



OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL ENVOY FOR THE GREAT LAKES REGION



THE SECURITY COUNCIL'S PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT ON THE GREAT LAKES REGION



Kenya's Permanent Representative to the UN, Martin Kimani, presiding over the Security Council, 20 Oct. 2021 (Photo: UN)

At the conclusion of the high-level meeting on 20 October 2021, the Security Council issued a Presidential Statement [S/PRST/2021/19], in which the 15-member organ urged signatory countries of the PSC Framework as well as regional organizations and the international community to coordinate their efforts to undercut the economic lifelines of armed groups that benefit from the illegal exploitation and trade in natural resources.

The Security Council also stressed that there was no purely military solution to the threat posed by armed groups. An integrated and regional approach by Governments in the region was needed, with the support of Special Envoy Xia and the UN peacekeeping mission in the DRC.

The Security Council further reiterated its full support to Special Envoy Xia and highlighted the importance of coordinated efforts and shared information between the Office of the Special Envoy and other UN entities in the region. Ownership and political will by the signatory countries of the PSC



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Framework were identified as additional prerequisites for an effective response, including in the context of the UN regional Strategy.