The Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes region, Mr. Said Djinnit, convened a coordination meeting on 22 January 2018 with UN Resident Coordinators and Regional Directors to review political, security, and humanitarian developments in the region and their implications for a more sustainable peaceful future. The meeting was held in Kinshasa, DRC.

Mr. Djinnit, who is also the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Women, Peace, and Security, highlighted continuing challenges, including an increase in violence and insecurity, that have contributed to the worsening humanitarian crisis in the region. He underscored the need for a comprehensive approach to addressing these challenges, including measures to promote peace and security, support for humanitarian efforts, and assistance for those displaced by conflict.

The meeting also discussed the implementation of the Peace, Security, and Cooperation Framework for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the region, and the need for continued support for the African Union’s efforts to bring about a lasting peace in the region. The participants agreed on the importance of continued engagement with the Governments of the region, the AU, the United Nations, and other international stakeholders to advance the goals of the Framework and support the inclusive political process underway in the region.

In the context of the United Nations Security Council’s (UNSC) recent decision to renew the mandate of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) until 15 May 2019, the Secretary-General’s Special Envoy emphasized the need to continue to support the efforts of MONUSCO and other UN peacekeeping missions in the region.

The Special Envoy also underscored the importance of continuing to support the implementation of the Framework, including the efforts of the African Union-United Nations Joint Follow-up Mechanism for the Repatriation of Foreign Ex-combatants (JFFMM) and the efforts of the African Union’s Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM) in Goma.

The meeting was attended by representatives of the United Nations, the African Union, the Regional Coordination Mechanism, and other international stakeholders, including the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UN Women, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), World Food Programme (WFP), International Organization for Migration (IOM), and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).