to activities of negative forces in the Great Lakes Region. It worth mentioning that the operationalization of the CCG had been recommended by the meeting of the ICGLR Committee of Ministers of the Defense on 14th October 2020 and endorsed by the 8th ICGLR summit held on 20th November 2020

This Seminar is a great achievement in the context of the efforts exerted by the signatory States, and the Guarantors namely (OSES, AU, ICGLR and SADC) to address issues of conflicts and consolidation of peace and stability in the Great Lakes region through concerted and coordinated efforts of military and non-military institutions.

I would like to applaud the fruitful discussions and deliberations witnessed during this Seminar and the effective participation of both signatory states and partners in this extremely important effort in our

path towards achieving lasting peace and stability in the Great Lakes region.

Through this Seminar we managed to put in place a work method of the CCG; and to develop and adopt an action plan for the CCG. That was done after effective discussion and consultations on the best ways and means to operationalize the CCG and make it effective and pertinent to the needs of our region and population.

What is needed now is to continue our efforts with the same spirit and follow up the implementations of the action plan and the steps agreed upon during this Seminar. We also need to: consolidate our efforts, promote our coordination and join efforts to reach our supreme goal of having lasting peace and stability in GLR.

I would like to assure you that the guarantors will continue their efforts to support the consolidation of peace and stability in the Great Lakes Region and will join hands with regional and international organizations and institutions to reach lasting peace and stability in the Great Lakes Region

Finally, I would like to thank you all and wish you all the best.

Best regards