

AFRICAN UNION
الاتحاد الأفريقي



UNION AFRICAINE
UNIÃO AFRICANA

OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL ENVOY ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY OF THE
CHAIRPERSON OF THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION

**10TH MEETING OF THE ADVISORY BOARD OF THE WOMEN'S PLATFORM OF
THE PEACE, SECURITY AND COOPERATION FRAMEWORK FOR THE GREAT
LAKES REGION**

NAIROBI, KENYA 13 FEBRUARY 2018

(Read on behalf of Mme Diop by Dr. Butera)

**Your Excellency Mme Catherine Samba- Panza, Former President
of the Central Africa Republic and Co-Chair of FemWise**

**Your Excellency Madame Chantal Safou Lopito, Minister for Gender,
Children and Family of the Democratic Republics of Congo (DRC)
and Chair of AU STC on Gender**

**Honorable Minister Awut Deng Acuil, Minister of Gender, Child and
Social Welfare of the Republic of South Sudan,**

**Honorable Minister Gisele Pana, Minister of Women, Family and
Protection of children,**

**Your Excellence Ambassador Said Djinnit, Special Representative of
the Secretary General for the Great Lakes Region**

Ambassador Eliane Mokodopo, ICGLR Representative,

Honorable Members of the Women Platform Advisory Board,

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen

All protocol observed,

Good morning

I am here to represent Her Excellency Mme Bineta Diop, Special Envoy of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission on Women, Peace and Security who, as HE SRGS Ambassador Said Djinnit said, had confirmed her participation at this 10th meeting of the Advisory Board but was required to stay in Addis Ababa for reasons beyond her control that were explained by His Excellency Ambassador Djinnit,

She requested me to deliver the following remarks and I quote:

.....

Excellences, Ladies and Gentlemen,

First of all, allow me to bring you greetings from HE Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson of the African Union Commission who has requested me to convey his best wishes for successful deliberations of the Advisory Board.

I wish to thank Amb Djinnit for convening this 10th meeting of the Advisory Board of the Women Platform for the Peace, Security and Coordination Framework in the Great Lakes Region and for his continued dedication to the advancement of the women rights in the region.

Since we met here last year, we saw, under your leadership, concrete actions by the Platform, including the solidarity missions to Burundi, Central Africa Republic, DR Congo and participation in the Joint UN-AU Mission in South Sudan. I am happy that we will be examining the

outcomes of these missions and explore how best to work together to support women in the visited countries in their endeavors to play a significant role in finding solutions to issues that continue to cause suffering, violence and deprivation on women, children and community at large in the affected countries.

Slow implementation of our commitments remains a considerable barrier to the achievements that are set, being at global, continental or national levels. This is the reason why my office worked with Member States and Regional Economic Communities and Mechanisms, as well as umbrella civil society organizations to develop the Continental Results Framework for monitoring and Reporting on the Implementation of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda in Africa that was adopted by the Au Peace and Security council and launched on the margins of the just concluded 32nd Second Assembly of the Union

At this juncture, I wish to salute the ICGLR for adopting the Regional Action Plan in Kampala in November 2018 and to reiterate our readiness to work in partnership with ICGLR to enhance delivery on WPS in the region, as recommended by the High-Level Meeting of Ministers of Gender in Entebbe in November 2018 who agreed to adopt the AU CRF as monitoring framework. This will build on actions that we have already undertaken, including a consultative meeting with the East Africa Community and the ICGLR in Arusha in November last year and we will continue to engage with the two institutions and the United Nations, through UN Women and your office for concerted actions in support of Great Lakes Member States.

Excellencies. Ladies and Gentlemen,

I learned that Ambassador Djinnit will be ending soon his tour of duty as United Nations Secretary General Special Representative in the Great Lakes Region. I wish to take this opportunity to thank you for your immense contribution to the promotion of the women agenda in the Great Lakes Region. You solidly built on the work of your predecessor HE Mary Robinson and continued to advance the agenda with determination and we see the results, including the catalytic support in the adoption of the Regional Action Plan on WPS.

For all those and your support that goes many years back, please allow me to present you with this little token of appreciation.

Thank you for your kind attention

END OF QUOTE