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### ICGLR Conference Secretariat and its Decentralised Organs hold a Planning Workshop for 2018

The ICGLR Conference Secretariat and its decentralised organs, namely the Levy Mwanawasa Regional Centre for Democracy and Good Governance (LMRC), the Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre (JIFC) and the Regional Training Facility (RTF) on Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence in the Great Lakes Region held a Planning Workshop with support from GIZ from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2018 in Bujumbura, Burundi. The LMRC was represented by its Executive Director, Dr. Frank Okuthe and the Head of Fora and Observatories, Dr. Chantal Niyokindi.

The main objective of the workshop was to harmonise and strengthen synergy between the Conference Secretariat and the decentralised organs by coming up with a realistic 2018 Work Plan in line with the 2014 - 2018 Strategic Plan. Thus, the meeting began by reviewing the implementation of the 2017 Work Plan to which participants presented key achievements, challenges and lessons learnt.

This was followed by a discussion on priority areas for 2018. After in-depth analysis, participants agreed on the following pillars and objectives.

#### Pillar 1: Democracy and Inclusive Governance:

- Taking leadership in conflict resolution in Member States: South Sudan, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo and Burundi.
- Elective institutions are more inclusive.
- Domestication of priority ICGLR Protocols and other related international instruments.
- Improved electoral processes in Member States.



*ICGLR’s Executive Secretary, Amb. Zachary Muburi-Muita presenting his opening speech.*

#### Pillar 2: Natural Resource Governance:

- Increased positioning of the Regional Initiative on Natural Resources (RINR) both regionally and internationally.
- Increased technical support to Member States.
- HR, Gender mainstreaming and gender tools.

#### Pillar 3: Peace, Security, Post - Conflict Reconstruction:

- Efficient addressing of root causes of extremism and violent conflicts in the Great Lakes Region.
- Repatriation: M23, FDLR and SPLA/IO.
- Regional Counter Terrorism Strategy.
- Significant reduction of Sexual Gender Based Violence (SGBV) especially in DRC, Burundi, South Sudan and CAR.
- Pilot ICGLR Strategy on rebuilding post-conflict economies in Burundi.

#### Pillar 4: Institutional Efficiency and Effectiveness:

- Enhance ICGLR Visibility and improve its image.
- Organisational Development.
- Financial Management.
- Financial Sustainability.

The LMRC activities planned for 2018 contribute to all priorities of the ICGLR Conference Secretariat.

## Upcoming Events: April - June 2018

- Executive Committee Meeting of the ICGLR Regional Youth Forum, 26<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2018. Nairobi, Kenya.
- Child Protection Course, IPSTC, 7<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> May 2018, Nairobi, Kenya.
- The Eastern Africa Resilience Innovation Hub Seminar on Elasticity of Democracy, 22<sup>nd</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 2018, Nairobi, Kenya.
- Meeting of ICGLR National Coordinators, 1<sup>st</sup>- 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 2018. Kinshasa, DRC.

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*ICGLR Planning Workshop on 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2018, Bujumbura, Burundi.*

### Preparation for the Launching of the “Displaced Persons and Border Communities Project”

The ICGLR Conference Secretariat and its scientific and technical organ, the Levy Mwanawasa Regional Centre for Democracy and Good Governance (LMRC) with support from the World Bank held a meeting to prepare for the launch of the “Displaced Persons and Border Communities Project” on 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2018 in Bujumbura, Burundi.

The Project Partners discussed the commencement of the recruitment of key staff for the project coordination Unit. They also validated the work plan and budget for the first six months. Furthermore, partners established the Project Advisory Group.

The main objective of the “Displaced Persons and Border Communities Project” is to support regional learning on development responses to forced displacement which is one key challenge in the Great Lakes Region.

The project has three main components, namely Regional Learning, Regional Research and Project Management and Institutional Capacity Building.

The LMRC will lead the implementation of the Research component of the project that aims to document experiences and lessons learnt to inform policy making processes in the Region.

### LMRC contributes to the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Advisory Board of the Women’s Platform for Peace, Security and Cooperation (PSC) Framework for the DRC and the region

The 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Advisory Board of the Women’s Platform for Peace, Security and Cooperation (PSC) Framework for the DRC and the region was held on 22 February, 2018 in Nairobi, Kenya. The meeting was organised by the Office of the Special Envoy of the UN Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region. The LMRC was represented by Dr. Chantal Niyokindi, Head of Fora and Observatories Department.

The meeting reviewed strategies implemented to date to promote Women, Peace and Security (WPS) objectives in the Great Lakes Region, including the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) and the UN Declaration of Goma.

The meeting also reflected on how best stakeholders can collectively further support the empowerment initiatives of local populations involved in cross-border economic activities and the strengthening of confidence.