

**TECHNICAL SUPPORT COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONAL OVERSIGHT
MECHANISM OF THE PEACE, SECURITY, COOPERATION FRAMEWORK FOR
THE DRC AND THE REGION**

**NAIROBI, KENYA,
JUNE-JULY 2013**

**OUTCOME DOCUMENT ON THE BENCHMARKS AND INDICATORS OF
PROGRESS**

1. The Technical Support Committee was established in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 26 May 2013, by the Regional Oversight Mechanism members (also known as the “11+4 Oversight Mechanism”) of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Region (thereafter referred to as the PSC Framework) to help define the benchmarks and follow-up measures for the implementation of the PSC Framework. To this end, the Special Envoy of the UN Secretary-General, Mrs. Mary Robinson, convened two meetings of the TSC, in Nairobi, Kenya, on 24 June 2013 and 22-23 July 2013, respectively, in which senior officials from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Republic of Angola, the Republic of Burundi, the Republic of the Congo, the Republic of Rwanda, the Republic of South Africa, the Republic of South Sudan, the United Republic of Tanzania, the Republic of Uganda, the Republic of Zambia and the Republic of Mozambique participated¹.
2. The meetings were co-chaired by the Special Adviser of the UN Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region, Assistant Secretary-General Mr. Modibo I. Touré, and the AU Special Representative for the Great Lakes Region, Ambassador Boubacar Gaoussou Diarra. Also in attendance were the Executive Secretary of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICLGR), Prof. Alphonse D. Ntumba Luaba, the Executive Secretary of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), Dr. Tomaz A. Salomão, as well as senior officials from the UN Department of Political Affairs, MONUSCO, ICGLR and SADC.
3. The Committee met at a difficult time for the region. The deterioration of the security environment due to recent fighting in eastern DRC, the risk of intensification of the conflict with tragic humanitarian and socio-economic consequences, particularly for women and children, the non-conclusion of the Kampala Dialogue, all bear within them the potential for a reduction of the political space and economic opportunities required for the successful implementation of the PSC Framework Agreement. This context conferred a sense of urgency to the Committee members who tried, as much as possible, to identify benchmarks which would translate the commitments under the Framework into concrete actions.

¹ The Central African Republic was suspended by the African Union. Mozambique participated as current SADC Chair.

4. Participants first took stock of gaps and challenges in the implementation of the 2006 “Pact on Security, Stability Development in the Great Lakes Region” of the ICGLR. Participants also recognized the importance of existing regional peace efforts aimed at ending the crisis in eastern DRC, including the Kampala Dialogue between the DRC Governments and M23, the Tripartite framework between the DRC, South Africa and Angola, as well as the Oyo Quadripartite process initiated by the Republic of Congo.

5. The Committee acknowledged that the PSC Framework represented a comprehensive approach to address the root causes of cycles of conflict in the Great Lakes, with a unique opportunity for collaboration between the Governments of the region and the international community. There was a consensus that the Committee should develop specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound benchmarks and indicators of progress for the implementation of the PSC Framework, with a clear indication of responsibilities.

6. In line with its mandate, the Committee focused on commitments at the regional level. The choice of regional benchmarks was also informed by the need to quickly put in place measures that could restore trust among the signatory countries of the PSC Framework and provide the pillars required for the continuation of a comprehensive political process, which is the only way of guaranteeing sustainable peace and security.

7. The Committee also laid emphasis on measures that promote justice, fight impunity, create a conducive environment for the return of refugees, further inform the responsibilities for exploration of natural resources and promote economic cooperation among states, as well as measures aimed at reinforcing states’ sovereignty. The timelines and deadlines indicated by the Committee should, as much as possible, allow for the establishment of priorities for the implementation of the benchmarks except where circumstances dictate a different approach.

8. In view of the organic links between national, regional and international commitments, which are also mutually reinforcing, and in a bid to retain the integrated and comprehensive vision and approach that underpin the PSC Framework Agreement, the Committee found it also necessary:

- a. To immerse itself in and take note of the criteria developed by the DRC in relation to national commitments, with due respect to the sovereign character of this national exercise. The Committee recognized that the DRC Government had achieved a commendable work in developing its national benchmarks and encouraged it to further continue consultations with all relevant actors.
- b. To propose follow-up benchmarks calling on the international community to honour its commitments mainly through a substantial increment of its financial and technical assistance, improved coordination and

harmonization of direct support for the implementation of the Framework Agreement.

9. The Committee recommends, that under the auspices of the UN Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region, a consultative process be initiated as soon as possible, in order to discuss the proposed benchmarks with international partners and to secure their support.
10. The Committee recognizes the need to establish close synergy and coordination with other actors involved in parallel initiatives but leading to the final implementation of the Framework Agreement, including ICGLR processes as well as the joint initiatives on "Regional approaches on development" under the auspice of the African Union Commission, the United Nations and the World Bank.
11. The implementation of the Committee's mandate, particularly in the area of monitoring and evaluation of the commitments under the PSC Framework, will require appropriate technical and financial support.
12. The Committee calls upon the Heads of States of the region and the "11+4 Oversight Mechanism" to endorse the recommendations set forth in this Document and its attached tables.

Nairobi, 26 July 2013

The Co-Chairs