

## **Report of the 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Technical Support Committee Nairobi, 10-11 September 2019**

The Technical Support Committee (TSC) of the Peace, Security and Cooperation (PSC) Framework for the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and the region held its 25<sup>th</sup> meeting on 9-10 September 2019 in Nairobi, Kenya. The meeting was co-chaired by Mr. Huang Xia, United Nations (UN) Special Envoy for the Great Lakes region, and Mr. Basile Ikouebe, African Union (AU) Special Representative for the Great Lakes region. In addition to delegates from the signatory countries of the PSC Framework, the meeting was attended by Mr. Zachary Muburi-Muita, Executive Secretary of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), and MONUSCO. Burundi, Central African Republic, Republic of Congo and South Sudan were unable to attend.

The participants discussed and agreed on the following:

### **Political and security developments in the region**

1. Reviewed the political and security developments in the region and highlighted progress made since their last meeting in Nairobi, Kenya on 16-17 July 2019, notably, in the DRC, the Central African Republic and Sudan. Further welcomed the signing of the MoU between Rwanda and Uganda on 21 August 2019 in Luanda, Angola, under the auspices of Angola and the DRC, and encouraged continued dialogue between countries of the region to further enhance trust and cooperation. Welcomed and encouraged ongoing preparations for the second meeting of the Chiefs of Intelligence and Security Services of Burundi, the DRC, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda, to be held in Tanzania on 6-8 October 2019. Noted the report provided by MONUSCO on the visit of the United Nations Secretary-General to the DRC from 31 August to 2 September 2019 and welcomed the support by the UN to the DRC Government in the efforts to advance peace and stability in the country.

### **Preparations for the 10<sup>th</sup> Summit of the Regional Oversight Mechanism (ROM)**

2. Noted the information received regarding the postponement of the 10<sup>th</sup> ROM Summit. Encouraged consultations to ensure that a suitable date for the Summit is agreed upon and announced as soon as possible. Agreed to convene the 26<sup>th</sup> TSC meeting ahead of the Summit, so as to ensure adequate preparation and finalization of all necessary arrangements for a successful Summit.

### **Presentation by Great Lakes women, youth and civil society fora**

3. Took note of the presentation by representatives of civil society on the conclusions and recommendations emanating from the consultative meeting of the regional women and civil society organizations in Nairobi, Kenya on 7-8 September to promote the role of women, youth and civil society in the implementation of the ICGLR Pact and the PSC Framework. The meeting

was also aimed to strengthen representation and participation of women and youth in decision-making bodies and processes, and to ensure protection as well as the prevention of violence against women in the Great Lakes region. TSC participants agreed that the recommendations from the civil society consultations should be presented to the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and the Heads of State at the forthcoming ROM Summit.

### **Second progress report on the implementation of the PSC Framework**

4. Expressed appreciation for the preparation and presentation by the consultant, Ms. Stephanie Wolters, of the draft second progress report. Reviewed its methodology and structure and provided recommendations and guidance. Underlined that the report should provide a realistic assessment of progress in the implementation of the PSC Framework taking into account the full ownership of the report by the TSC and the Ministers of Foreign Affairs prior to presentation to the ROM. In this regard, highlighted the importance of ensuring the report included the perspectives of all signatory countries. Agreed that Member States should submit written inputs and feedback at their earliest convenience to the Secretariat, which would allow for its consolidation and validation ahead of and during the next TSC meeting.

### **Next meeting of the TSC and vote of thanks**

5. Agreed that the next meeting would tentatively take place in November in Nairobi, Kenya at a date to be communicated following confirmation of the date of the 10<sup>th</sup> ROM Summit.
6. Expressed appreciation to the UN Special Envoy and the AU Special Representative for convening the 25<sup>th</sup> meeting of the TSC.