



Partnerships Discussion: 21 September, 2017

The Office of the Special Envoy for the Great Lakes region (O/SESG-GL) Gender Team held a coordination meeting with the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) Senior Gender Advisor, Ambassador Eliane Mkodopo, the Vice-President of ICGLR Regional Women Forum, Ms. Lydia Kanyoro and UN Women Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office (ESARO), Regional Policy Adviser, Peace Security and Humanitarian Affairs/Governance and Leadership, Jebbeh Forster, to discuss and agree on a way forward with regards to the funding granted by the European Union (EU). The proposal is in support of regional activities that promote sustainable peace and security in the Great Lakes region in line with the PSC Framework. The EU has allocated € 1.5 million to the UN agencies for this joint initiative. The meeting agreed on the need for a greater synergy between ICGLR, O/SESG-GL, UN Women and AU in order to achieve communality of purpose. It was agreed that ICGLR, UN Women and O/SESG-GL Gender Team remain in close communication and consultation regarding the activities of the joint initiative to avoid duplication. ICGLR Regional Women Forum (RWF) representative called for the RWF General Assembly to be held as soon as possible, and political support in fast-tracking the establishment of the RWF Secretariat to facilitate efficient delivery of the RWF mandate.