



THE GREAT REGION



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MEMORABLE
RTF ACTIVITIES
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REGIONAL TRAINING FACILITY

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High level regional meet on SGBV opens

12 COUNTRIES CONVERGE IN UGANDA TO DISCUSS SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE



Uganda's First Lady, Janet K. Museveni with other delegates at the 2011 summit at Munyonyo, Kampala.

The International Conference of the Great Lakes High Level meeting of Ministers of Gender, Judicial officers, Parliamentarians, National Coordinators, its Centres and Fora on Strategies for Implementation of the organisations' Instruments on Sexual and Gender Based Violence opens in Kampala, Uganda on December 1 till

3rd 2017. The highly-billed conference is being held at Munyonyo Commonwealth Resort Hotel, Kampala.

The conference is expected to be opened by Uganda's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hon. Sam Kutesa in the Morning of 1st December 2017 where there will be a key note address with a rejoinder from francophone perspective on strategies that will set the stage

for the rest of the proceedings.

There will be a grand opening of the RTF in the afternoon of 1st December 2017, just a few meters from the conference venue. The Guest of Honour for the opening is expected to be the First lady of Uganda and the Minister in Charge of Education and Sports, Hon. Janet K Museveni.

The Ugandan First Lady was very central in the drafting of

the Kampala Declaration and Resolution 18 of the Kampala Declaration which was her personal recommendation adopted by the summit. The mode of operation will be presentations from experts with thematic sessions as per the programme.

TURN TO PAGE 2



Facts about gender based violence

KEY PHRASE — All acts against a woman are not gender-based violence, or that all victims of gender-based violence are female. The surrounding circumstances where men are victim of sexual violence could be a man being harassed, beaten or killed.

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Over 500 officers train

HIGHLIGHTS —There will also be a session on general trends in implementing the ICGLR instruments: progress, challenges and recommendations-as seen from the ICGLR secretariat and the Regional civil society forum.

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FROM THE EDITOR...

Big strides for Regional Training Facility

It has been a monumental feat for the Great Lakes Region since its birth, not only to survive, but also find relevance to the people in the region but its affiliated organisations as well

With the Regional Training Facility (RTF) making three years since its inception, there are emerging success stories. For an organisation to be able to survive only at the mercy of development and cooperation partners, with almost all its staff working as volunteers and interns, and yet delivers on its mandate, is beyond imagination.

It is prudent to point out that RTF survived largely because of good will from the member states of International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), local and international partners, and unparalleled commitment by the staff at its secretariat in Kampala.

However, these achievements, despite the financial and human resource handicaps, should not be taken for granted. There is need to equip the facility while working

with ICGLR's national coordination mechanisms and national coordinators to work effectively and efficiently on its SGBV mandate.

There is also need to focus more on the justice sector as the key driver for change in Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) prevention and punishment, as enshrined in the respective protocol, while mechanisms are put in place to reduce stigma and empower current and future survivors to speak out and seek justice from the established mechanisms, such as special courts.

The commitment by the regional Member States to tackle the problem of SGBV in the Great Lakes Region offers an important test and pointer that home-grown solutions can deliver as we have witnessed.

Much as SGBV may not be compared to conventional warfare, it is a matter that requires sustained attention for it to be eradicated, because it adversely affects the human race. The ICGLR, having emerged in the late 1990s out of the war in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), is now mature and up to the task – as the world has so far witnessed. With formal structures established such as RTF, from the national to the regional level, the future of the region is brighter.

For instance, as opposed to the period before ICGLR, no external intervention in any matter can be undertaken without knocking on the doors of the leadership of the Conference Member States.

Originally, formed to forge a common security platform for the region, ICGLR has developed into a formal institutional structure, with meetings held at the heads of state and government level every two years; a forum for regional ministers who take executive decisions; national coordinators and national-level coordination mechanisms; and an executive secretariat headquartered in Burundi. These elements are meant to support the effective implementation of the decisions from the ICGLR summit, but most importantly to follow-up and advance the 2006 ICGLR Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region which we are here to witness today.



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Meeting of Ministers of Defence of the ICGLR Member States, Brazzaville, Republic of Congo

High level regional meet on SGBV opens in Kampala

THE PROGRAMME OF THE CONFERENCE IN BRIEF

FROM PAGE 1

Day 1. Will be the official opening ceremony. Key note addresses, and a session on “Fighting Sexual Violence in Conflict Situations-Obligation to eradicate illegal armed groups and negative forces in the region”. This will be a session of UN, AU and ICGLR commanders in conflict zones. There will also be a session on general trends in implementing the ICGLR instruments: progress, challenges and recommendations-as seen from the ICGLR secretariat and the Regional civil society forum. The afternoon of Day 1 will be the opening of the Regional Training Facility offices.

Day 2. Will cover sessions on Domestication of ICGLR instruments and standard setting from multi-dimensional perspectives. The participants will benefit from inputs of parliamentarians, national coordinators and ministers and other stakeholders. It will be an opportunity to examine the richness within ICGLR instruments and framework to combat the crime of sexual violence.

On the same day, there will be more three sessions namely: on experiences of translation international and regional instruments to enforceable

national laws and effective policies against SGBV”; “collaboration among CSOs, Judicial and Penal Institutions in addressing and enhancing justice for SGBV” and “Feasibility of having Special Courts or Special court Sessions and special court procedures on SGBV”.

In these sessions, a combination expertise from Honourable Chief Justices, judges, prosecutors, law enforcers and heads of police and prisons plus input from civil society is expected to give the best options to fight impunity in SGBV crimes as they debate options and learn best practices from different jurisdictions. The sessions will also include an extensive look at human trafficking as a form of sexual violence and its emerging manifestations in refuges, IDPs camps and the host communities.

Day 3. It is the last day where there will be a briefing on the vision of ICGLR-RTF in its training programmes from regional to national levels. There will be discussion on mobilising resources with member states and partners to support the ICGLR-RTF programmes. There will also be group discussions on conclusions as per the themes and special sessions for Ministers of gender, parliamentarian and civil society on follow up actions.

Each session shall have a

SEXUAL AND GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

The ICGLR has a Protocol on Prevention and Suppression of Sexual and Gender Based Violence which together with the ICGLR Pact was signed and ratified by all ICGLR Member States.

rapporteur for ease of reporting to support overall rapporteur.

The Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region commits member states of ICGLR to prevent, criminalise and punish acts of sexual violence in both times of peace and times of war (article 11).

Furthermore, the ICGLR has a Protocol on Prevention and Suppression of Sexual and Gender Based Violence which together with the ICGLR Pact was signed and ratified by all ICGLR Member States.

Among others, the Protocol calls for its domestication and the role of parliamentarians is crucial in this regard. The Protocol also establishes the Regional Training Facility on Prevention of sexual violence with the mandate to train and sensitize judicial officers, police officers, social workers, medical officers and all those individual that handle cases of sexual violence in the ICGLR member states.

This facility has been functioning for three years now and trained over 450 professional stakeholders on how effectively to handle cases of sexual violence. It has also been able to acquire a permanent home, thanks to the financial support of the Government of the Netherlands through the NICHE project.

February 28, 2013. The RIMC approved the establishment of the Regional Training Facility in Uganda.

What is Regional Training Facility?

Africa's Great Lakes region had been enveloped in armed and civil conflicts for decades, in which thousands of people have perished and a huge number left either traumatised or maimed for the rest of their lives.

Many of the people affected by these conflicts were largely women and children. Whereas local and international attention focused on relief supplies as immediate intervention, another big threat was emerging, and that was belligerents engaging in sexual violence against women.

The crime of sexual violence remains one of the difficult crimes to prevent. Impunity is prevalent and is on the rise in the Great Lakes region. It gets worse in conflict situations, but even in peace times it manifests.

Reporting, investigation and prosecution of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) cases

remain a challenge in the Great Lakes Region.

However, the region is determined to contain it because it has passed policies to address it, and the Regional Training Facility on Prevention and Suppression of Sexual and Gender Based Violence, is one such avenue aimed at preventing and punishing the perpetrators.

In this regard, Article 6(9) of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) Protocol on the Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children (2006) was evoked, and a Regional Training Facility (RTF) was established.

Member States include Angola, Burundi, Central Africa Republic (CAR), Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Republic of Congo (Congo Brazzaville), South Sudan, Sudan, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.

These agreed to set up a spe-

cial regional facility for training and sensitizing judicial officers, police units, social workers, medical officers and other categories of persons who handle cases of sexual violence in the Great Lakes Region.

In fulfillment of this obligation, Uganda offered, during the December 2011 Summit at Munyonyo, Kampala to host this special Regional Training Facility.

Therefore on 28th February 2013, the Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee (RIMC) received the Concept and budget from ICGLR Secretariat and approved the establishment of the Regional Training Facility in Uganda.

The RTF was launched on 18th February 2014 in Kampala with the mission of being the leading research, information, education, training and sharing facility on SGBV in the Great Lakes Region.

The RTF's Mission Statement is to provide quality training and training materials to professional groups that deal with survivors of SGBV to improve the response to SGBV in the region with the key objective of being a Regional Centre of Excellence for training and sensitisation of officials and persons who handle cases of sexual violence in the Great Lakes Region on how to efficiently and effectively perform - a journey that has not been disappointing to the founding member states despite numerous challenges ranging from financial to human resources.

RTF was formed with a specific objective to develop regional coordination and standardised curricula that provides common skills, common frameworks and a common access to content, an aim which is being executed to the satisfaction of

the regional member states.

One cannot talk about RTF without acknowledging the fact that, true to its objectives, it has provided regional knowledge-generation, scientific evidence gathering, early warning, documentation and sharing framework while facilitating demanded networking events and a regional SGBV training network available to training stakeholders.

The other specific objective of RTF is to form training materials for practitioners in the management of SGBV cases, and provide a database of regional and international technical experts for quality enhancement of SGBV training across the Region.

Among the key functions of RTF has been organising regional training courses for senior and higher level stakeholders including the Training of Trainers.

In the same manner that a human being comes to the world, first by a mother getting pregnant and then giving birth, so is the elaborate journey of RTF.

RTF came into existence through the Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region (2006, Article 11), which is what one would equate to the gestation period.

This followed the Dar es Salaam Declaration of 2004. Then came the Protocol on the Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children of 2006 Article Six, clause 9; the ICGLR Protocol on Judicial Cooperation in the same year; and the ICGLR Protocol on Non-Aggression and Mutual Defence, to prevent escalation of conflict - a bedrock of sexual crimes.

RTF could not have come to fruition without the Proto-

col on Prevention and punishment of the Crime of Genocide, war crimes, and crimes against Humanity and all Forms of discrimination; Summit decisions on SGBV, the Goma Declaration of June 2008, then the Kampala Summit Declaration on SGBV of December 2011 where 'Baby RTF' was delivered in a labour ward at Munyonyo, Kampala.

Like any baby, RTF could not be nurtured without the Kinshasa Communiqué of July 2012 which called for special courts to try SGBV cases, domestication of the relevant laws; and Zero Tolerance Now campaign launched in respective member states.

With RTF set for take-off, a host agreement between the government of Uganda and the secretariat of ICGLR was signed in 2014.

The role of RTF in the region has been to provide skills on "how to" do what needs to be done by all SGBV stakeholders, especially to look for evidence to fight impunity, develop and maintain an SGBV knowledge database relevant for all categories of trainees namely judicial officers, police, social workers among others; Curricula and materials development, training of trainers and Expert database, Networking and Networks information, regional training courses for senior and higher level stakeholders; monitoring and evaluation, and Quality Assurance.

While it is hosted by and located in Uganda in the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, RTF operates under the governance and direction of the ICGLR Secretariat in Bujumbura, Burundi.

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KEY ROLE

Like any baby, RTF could not be nurtured without the Kinshasa Communiqué of July 2012 which called for special courts to try SGBV cases, domestication of the relevant laws; and Zero Tolerance Now campaign launched in respective member states.



The inaugural ICGL-RTF training in forensic evidence management for prevention and suppression of sexual violence in the Great Lakes Region at Entebbe, 9-12 December, 2014



The inaugural ICGLR–RTF training in forensic evidence management for prevention and suppression of sexual violence in the Great Lakes Region at Entebbe from 9 to 12 December, 2014

RTF trains 500 officers on how to handle SGBV cases

Pursuant to Article 11 of the ICGLR Pact, Article 6 (9) of the ICGLR Protocol on Prevention and suppression of Sexual Violence against women and children, and the Paragraph 14 of the Kampala Declaration on Sexual Violence and the subsequent ICGLR Summits and the Regional Inter-Ministerial Conference decisions, the RTF was officially opened on 18th February 2014 and operationalized in April 2014 with the appointment of an Acting Director.

The RTF mandate is to “...train and sensitize police units, judicial officers, medical officers, Social workers and other categories of persons who handle cases of sexual violence in the Great Lakes Region” Article 6 (9). This is in line with the ICGLR commitment to fight impunity in sexual violence crimes. The Headquarters of RTF are in Kampala, Uganda. A Host Agreement between Government of Uganda and ICGLR was signed on 18th February 2014.

Since its inception, the RTF has been able to convene seven major high profile regional and national training workshops for Police, Military, Medical, Judicial officers, Pros-



Officers from ICGLR member states attend one of the meetings on SGBV.

ecutors, Civil Society, and Journalists in the Great lakes Region. The first Training, organized in December 2014, was for Police officers from ICGLR member states; they were trained in Forensic Evidence Management for Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence using DNA technology.

This was supported by the UN Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Sexual Violence in Conflict (OSRSG-SV).

The second and third training workshops took place in August 2015. These concentrated on the African Union Commission managing sexual violence under military justice system, and managing sexual violence

in conflict situations respectively. It was supported by OSRSG-SV and the British High Commission (BHC).

The fourth training took place in July 2016. It was a Symposium on “Access to Justice and Fighting Impunity of Sexual Violence in the Great Lakes Region” supported by the Office of the Special Envoy of the UN Secretary General for the Great Lakes Region, and African Union Commission Peace and Security Department.

The fifth training took place in September. It was a sensitization and training workshop on “Documentation and Investigation of Sexual Violence Cases in Conflict” with support from the Foreign and Commonwealth office through the BHC.

The sixth training workshop took place in December 2016 and it was a colloquium on documentation, investigation and reporting of sexual violence in the Great Lakes Region, December 5-6, 2016 at Lake Victoria Serena Golf Course, Entebbe, Uganda.

The seventh and most recent was a training for Master Trainers, held May 8-12, 2017, Kampala, Uganda, and Supported by Netherlands Initiatives for Capacity Development (NICHE)-Project and World Bank.

Since its inception, over 400 police, military, judiciary, medical, journalists and prosecution officers have been trained under the RTF.

A big boost to the RTF has been provided by World Bank, which has supported a four-year project under “The Great Lakes Emergency Sexual and Gender Based Violence and Women’s Health Project,” in which the RTF is to be strengthened to deliver high quality regional training programmes.

In particular, the Project is supporting the RTF to develop and implement two high-quality regional training programmes for judicial and police officers in the area of fighting Sexual violence.

Special focus will be on Training Trainers (ToTs) from ICGLR member states who will train in their respective countries.

The picture of what is happening in the Member States of the Great Lakes Region, those in peace situations and those experiencing conflicts, shows that SGBV is prevalent and takes various forms.

What is clear is that all stakeholders ought to appreciate that they do not only need to prevent sexual violence, but also to minimise all conditions that worsen and complicate it to the benefit of the perpetrator. War and conflict are such conditions, and any sustainable intervention in the fight against SGBV must of necessity address them. There is the legal and policy mechanism in place; let us all implement it, and we shall have a peaceful Great Lakes Region.

Acting Director Nathan Byamukama: “The RTF will be sustainable and self-reliant in future... it can be done.”

Training Facility success story

“

TRAINING WORKSHOPS

We were specifically able to convene eight major high profile regional and national training workshops for police, military, medical, judicial officers, prosecutors, civil society, and journalists in the Great Lakes Region,” the acting director says.

In its three years of existence, the Regional Training Facility (RTF) has been dubbed as a success story according to the status report since its inception to October 2017.

The report under the theme, “Contributing to Regional Peace, Security and Development”, observes that apart from meeting most of its core mandate as highlighted at various fora, RTF mobilized funds from development partners namely the UN Women, World Bank, African Union Commission, British High Commission in Kampala, Dutch Government, Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, FIDA-Uganda, Population Council-Kenya, Office of the Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region which has helped the facility to carry out its mandate.

“The RTF will be sustainable and self-reliant in future. With the support of Member States and partners, it can be done,” observes Acting Director RTF, Mr Nathan Byamukama.

For instance, Mr Byamukama notes that the facility has had over 60 engagements with major partners and networks in workshops and courtesy call meetings - some of which have yielded more support and funding for the institution.

“We were specifically able to convene eight major high profile regional and national training workshops for police, military, medical, judicial officers, prosecutors, civil society, and journalists in the Great Lakes Region,” the acting director says. “A total of 471 officers from police, military, judiciary, medical, journalists and journalists have been trained under the RTF,” he added. The RTF has been able to set up a fully functional dynamic website for hosting selected training modules, laws, protocols, and good practices related to prevention and punishment of SGBV for officers who handle SGBV cases.

“There is no doubt that the RTF is a needed mechanism in Africa generally and the Great Lakes Region in particular. Although a number of training centres and institutions on the continent provide courses for preventing and responding to sexual violence, no institution has a comprehensive programme on SGBV that is comparable to the RTF concept,” notes the African Union Commission, Peace and Security Department in the report.

“With NICHE (Netherlands), we have secured a permanent home for the ICGLR-RTF which will be able to accommodate close to 20 offices.” This is much bigger than where the facility has been since inception. The new home has already hosted training of Master trainers that started on October 2017.

The facility hopes to move further in the coming years to secure land from the government of Uganda that they have been promised, to construct a centre of excellence where training, work, restaurant, leisure and accommodation will be catered for.

The RTF has been audited three times; twice by the World Bank and once by the ICGLR Secretariat,



The newly acquired RTF offices in Munyonyo, Kampala.

and all records found clean, on top of strengthening the accounting systems with accounting software (TOMPRO) and trained relevant staff in systematic control of cash flows using the latest technologies

The RTF has made use of interns and volunteers in the absence of full time staff, who have assisted in organizing several meetings, trainings and workshops, among other tasks. The interns and volunteers have so far gained enough capacity and experience to enable them become assistants to the core staff at the facility.

RTF secretariat has drafted a strategic plan on the basis of which mobilization of funds for the RTF will be made.

RTF has also hosted two ICGLR-World Bank-RTF consultative meetings, during which work plans and

budgets were passed, experts and consultancies interviewed and recruited.

Despite these successes, challenges abound at RTF. There is incomplete institutional structure at the facility. To achieve its objectives and in conformity with the provisions of the support from the World and NICHE, the RTF requires a minimum of five officers namely, the Director in substantive capacity, training coordinator, research, IT and knowledge production coordinator and project assistants.

At the time of compiling the report in October, 2017, the RTF had only the Acting Director paid for by the ICGLR Secretariat and the Accountant recruited and supported by the World Bank. The senior gender expert, whose recruitment was sup-

ported by the UN Women, resigned in November 2015 to take up another assignment abroad and has not yet been replaced. The interns and volunteers under the circumstances have propped up the RTF, stepping in the gap created by the absence of substantive staff.

So far, the RTF has not received the \$100, 000 approved by the Regional Inter-Ministerial Council (RIMC) and the governing Committee as seed money in 2013. This was supposed to be seed money to recruit some core staff and also mobilise more funds. The lack of funding slowed down operations since the RTF worked on a zero budget for the first two years. The RTF has been kept afloat by funds sourced from partners for execution of its mandate.

The report notes that the achievement of set goals and objectives is constrained by lack of staff. Having key staff in acting position means that substantive discussions may not be made.

The auditors have already recommended to ICGLR and RTF’s management to ensure that the centre is equipped with the needed resources to fill up the positions envisaged in the organisation structure.

“ICGLR should ensure that RTF Director’s position is substantially filled including the finance department should be filled up to ensure adequate segregation of duties,” the audit report recommends.

Others advise caution. “For me, I understand that this is how institutions work,” says Mama Florence Kaku, 54. “Let’s be patient and instead be committed to work. Surely, we will get the money because we have now [worked] for many days.”



The ICGLR Executive Secretary Ambassador Zakary Muburi-Muita (wearing red tie) with some of the RTF secretariat staff

SPEECH

With unity, no security problem that can defeat us, says Museveni

Ugandan **President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni**, addressed the 4th Extraordinary Summit and Special Session on the Sexual Gender-Based Violence in the Great Lakes Region at Munyonyo, Kampala in December 2011 and *The Great Lakes Region Magazine* reproduces the extracts of his speech below:

You are most welcome to the 4th Extraordinary Summit and Special Session of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region. We launched the Great Lakes Conference on the 15th of December, 2006. It is, therefore, now 5 years old. This is not, however, the first time a large part of this part of Africa has been linked. The traveller Ibn Battuta wrote as follows:

"After one night in Mombasa, we sailed to Kilwa, a large City on the coast whose inhabitants are black. A merchant told me that a fortnight's sail beyond Kilwa lies Sofala, where gold is brought from a place a month's journey inland called Yufi.

The city of Kilwa is among the finest and most substantially built in the world. Its Sultan at the time of visit was Abu'L - Mazaffar Hasan, surnamed Abu Al-Mawahib (the father of Gifts), renowned for his humility, generosity and hospitality. I saw at his court many sharifs, from Iraq and the region of Mecca...the people of Kilwa were engaged in jihad because they are on a common mainland with the heathen zanj (black) people and contiguous to them...."

This was in the year 1331. Ibn Battuta is telling us that not only was the East African Coast linked, North to South, but that also the Coast was linked with the interior as far inland as the present Zimbabwe, the land of Yufi (which was the source of the gold dust that was traded through Sofala). He also talked of Sofala in Mozambique.

It is also recorded that on November 5th, 1876, H. M. Stanley left Nyangwe on the River Congo to float downwards towards the Atlantic Ocean. Travellers, traders and slave traders were able to move from the Coast of East Africa up to the River Congo. The same Stanley, on his trip to rescue Emin Pasha between 1886 and 1889, wrote in his book, *In Dark-est Africa Vol.II* (P.366) as follows:

"By a gradual rise from Amranda Southward we escaped after a few miles out of the unlovely plains to older land producing a better quality of timber. Before we were 100 feet above the lake a visible improvement had taken place: the acacia had disappeared, and the myombo, a tree whose bark is useful for native cloth and for boxes and which might be adapted for canoes, flourished every-

where. At Bwanga, the next village, the language of the Wahuma, which we had heard continually since leaving the Albert Nyanza, ceases and the Unyamwezi, interpreters had now to be employed, which fact the skeptical Zanzibaris hailed as being evidence that we were approaching Pwani (the Coast)".

Of course, what Stanley could not detect is the closeness of the Sukuma - Kinyamwezi dialects with what he called the "Wahuma language" spoken from the Ituri forest in Congo to Mwanza.

By writing thus, these strangers had long realized the oneness of the peoples of the Great Lakes. Their dialects were part of the same language. Later on, some scholars have described these people as the inter-lacustrine Bantu - the Bantus of the Lakes.

These Bantus of the Lakes have close cultural links with the Nilotic, Sudanic and Cushitic peoples of the Great Lakes, when you hear any one of the languages or dialects of Zambia, Malawi, Mozambique, etc. known as Kinyanja. What does it mean? It, apparently, means the language of the Lake - Lake Nyasa in this case. What does the word "Nyasa" mean? It means Lake. What do we call "Lake" in the dialects of East Africa and Eastern Congo? We call it: Nyanza, Nyanja, Nyanzha, depending on the dialects. Indeed, this was very confusing to H. M. Stanley. As a consequence, in his book, *In Dark-est Africa Vol.II* (P.252), he noted as follows:

"...As for the Nyanzas the number became perplexing. There is the Nyanza of Unyoro, the Nyanza of Usongola, the Nyanza of Unyampaka, the Nyanza of Toro, the Nyanza of Semliki, the Nyanza of Unyavingi, the Nyanza of Karagwe and the Nyanza of Uganda..."

Above all, we have the distilled dialect of Swahili that was distilled from all these Bantu dialects, Arabic, Portuguese, etc., into a hybrid form of speech that is useful in linking the peoples of Africa. I always argue that Swahili should be enriched with the richer dialects from the interior. Only yesterday, I was discussing with some East Africans about the word "clay".

In Swahili, apparently, clay is called udongo finyasi, which sounds like a



President Yoweri Museveni addresses Sexual and Gender Based Violence Summit

form of description. While in the dialects of North Western Tanzania, Uganda, etc. the word for clay is bbumba like our Minister of Gender or eibumba (ibumba), etc. There is a place called Bumba in DRC, downstream from Kisangani. Does it have anything to do with clay? In Swahili, we talk of Wimbo wa Taifa, meaning national anthem.

In Acholi (Luo), we talk of Lubala - meaning anthem, specifically differentiated from a song which is called wer. If Swahili was enriched with the vocabulary of the interior, as the Tanzanians did with the word Ikulu meaning State House, we would create the richest human language that has ever existed.

Anyway, the main point is that the concept of the Great Lakes linkage is not new. Long before colonialism, we had clear linkages and understanding of much of the surround-

ing area - Bushwahili (the coast), Karagwe-Buhaya, Rwanda, Buleega (Congo) - hence the name of one of our Kings, Kabaleega, Bukiri (Northern Uganda), etc. Trade was intense. Textiles, guns, glass-beads, etc., were coming from the Coast. Ivory (emiino) was coming from Buganda, Bunyoro, etc. Copper (ebikomo, emiringa) were coming from Congo and so were amoshe (arm wear made out of giraffe tail hairs).

When we launched the Great Lakes Conference in 2006, therefore, we were re-activating the old linkages. These linkages in the pre-colonial period were, of course, being inconvenienced by the ignorance of the chiefs who would inconvenience traders by extortionate taxes known as hongo during the time when Henry Morton Stanley travelled through the continent in the 1870s. However, the Africans persisted because they

needed the linkages. Long Distance Wanyamwezi travellers, known as Balungaanwa in Uganda, would bring goods from the Coast and take back ivory from Uganda.

During the colonial times, our leaders struggled together through PAFMECSA (Pan-African freedom fighters for Eastern, Central and Southern Africa). The Liberation Movements of this area met in Mwanza, Tanzania (Tanganyika), etc., in the years 1958, and the subsequent ones such as 1962 in Addis Ababa. When the East African countries got freedom in 1961-1964, some of the leaders actively supported the anti-colonial struggle in Southern Africa (Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Angola, Namibia and South Africa).

When the Independence of Congo (DRC) was disrupted by the schemes of the Imperialists, the East African countries plus Congo Brazzaville took a correct stand of resisting these schemes. Eventually, Africa assisted the people of DRC to get rid of the puppet regime of Mobutu.

The genocide in Rwanda was stopped by the Rwandese Patriotic Front (RPF) assisted by the people of East Africa. The peace in the Sudan was the work of the people of Sudan themselves and the people of the Region. It is the Region that helped us to get rid of Idi Amin in 1979.

In particular, we must salute the following leaders who contributed to the total liberation of Africa: the late Mwalimu Julius Nyerere, Dr. Kenneth



REOPENING OLD LINKAGES

When we launched the Great Lakes Conference in 2006, therefore, we were re-activating the old linkages. These linkages in the pre-colonial period were, of course, being inconvenienced by the ignorance of the chiefs who would inconvenience traders by extortionate taxes known as hongo during the time when Henry Morton Stanley travelled through the continent in the 1870s.

Kaunda, the late General Samora Machel, Agostinho Neto, Eduardo Dos Santos, H.E. Robert Mugabe, the late Dr. John Garang, H.E. General Salva Kiir, the late Fred Rwigyema, H.E. President Paul Kagame, the late Laurent Kabila, H.E. Mzee Nelson Mandela, the late Oliver Tambo, etc.

Apart from political liberation, there are now three clear efforts in this Region: democratisation, free market policies and integration. These three are good value addition to our independence. If they are consolidated, we are poised to soar to great heights.

While the world has been in economic turmoil, the Region has been experiencing growth rates of between 4.4% and 5.9%. This is inevitable because these economies have, for the last 500 years, been operating far below their potential.

If we could focus on infrastructure development, the sky would be the limit. The late Mwalimu Nyerere and Mzee Kaunda, assisted by the Chinese, linked Dar-es-Salaam to Kapiri Mposhi in Zambia. We, the present generation of leaders, should link Tanga with Port Bell, Kasese with Kisangani, Gulu with Juba by rail, Kasese with Gisenyi, etc. Lake Tanganyika, Lake Victoria, Lake Edward (Butumbi Rutshuru), Lake Albert (Mwitanzigye) should be made into highways of water transport.

Above all, we must electrify this Region according to each country's plan or according to the Regional master plan. The present levels of kilowatt hour (kWh) per capita are too low in this part of the world.

This is not acceptable. In Uganda, we have also found Universal Education quite useful. As we speak today, almost one third of the population of Uganda's 33 million people are in schools – Primary, Secondary, Tertiary and University. Our struggle is now to give them skills on top of numeracy and alphabetisation.

One of the main purposes of the Great Lakes Conference was security in the Region. The key to this is inter-state co-operation. If the African countries co-operate, assisted by the international community, there is no security problem that can defeat us. We defeated the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) through co-operating with the brothers and sisters of South Sudan, DRC and Central African Republic. Agali awamu ge galuma enyama – meaning (the teeth that are a whole are the ones that can successfully chew meat); in other words, unity is strength. I am sorry about the inadequacy of the English language. It does not have comparably rich vocabulary in comparison to the African dialects for some of these meanings. Notice the too many English words I must use to vainly try to convey the same meaning captured in the Luganda proverb where I use only four words. I use fourteen words to vainly attempt to translate a proverb where we use only four words.

That now brings me to the subject this Conference is called upon to address. The subject of "Sexual and Gender-based Violence", but the Theme is: "United to Prevent Sexual and Gender-based Violence, End Impunity and Provide Support to the

Victims."

Addressing this subject from a historical perspective, I think that it is a shameful subject considering that many of our African cultures did not take kindly to harsh treatment of women. Women in my culture were pampered and spoiled because a family that treated women badly was penalised by being denied the right to marry from respectable families. Therefore, there is no good reason in present day Africa why sexual violence should be tolerated especially as we struggle to stabilize our nations. Therefore, the only thing I can say here is that indeed there should be "zero tolerance" on this practice and to allow impunity in this era is indeed indiscipline of the highest order.

I am informed that in Uganda, Gender-based Violence is reportedly

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VALUE ADDITION

Apart from political liberation, there are now three clear efforts in this Region: democratisation, free market policies and integration. These three are good value addition to our independence. If they are consolidated, we are poised to soar to great heights.

on the increase. I note many times that our media show that mostly women are often the victims of domestic and sexual violence. This has resulted in some women dying and many have suffered from sexually transmitted diseases including HIV/AIDS.

The Uganda Police Crime Report for 2008 shows that 1,536 cases of rape were reported to Police compared to 511 cases in 2007, indicating more than 100% increase!

Some studies have suggested that there is a strong link between the risk of domestic violence and alcohol consumption which I have learned has been steadily rising.

Women have made public complaints to me, petitioning me to reinstate the Graduated tax which the NRM Government abolished. They are convinced that perhaps men may not have to drink the whole day if they had reason to work. Apparently, without the obligation to pay graduated tax, men are no longer pushed to work and, therefore, 'drink themselves to the grave'.

This is a pathetic situation and indeed as I said already it is a real shame to the generation of the African men today who behave like this. If we have never felt ashamed in the past because of the famines that kill our children, or the HIV/AIDS scourge that wiped off whole communities because of irresponsible lifestyles, I think, time has come for Africans to really reconsider their lifestyles so that we change for the better.

I thank you very much and I wel-

SPEECH

Janet Museveni roots for Africa support systems to fight gender violence

On December 15, 2011, the First Lady of the Republic of Uganda, **Hon. Janet K. Museveni** delivered a speech on ICGLR Special Session on Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) on the theme, ““United to Prevent SGBV, End Impunity and Provide Support to the Victims of SGBV in the Great Lake Region”. This publication reproduces her address below.

I would like to most warmly welcome all our visitors to Uganda, especially those traveling here for the first time. Please, feel at home and enjoy our country; because our home is your home and we hope that this will be a memorable visit for you all.

It is good and right to participate in this historic conference on sexual and gender-based violence which is aimed at discussing how we can unite as governments and peoples of the Great Lakes Region to prevent this violence, end impunity and find real mechanisms to support the victims of these shameful acts.

The opportunity for us to discuss the problem of sexual and gender-based violence and collectively work out solutions couldn't have come at a better time.

A time when social values in our African communities are disintegrating, when the family unit is threatened by some negative foreign cultural influences, when gender-based violence is, painfully, increasing in our society.

Sexual violence comes in many forms but the most often cited is rape and defilement. However, sexual and gender-based violence encompasses a wide range of other abuses that may include sexual threats, exploitation, humiliation, assault, molestation, domestic violence, incest, and rape.

In Uganda, the practice of female genital mutilation and other harmful traditional practices (including early marriage, which substantially increases maternal morbidity and mortality), in all sincerity are

forms of sexual and gender-based violence against women which cannot be overlooked nor justified on the grounds of tradition and culture. Needless to say, most cases of sexual violence involve female victims and male perpetrators. However, men and young boys can also be vulnerable to sexual violence especially in detention or war or refugee situations.

There is also the sexual abuse of children, a subject that is really difficult to talk about. It is very painful to acknowledge that sexual abuse of children including infants happens in our society every day!

Yet we know that many cases are not reported to authorities due to social acceptance of these practices, or the stigma most abused women face, or fear of more violence from partners, or failure by authorities to act on the perpetrators and the absence of enforcement of relevant laws to punish the culprits.

Ladies and Gentlemen, as I mentioned before, the time is now for our governments to be up and running in advancing effective laws preventing gender-based violence and enforcing policies that ensure survivors' access to care and legal justice.

That entails governments to bring on board bodies that have shown in practice that they care to support the weaker victims in this battle - bodies such as FIDA and others. Strengthen them so that they can be empowered to reach communities where they are needed most.

Secondly, our leaders at every level in our countries must invest time in our communities and sensitize the people about the dangers of gender-based violence. Religious leaders and civil society organizations can also play a vital role in educating and guiding the masses as well as counseling and providing psycho-social support to the victims.

Our people need to be encouraged to solve domestic problems non-violently and to treat each other with respect regardless of gender or gender roles.

There is need now more than ever before to rebuild our African community structure and family support systems; where individuals feel more supported, protected, secured and loved; and where each serves as his or her brother's keeper.

Thirdly, community-based efforts especially awareness-raising campaigns involving grassroots leaders and communities can play a crucial role. Local media especially radio and public meetings and debates can be used to change the attitudes of the people on sexual and gender-based violence.

Women should not only be looked at as victims but should be integrated in these prevention efforts as agents of change. Men must also be actively engaged in the campaign.

Let me end by thanking again the organizers of this conference especially this session.

In particular let me applaud the team of Ambassador Mulamula for refusing to give up on us and fighting so hard to ensure that this session is included. But I say to you, in conclusion, let us get even more determined to ensure the success of the resolutions of this conference and go out and implement them.

Aluta continua!
Thank you for listening to me!
God bless you!



The First Lady Janet Museveni addresses the meeting.

INTERVIEW WITH THE ACTING DIRECTOR RTF, MR NATHAN BYAMUKAMA

The journey to the Kampala Declaration on Sexual Violence

Why was it called the Kampala Declaration?

It is because it was signed by Heads of state and Government in Kampala, Uganda on 16th December 2010 (which is actually my birth day).

The venue was Munyonyo Commonwealth Speke Resort. The Summit was from 15-16th December 2011. The context is that under paragraph 10 of the Final Communiqué of the 3rd Ordinary Summit of the ICGLR Heads of State and Government held in Lusaka on 10th August 2009, it was “agreed that the Summit would be held every two years on 15th December and that Uganda will be the next Chairperson of the ICGLR”.

This decision was reached by the ICGLR Heads of State who included HE President Yoweri Museveni and all the follow-up mechanisms (including the National Coordination Mechanism (NCM), the Conference Secretariat and the Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee (RIMC) have been working towards a 4th Ordinary Summit to take Place in Uganda on 15th December 2011.

Consequently, under paragraph 10 of the Communiqué of the ICGLR Regional -Inter-ministerial Committee (RIMC) meeting composed of Ministers of Foreign Affairs - then 11 Member States (now they are 12 after South Sudan Joined ICGLR) that was held between 5th-6th May 2011 it is stated that “The meeting confirmed the dates of 15th December 2011 for the next Summit to be preceded by the RIMC from 13th to 14th December 2011 in Kampala, Uganda”. Uganda was represented by HON Crispus Kiyonga who was representing Hon Sam Kutesa during the RIMC.

How then did it turn out to be a Special session on SGBV?

In December 2010, during the Special Summit on Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources, it was decided that the following Summit would focus on Sexual and Gender Based Violence.

This was a result of the request by the Regional Women Forum to the Head of States during the 2010 Summit.

The Heads of State under the then Chairmanship of HE Rupia Banda, the former President of Zambia accepted the request and gave a go ahead to organise one.

The year 2011 was the next available opportunity since it was to be a regular summit as provided under the Pact (the Summit ordinarily

takes place every after 2 years).

When RIMC took place in Brazzaville six months later, the ministers of foreign affairs who constitute the Regional Inter ministerial committee (RIMC) deliberated and agreed to use the opportunity of the Ordinary summit to have a special session during the Ordinary summit. In their Communiqué at the end of the meeting held in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo on 6th May 2011, “directed the Secretariat in collaboration with the stakeholders to organise a special session on SGBV during the ICGLR Ordinary Summit to be held on 15th December 2011 in Kampala, Uganda and decided that the theme of the Summit should be “United to Prevent, end impunity and Provide Support to the Victims of SGBV”.

How were Women (under the Regional Women Forum) able to reach Heads of state with their request?

1 The ICGLR mechanism provides space for ICGLR Fora to Heads of State. These Fora include the Regional Women Forum, the Regional Civil Society Forum, the Regional Youth Forum, the Forum of Parliaments. In this particular case we had organised a meeting at Mulungushi Conference centre in Zambia from 12-14th December 2010 where a High Level Capacity Development Workshop on Women, Peace and Security in the Great Lakes Region; under the auspices of the ICGLR Regional Women Forum to discuss and prepare a statement to Ministers and Heads of State meeting. Fifty five delegates and participants from 10 Member Countries of the ICGLR gathered at Mulungushi International Conference Centre in Lusaka, Zambia from 12-14 December 2010. In their declaration, participants :

(i) Appreciative of the determination of the ICGLR member states to combat illegal exploitation of natural resources by convening a special summit; acknowledged the progress so far made in establishing mechanisms and systems at national and regional levels to respond to these issues;

(iii) expressed their concern that, despite the normative progress, significant gaps in the framing, ratification, domestication and implementation still remains.

2 They addressed both RIMC and Summit. To ministers they called upon the Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee (RIMC) of ICGLR sitting at the Special Summit



Mr Nathan Byamukama, the acting director of ICGLR

on Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources (Lusaka Zambia, 12th - 16th December 2010) to: ; (ii) recommended to the Heads of States to convene a Special Summit on Sexual Gender Based Violence (SGBV) in the Great Lakes Region; (iii) to Institutionalize representation and participation of women from the public, women's organizations and from the private sector, in specialized bodies responsible for combating illegal exploitation of natural resources; (iv) to ensure urgent ratification, domestication and implementation of all outstanding ICGLR Pact, AU Protocols, UN Instruments; (v) to take corrective measures for failure by member states to domestic and implement the ICGLR Pact, (vi) Accelerate the development of Integrated National Action Plans for the systematic implementation of ICGLR Pact, AU Protocols and relevant UN Instruments with clear monitoring and evaluation indicators and targets; (vii) Prioritize and commit resources (human and financial) for effective prevention and protection against SGBV and rehabilitation of survivors; Finally, (viii) request inclusion of the above recommendations in the Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee Report to the Special Summit on Illegal Exploitation

of Natural Resources in the Great Lakes Region. To the Summit they summarised it all. The request was granted without any debate and instructions were given for follow up.

So what steps then did you take from the Summit and subsequent RIMCs?

We basically left to generate strategies for a successful summit. The RIMC that followed took place in Brazzaville. We started working to involve all stakeholders to generate data and information that would better provide useful recommendations to the Heads of State

A conference paper was produced for the Special Session on SGBV during the 4th ICGLR Summit of Heads of State and Government. The paper was based on the research findings and major contributions from stakeholders including inputs from national consultations on SGBV. A research was commissioned by the Conference Secretariat and supported by the UN Women to scan the region and to contribute to the global assessment on what really exists on the ground in the 11 Member States in the context of the ICGLR protocol on SGBV.

The aim was to generate background information that would guide governments in the Great Lakes Re-

gion to respond and strengthen their efforts towards an urgent, effective and collective action to end SGBV. Specifically, the work of the Consultant consisted in: i) analyzing the extent of SGBV as it is now in the Great Lakes Region, including information/data collection on the prevalence of SGBV in the region through meetings with key actors (NGOs, government and other relevant partners) and review of literature; ii) exploring the frameworks in place, both legal and institutional, to address SGBV, such as preventive measures and those related to comprehensive support and assistance to SGBV victims at national and regional level; iii) to examining the efforts taken by governments to address SGBV and give an appraisal of which responses can be qualified as best practices that can be replicated.

A documented situation on the extent of SGBV in the then 11 ICGLR Member States and its impact in the region reflected in comprehensive reports from National consultations on Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) was developed. The consultations at the national level were coordinated by the Focal Person of the Regional Women Forum, working together with the Ministries of Gender and the ICGLR National Coordinator

in each ICGLR Member State with the following achievements/results:

(i) Civil society organizations, including the youth, and government organs were mobilised for consultations at the national level on the issue of SGBV;

(ii) Guidelines were drafted by the Conference Secretariat and adapted to national context with the purpose of facilitating national consultations;

(iii) National reports from 11 ICGLR Member States were developed and translated in English and French. The reports highlight the root causes of SGBV in the country under study, the extent of the problem, the measures in place to prevent SGBV, punish the perpetrators and assist the SGBV survivors. This information from national reports was used to enrich the overall regional report on SGBV.

The ICGLR regional meeting of experts on SGBV meeting in Arusha, Tanzania in November 2011 gathered key actors including regional and international NGO and UN agencies, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) researchers and academia, Regional Economic Communities (REC) with national and regional expertise in the field of SGBV and its implications. The objective of the meeting was to contribute and to validate the findings of the regional research on SGBV commissioned by the Conference Secretariat.

The outcome of the regional meeting was a conference paper that included key recommendations from national consultations and from civil society organizations of the region. The recommendations were essentially related to 3 components namely prevention, ending impunity and providing support to SGBV victims.

The final report with the experts' contributions was submitted for consideration to Ministers of Gender National Coordinators, Ministers (RIMC) and Summit. The Summit approved the recommendations with some amendments and also added more recommendations adding up to 19 decisions from the original 15 of the experts and Ministers. I am glad the whole region has taken this declaration seriously.

What Role Ministers of Gender Play?

ICGLR organised a high level consultation with the Ministers responsible for Gender from 11 ICGLR Member States. They met prior the Summit under the coordination of the Conference Secretariat to discuss and adopt the report from experts. The meeting took place in Arusha, Tanzania. The aim of the high level consultation was to gather consensus from a political point of view on issues related to national commitment on the protection and compensation for SGBV survivors, punishment of perpetrators and assistance to survivors. The result was the adoption of a declaration with key recommendations by ministers in charge of gender and their decision to lobby their respective government and submit the report of their meeting to the Heads of States during their ordinary summit. Angola, Burundi, Central Africa Republic, Kenya Tanzania, Sudan and Uganda were represented by their ministers. Other countries were represented by high ranking personalities within the

ministry in charge of gender.

What role did the first Ladies play?

A declaration was made by the first ladies that highlight their willingness to support advocacy efforts of the RWF and to include SGBV issues in their social activities. The declaration was also presented to the Heads of State Summit.

The First Lady's meeting took place on the sidelines of the Summit and engaged First Ladies or their representatives from Member States so as they could lobby and support advocacy efforts of the Regional Women Forum in preventing, ending impunity and assisting the SGBV survivors. The outcome was a declaration from first ladies that highlight their willingness to support advocacy efforts of the RWF and to include SGBV issues in their social activities.

One of the major decision that emerged from the First Ladies is Decisions No.18 on empowerment of professional civil society organisations such as FIDA to support victims of SGBV.

A few days to the conference I had an opportunity to accompany the former Executive Secretary, Ambassador Liberata Mulamula, to meet the First Lady Hon Janet Museveni, and in the discussions the Executive Secretary asked the First Lady what she thought should be done. Without any moment's delay, she said governments should support civil society organisations such as FIDA to effectively support victims of SGBV.

Resolution 18 of Kampala Declaration actually came from Hon Janet K Museveni. That view found itself in the declaration of the First Ladies which was also presented to the Heads of State Summit and adopted.

What were the dynamics at the Kampala Summit in 2011?

As I said earlier, the agenda of the ordinary summit included a special session on SGBV under the theme: "United to prevent, end impunity and provide support to the Victims of SGBV" as decided by the Regional Inter ministerial Committee (RIMC) held in Brazzaville in May 2011. The Heads of State therefore met in December 2011 in Kampala, Uganda, and were presented a report from the Ministers in charge of Gender on recommended measures to prevent women and children against SGBV, punish perpetrators and assist the SGBV survivors.

The outcome of the summit was an adoption of the Kampala Declaration that committed Member States to implement a number of measures with a timeframe of implementation to confront the scourge of SGBV and contribute to a paradigm shift in template of the Great Lakes Region renown as a conflict-ridden region to one of peace, harmony and opportunities where women, children and men will be safe, secure and productive.

The Kampala Declaration compiled key recommendations from preparatory meetings into 19 recommendations and directs the Conference Secretariat to follow up on their implementation with the objective of preventing; ending impunity of SGBV and providing support to victims.



Elderly women from Nairobi slums learn martial arts in order to survive danger in Kenya's shanty towns.

Elderly women in Kenya learn karate to fight sexual assault in slums

In poor Kenyan communities the rates of sexual assault are staggeringly high — but also hard to quantify. That is because most are never reported.

But a group of grandmothers has had enough and they are fighting back — literally.

Korogosho is one of the many informal settlements in Nairobi. It is a slum.

It is there that a group of grandmothers is using elements from wrestling and karate to protect themselves and each other as part of a program that tries to prevent sexual assault.

Ferocious grandmother, 74-year-old Beatrice Nyariara, is in the middle of training.

"It is very unsafe because before we started this group of old women like me, a lot of old women used to be raped by young men. They take

drugs, alcohol and when it enters their head, they can't differentiate between their elders and young girls," Ms Nyariara said.

"We found someone to train us. We started doing karate. As we continued, young men realised we won't be hurt and started backing."

Most of the women in this group have either been sexually assaulted personally, or they know someone who has.

Kenya police estimate that 85 per cent of sexual crimes are not reported.

Jane Waithegeni was gang-raped more than 10 years ago. She was abducted from a public bus.

"They removed my shirt and blindfolded me. I was taken to a second car, then to a third car. I was held for three days and raped. They gave me HIV," Ms Waithegeni said.

Now Ms Waithegeni is a physical trainer for these women, but she is

also a counsellor for rape victims.

"If there is a girl, they will open up to me. I'll say to her, 'It's good to tell me', because even if you tell me a little, I will understand. I can take you to the right people for treatment. Keeping quiet only makes it harder," she said.

The self defence training has helped to reduce the number of reported rapes in Korogosho by 15 per cent.

Ms Nyariara has already used her skills in a home invasion, when a young man broke in at night.

"When he entered I hit him. He fell on his back. I stepped on his balls. And he said, 'Granny — don't kill me'."

Ms Nyariara said police and security have only recently arrived in the community.

Too late for too many.

— Agencies



In DR Congo, karate helps rape victims rebuild their lives

Laurence Fischer, a three-time world karate champion, has travelled to the war-torn Democratic Republic of Congo to help female victims of rape.



For the past three years, Frenchwoman Laurence Fischer, a three-time world karate champion, has travelled to the war-torn Democratic Republic of Congo to help female victims of rape.

Alongside the renowned surgeon Dr. Mukwege, the top athlete teaches these traumatised women self-defence and tries to help them regain self-confidence and rebuild their lives.

Once a week, in Bukavu, on the shores of Lake Kivu, in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Sandra and a dozen other women swap their long coloured skirt for a white kimono. On the tatami, they meet up with their coach, Franck Kwabe. He is a black belt in karate, and the assistant of Laurence Fischer, a former world champion. Kwabe is a student and in his spare time, he teaches self-defence to these traumatised women.

The classes take place at the Panzi Foundation, an institution created in 2008 by Dr. Denis Mukwege, a gynecologist and surgeon who rebuilds women's lower abdomens and repairs the bayonet wounds on their chests.



DR Congo victims of sexual violence, Kivu, clinic 2010.
File photo: www.humanosphere.org

In eastern DRC, a region plagued by conflict, rape is used as a weapon of war and women find themselves on the front line. Every year, thousands of them suffer shocking sexual abuse.

For one week, Laurence Fischer, a three-time world champion who retired from professional karate in 2006, takes over the classes. For the past ten years, the Frenchwoman has chosen to help women who are victims of violence across the world, like in the DRC. The karate champion

gives her lessons free of charge. They are aimed at boosting both physical and mental capacities: "Thanks to karate, these women realise that they have strength. They also acquire endurance and concentration. They will need strength, endurance and concentration to meet the challenges ahead," she explains.

This is certainly the case for Sandra, who was raped at the age of 16 by a neighbour. She is the most assiduous of all the students and would not miss a karate class for anything in the world. Unable to speak on arrival at the centre, she is now full of life and has found the strength to rebound: "When I practise karate, my fear evaporates," the teenager says with a smile. Sandra would have liked to learn how to defend herself earlier, to be able to stand up to her attacker. In turn, she has decided to pass on karate to the girls in her neighbourhood so that they don't experience the same ordeal as she did.

— Agencies

VIOLENCE

Entertainment and SGBV, no one is innocent

Koffi Olomide was born on 13 August 1956 in Kisangani, DRC. His mother named him Koffi because he was born on a Friday. He grew up in a middle-class family, without any musical background.

During his youth, Olomide improvised by singing popular songs with his own lyrics and altered rhythms until a neighbor taught him how to play the guitar.

Described by fellow students and his teachers alike as "a very bright student," Olomide got a scholarship to study in Bordeaux, France, where he obtained a Bachelor's degree in Business Economics. He is also reported to hold a Masters degree in Mathematics from the University of Paris.

Upon his return to the Congo in the 1970s, Koffi joined Papa Wemba's band, Viva la Musica, initially as a composer and songwriter, and later as a lead vocalist. In 1986, he formed his band known as Quartier Latin International, which celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2006. Since then, he has performed and recorded both with the group and by himself.

Over the years, he built up a faithful fan base internationally, particularly in Africa and Europe. Koffi popularized the slower style of Soukous, which he dubbed Tcha Tcho. His music can be quite controversial, taking on current events and topics considered taboo in some conservative societies.

He also participated in the salsa



Koffi Olomide (circled) kicks one of his queen dancers at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport

music project Africando. For his effort, Effrakata, released in 2001, Koffi received four awards on a single night at the annual Kora Awards in South Africa for 2002 and 2003, including the award for Best African Artist, which he won in 1998. More recently, he won the Kora Award for "Best African Artist of The Decade". This established one of his many aliases, the 'Quadra Kora Man.'

Olomide's album Haut de Gamme: Koweit, Rive Gauche is listed in 1001 Albums You Must Hear Before You Die. In March 2003 Olomide released "Affaire D'Etat", a double CD album featuring 18 tracks.

Olomide was part of the Papa Wemba musical, in the early 1980s. He has trained many young musicians, some of whom have since left his Quartier Latin band and gone solo. Some of those who have left are Fele Mudogo, Sam Tshintu, Suzuki 4x4, Soleil Wanga, Bouro Mpela, Fally Ip-

upa, Montana Kamenga, Ferre Gola. However, Suzuki 4x4 has recently showed up once more in some of Quartier Latin shows, along with new recruits like Cindy Le Coeur, a female singer with very high pitched vocals, recorded here, in the song L'Amour N'existe Pas (Love doesn't exist).

Koffi - who mostly refers to himself as "Mopao" - has a new release known as La Chicotte a Papa, having recently excelled in hits like Lovemy-cine, Diabolos, Grand Pretre Mere and Soupou, Cle Boa, among others. Koffi's talent could be compared to the once king of African rumba, Lualaba Makiadi, who also saw many artists pass through his expert hands during his days. Today, he is one of Africa's most popular musicians.

Despite this illustrious career, Olomide has had a brush in with the law

hinging on Sexual Gender Based Violence, and could be a candidate for the Regional Training Facility on Prevention and Suppression of Sexual and Gender Based Violence.

In 2012 he was convicted of assaulting his producer, and received a three-month suspended sentence. Four years earlier, in 2008 he had been accused of kicking a cameraman at a concert in Kinshasa, though the matter was resolved out of court.

On 22 July 2016, while on a concert trip to Kenya, Koffi Olomide was arrested by Kenya Police after a video emerged showing the musician apparently kicking one of his female dancers at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, soon after arrival in the country. His planned concert at The Bomas of Kenya was cancelled. He was deported on 23 July 2016, after spending the night in police custody.

On Tuesday 26 July 2016, Koffi was arrested at his home in Kinshasa, on the orders of the DRC Attorney-General. After a speedy trial, the singer was convicted and sentenced to one and half years in prison for kicking his dancer, one Pamela Eyenga Bengongo. After the intervention of the authorities, the sentence was commuted to three months, without the option of a fine.

Earlier on this year, Olomide

traveled to Burundi for two concerts.

Sunglasses, long black jacket, tinted beard, the musician arrived in Bujumbura in true sapper Zairean style.

And the welcome is up to the mission. The first night, Koffi appears in a suit of jeans, side by side with Gaston Sindimwo, the first vice president of the republic, relax mode, T-shirt and pants yellowish. The clichés of the two men show a warm atmosphere, to the point that some go so far as to talk about "reunion between Congolese", in reference to the survey of the weekly Iwacu in Burundi, according to which "the grandfather of Gaston Sindimwo, Pierre Sindano, is a Congolese native of Ijwi island in Bukavu.

On July 1st, he makes a second show. But the next day, a controversial video burst on social networks. We see a dancer happily picking banknotes, offered by a conquered public, when Koffi Olomide, angry, seizes her by the hair and pulls her violently from behind. A scene reminiscent of Nairobi, in July 2016, when the star had kicked down another of her dancers in front of the cameras of the journalists, a move that would cost the artist the cancellation of all his concerts and leave human rights defenders and SGBV experts wondering if Olomide cannot be brought to RTF for counseling - because his music opulence does not rhyme with violence against women.

— Agencies

Development partners who have assisted RTF

It is difficult to discuss the success of Regional Training Facility (RTF) without highlighting the pivotal role played by the cooperation and development partners towards meeting its mandate.

The pact states that the operating budget of the ICGLR Secretariat where RTF is part, shall be financed by the mandatory annual contributions of the Member States and by resources mobilized from development and cooperation partners in addition to resources identified by the Secretariat in Bujumbura, Burundi.

Indeed, when the current Acting Director RTF, Mr Nathan

Byamukama was appointed in 2014, the brief was that he should mobilise the necessary resources for the centre and ensure its effective operationalisation.

Mr Byamukama since then hit the road even if the funding from the secretariat was not forthcoming; the centre has in the last three years run with financial support from cooperation and donors.

“During the time that the RTF had not opened a bank account, the partners either channeled funds for the RTF through the headquarters (Conference secretariat in Bujumbura) or they paid the vendors directly,” observes the status report on

the centre for January 2014-October 2017.

“The vision of the Member States, the leadership of the RTF, the commitment, resilience and apt financial management of the human resource managing the RTF keeps attracting new partners within and out of the region,” the report adds.

The contributions received have helped in fostering further partnerships, acquiring a permanent home for RTF, keeping internships running, running the training programmes as well as mobilizing resources.

Currently, the World Bank has contributed USD1,040,000 for a four year project starting

October 2014 to June 2018 for training of judicial and police officers. The money is part of the USD 3million support to ICGLR which will cover training of judicial officers and police officials from the 12 Member States.

The money will cover development of implementation strategy for training, development of training curricula, development of webpage, e-learning portal, web-hosting for selected modules laws, protocols and good practices among others. Some of the projects are on-going.

The Netherlands Initiative for Capacity Development in Higher Education (NICHE) contributed EURO 1,100,000 for institutional and academic capacity building for the RTF but continent on ICGLR commitment to support its own staff.

UN Women is the other organization that has contributed USD80,000 for the office opening and furniture, brainstorming meeting with RECs, UN, World Bank, civil society organizations on baseline mapping of regional training activities and institutions on SGBV where the organization handled directly the payment with the vendors and suppliers.

The UN office of the Special Representative of Secretary Gen-

eral on Sexual Violence in Conflict (UN OSRSG-SVC) is one other organization that has contributed over USD110,000 for forensic training for police officers and training workshop on addressing sexual violence within the military justice system in the Great Lakes Region.

The British High Commission has contributed USD23,000 for training workshop for the Ugandan military in protection of women and children during conflict situations, sensitization workshop and training workshop on documentation and investigation of sexual violence cases in conflict and publishing of RTF reports.

African Union Commission Department for Peace and Security contributed USD50,000, the UN Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region contributed USD60,000, the Population Council of Kenya, GIZ Maastricht School of Management, FIDA Uganda, ICGLR were other organisations that contributed funds towards RTF programmes and activities for the betterment of women and the children in the Great Lakes Region, without which these vulnerable people would have been left at the mercy of the benefactors of the conflict situation, with often adverse effects.



GROWTH PATH

The vision of the Member States, the leadership of the RTF, the commitment, resilience and apt financial management of the human resource managing the RTF keeps attracting new partners within and out of the region



The contributions received from organizations like The Netherlands Initiative for Capacity development in Higher Education (NICHE) have helped in fostering further partnerships

COMMON TERMS



The meaning of sexual and gender-based violence

As we interest ourselves with the subject of Sexual and Gender based violence, we will encounter common terms. Here we provide an understanding and definitions to common ones.

Gender-based violence

The term “gender-based violence” refers to violence that targets individuals or groups on the basis of their gender. The United Nations’ Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights’ Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) defines it as “violence that is directed against a woman because she is a woman or that affects women disproportionately”, in its General Recommendation 19.

This includes acts that inflict physical, mental or sexual harm or suffering, the threat of such acts, coercion and other deprivations of liberty. Together with “sexual violence” and “violence against

women”, “gender-based violence” is used interchangeably.

This does not mean that all acts against a woman are gender-based violence, or that all victims of gender-based violence are female. The surrounding circumstances where men are victim of sexual violence could be a man being harassed, beaten or killed because they do not conform to view of masculinity, which are accepted by the society.

Violence against women

Violence against women is defined by the UN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, adopted by the General Assembly on 20 December 1993, as “any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life”. It is a form of gender-

based violence and includes sexual violence.

The Declaration states in its introduction that “[Violence against women] is a manifestation of historically unequal power relations between men and women, which have led to domination over and discrimination against women by men and to the prevention of the full advancement of women, and that violence against women is one of the crucial social mechanisms by which women are forced into a subordinate position compared with men”.

Sexual Violence

Sexual violence includes sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. It refers to any act, attempt, or threat of a sexual nature that result, or is likely to result in, physical, psychological and emotional harm. Sexual violence is a form of gender-based violence.

Expanded Definition of Sexual and Gender-based Violence used

by the UNHCR and implementing partners, Article 2 of the UN General Assembly Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women (1993):

“Violence against women shall be understood to encompass, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring in the family, including battering, sexual abuse of female children in the household, dowry-related violence, marital rape, female genital mutilation and other traditional practices harmful to women, non-spousal violence and violence related to exploitation;

2. Physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring within the general community, including rape, sexual abuse, sexual harassment and intimidation at work, in educational institutions and elsewhere, trafficking in women and forced prostitution;

3. Physical, sexual and psychological violence perpetrated or condoned by the State, wherever it occurs.”

Sex

Sex is defined as “biological characteristics of males and females. The characteristics are congenital and their differences are limited to physiological reproductive functions”.

Gender

Gender is the term used to denote the social characteristics assigned to men and women. These social characteristics are constructed on the basis of different factors, such as age, religion, national, ethnic and social origin. They differ both within and between cultures and define identities, status, roles, responsibilities and power relations among the members of any culture or society.

Gender is learned through socialisation. It is not static or innate, but evolves to respond to changes in the social, political and cultural environ-

ment. People are born female or male (sex); they learn how to be girls and boys, and then become women and men (gender). Gender refers to what it means to be a boy or a girl, woman or man, in a particular society or culture. Society teaches expected attitudes, behaviours, roles, responsibilities, constraints, opportunities and privileges of men and women in any context. This is learned behaviour known as gender identity.

Violence

Violence is a means of control and oppression that can include emotional social or economic force, coercion or pressure, as well as physical harm. It can be overt, in the form of physical assault or threatening someone with a weapon; it can also be covert, in the form of intimidation, threats, persecution deception or other forms of psychological or social pressure. The person targeted by this kind of violence is compelled to behave as expected or to act against her will out of fear.

An incident of violence is an act or a series of harmful acts by a perpetrator or a group of perpetrators against a person or a group of individuals. It may involve multiple types of and repeated acts of violence over a period of time, with variable durations. It can take minutes, hours, days, or a lifetime.

Abuse

Abuse is the misuse of power through which the perpetrator gains control or advantage of the abused, using and causing physical or psychological harm or inflicting or inciting fear of that harm. Abuse prevents persons from making free decisions and forces them to behave against their will.

Coercion

Coercion is forcing, or attempting to force, another person to engage in behaviors against her will by using threats, verbal insistence, manipulation, deception, cultural expectations or economic power.

Power

Power is understood as the capacity to make decisions. All relationships are affected by the exercise of power. When power is used to make decision regarding one's own life, it becomes an affirmation of self acceptance and self-respect that, in turn, fosters respect and acceptance of others as equals. When used to dominate, power imposes obligations on, restricts, prohibits and makes decisions about the lives of others.

Consent

A person consents when he or she makes an informed choice to agree freely and voluntarily to do something. There is no consent when agreement is obtained through the use of threats, force or other forms of coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, or misrepresentation.

Threatening to withhold, or promising to provide a benefit in order to obtain the agreement of a person constitutes an abuse of power. Any agreement obtained in such a way, or from a person who is below the legal (statutory) age of consent, or is defined as a child under applicable laws, is not considered to be consensual.

Perpetrator

A perpetrator is a person, group, or institution that directly inflicts, supports and condones violence or other abuse against a person or a group of persons. Perpetrators are in a position of real or perceived power, decision-making and/or authority and can thus exert control over their victims.

Types of Sexual and Gender-based Violence

There are 5 types of Sexual and Gender-based violence; Sexual Violence, Physical Violence, Emotional and Psychological Violence, Harmful Traditional Practices and Socio-Economic Violence.

Sexual Violence

1. Rape and marital rape

2. The invasion of any part of the body of the victim or of the perpetrator with a sexual organ, or of the anal or genital opening of the victim with any object or any other part of the body by force, coercion, taking advantage of a coercive environment, or against a person incapable of giving genuine consent (International Criminal Court).

3. Child sexual abuse, defilement and incest

Any act where a child is used for sexual gratification. Any sexual relations/interaction with a child.

4. Forced sodomy/anal rape

Forced/coerced anal intercourse, usually male-to-male or male-to-female.

5. Attempted rape or attempted forced sodomy/anal rape

Attempted forced/coerced intercourse; no penetration.

6. Sexual abuse

Actual or threatened physical intrusion of a sexual nature, including inappropriate touching, by force or under unequal or coercive conditions.

7. Sexual exploitation

Any abuse of a position of vulnerability, differential power, or trust for sexual purposes; this includes profiting momentarily, socially or politically from the sexual exploitation of another; Sexual exploitation is one of the purposes of trafficking in persons (performing in a sexual manner, forced undressing and/or nakedness, coerced marriage, forced childbearing, engagement in pornography or prostitution, sexual extortion for the granting of goods, services, assistance benefits, sexual slavery).

8. Forced prostitution (also referred to as sexual exploitation)

Forced/coerced sex trade in exchange for material resources, services and assistance, usually targeting highly vulnerable women or girls unable to meet basic human needs for themselves and/or their children.

9. Sexual harassment

Any unwelcome, usually repeated and unreciprocated sexual advance, unsolicited sexual attention, demand for sexual access or favours, sexual innuendo or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature, display or pornographic material, when it interferes with work, is made a condition of employment or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment.

10. Sexual violence as a weapon of war and torture



SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Sexual violence includes sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. It refers to any act, attempt, or threat of a sexual nature that result, or is likely to result in, physical, psychological and emotional harm. Sexual violence is a form of gender-based violence.

Crimes against humanity of a sexual nature, including rape, sexual slavery, forced abortion or sterilisation or any other forms to prevent birth, forced pregnancy, forced delivery, and forced child rearing, among others. Sexual violence as a form of torture is a defined as any act or threat of a sexual nature by which severe mental or physical pain or suffering is caused to obtain information, confession of punishment from the victim or third person, intimidate her or a third person or to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, racial or religious group.

Physical Violence

1. Physical Assault

Beating, punching, kicking, biting, burning, maiming or killing, with or without weapons; often in combinations with other forms of sexual and gender-based violence.

2. Trafficking, slavery

Selling and/or trading in human beings for forced sexual activities, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slaver, servitude or removal of organs.

Emotional and Psychological Violence

1. Abuse/Humiliation

Non-sexual verbal abuse that is insulting, degrading, demeaning; compelling the victim/survivor to engage in humiliating acts, whether in public or private; denying basic expenses for family survival.

2. Confinement

Isolating a person from friends/

family, restricting movements, deprivation of liberty or obstruction/restriction of the right to free movement.

Harmful Traditional Practices

1. Female genital mutilation (FGM)

Cutting of genital organs for non-medical reasons, usually done at a young age; ranges from partial or total cutting, removal of genitals stitching whether for cultural or non-therapeutic reasons; often undergone several times during lifetime, i.e., after delivery or if a girl/woman has been victim of sexual assault.

2. Early marriage

Arranged marriage under the age of legal consent (sexual intercourse in such relationships constitutes statutory rape, as the girls are not legally competent to agree to such unions).

3. Forced marriage

Arranged marriage against the victim's/survivor's wishes, which is exposed to violent and/or abusive consequences if he/she refuses to comply.

4. Honour killing and maiming

Maiming or murdering a woman or a girl as a punishment for acts considered inappropriate with regards to her gender, and which are believed to bring shame on the family or community (e.g. pouring acid on a young woman's face as punishment for bringing shame to the family for attempting to marry someone not chosen by the fam-

ily), or to preserve the honour of the family (i.e. as a redemption for an offence committed by a male member of the family).

5. Infanticide and/or neglect

Killing, withholding food from, and/or neglecting female children because they are considered to be of less value in a society than male children.

6. Denial of education for girls or women

Removing girls from school, prohibiting or obstructing access of girls and women to basic, technical, professional or scientific knowledge.

Socio-Economic Violence

1. Discrimination and/or denial of opportunities, services

Exclusion, denial of access to education, health assistance or remunerated employment; denial of property rights.

2. Social exclusion/ostracism based on sexual orientation

Denial of access to services or social benefits, prevention of the exercise and enjoyment of civil, social, economic, cultural and political rights, imposition of criminal penalties, discriminatory practises or physical and psychological harm and tolerance of discriminatory practices, public or private hostility to homosexuals, transsexuals or transvestites.

3. Obstructive legislative practice

Prevention of the exercise and enjoyment of civil, social, economic, cultural and political rights by women.

Sources :

- "Sexual and Gender-Based Violence against Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons" UNHCR, May 2003
- "Its in our hands Stop the Violence Against Women" Amnesty International publication, 2004
- ICGLR Protocol on Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence Against Women and Children in the Great Lakes Region (2006)



Girls promote the '18+ Ending Child Marriages in Southern Africa' campaign. Photo: www.plan-international.org

STATEMENT

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON THE GREAT LAKES REGION



SECRÉTARIAT EXÉCUTIF
CONFÉRENCE INTERNATIONALE
SUR LA RÉGION DES GRANDS LACS

National coordinations meeting preparing the icglr summit and special session on sexual gender based violence (sgbv)

Statement by **Ambassador Liberata Mulamula**
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ICGLR

Munyonyo Resort Hotel, 11th December 2011, Kampala, UGANDA

Honourable Syda Bbumba, Minister of Gender, Labour and Social Development of the Republic of Uganda and our Guest of Honour;

Ambassador James Mugume, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of the Ministry of Foreign of the Republic of Uganda, National Coordinator and our Senior Officials from the Government of the Republic of Uganda here present ;

Amb. General Solomon Mumbi, National Coordinator of the Republic of Zambia and Chair of the National Coordinators meeting; Distinguished National Coordinators; Excellencies Members of the Diplomatic Corps, Chairpersons of the Regional Civil Society Forum, the Youth here present; Members of the Regional Women Forum and Steering Committees on Regional Initiatives; Dear Partners and Friends; Dear Colleagues Invited Guests; Dear Colleagues; Invited Guests; Ladies and Gentlemen;

On behalf of the Secretariat of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region and on my own behalf, I wish to welcome you all to Kampala, and to this meeting of the National coordinators, which kick starts preparations for the 4th ICGLR Summit and special session on SGBV.

I would like also to express our solidarity with the peoples of the Democratic Republic of Congo in this post-electoral period and call for calm to allow the democratic electoral fruits to reach its peoples.

We are happy once again to be in Kampala for ICGLR meetings, which the Government of the Republic of Uganda has over time graciously hosted. For most of us, it is a homecoming.

We sincerely thank you, Honourable Minister of Gender, Labour and Social Development of the Republic of Uganda for gracing this occasion in person despite your very busy schedule leading to the Summit. We thank the Government for the excellent fa-



cilities and usual warm hospitality extended to us since our arrival in this beautiful and green city of Kampala.

I wish in a special way to recognize the tireless efforts made by the Gender Ministry and Foreign Affairs teams in close collaboration with the ICGLR Secretariat in organizing the hosting of this year's Great Lakes Region Summit in Kampala and ensuring its success.

In the same vein, I wish to thank our distinguished National Coordinators for their continued hard work and commitment to their task in laying ground for a successful Summit. The agenda before the meeting is a clear testimony of the work ahead for the National Coordinators in the next two days in preparing the Inter-Ministerial meeting preceding the Summit. I extend my best wishes for fruitful deliberations.

Honourable Guest of Honour; Invited Guests; Ladies and Gentlemen;

We are meeting few weeks after Arusha following the successful Regional Experts and Ministers of Gender from ICGLR Member States and partners met in Arusha, Tanza-

nia from 1- 4th November 2011 at the High Level Consultation meeting on Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV).

The Ministers of Gender considered and adopted the report of experts and made recommendations to the Summit. We heartily thank, Honourable Rukia Nakadama, Minister of State for Gender (of the Republic of Uganda) who chaired the Ministers meeting and whose guidance and leadership enabled the meeting to be successfully concluded.

I should also extend our gratitude to our distinguished National Coordinators who fully participated in the meeting and whose contributions were significant. In this context the National Coordinators recognize that a lot has been done but that a lot more remains to be done in concretizing the Ministers recommendations in to Summit resolutions. This meeting therefore offers an opportunity to consider the specific draft outcomes of the Special Session of the Summit on SGBV with focus on **"Prevention, End of Impunity, and support to Victims of Sexual Gender Based Violence"**, as an overarching theme.

Honourable Guest of Honour; Distinguished National Coordinators; Dear Partners and Friends;

During this meeting, I will have an occasion to present my summary report on the work of the ICGLR in the last 5 years I have been in office, outlining the achievements, the challenges and the way forward before I present it to the Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee Meeting (RIMC) on 13th December 2011. The meeting will also receive the Secretariat financial report and Audit report for the year 2009 - 2010 and consider the Secretariat annual budget and status of Member States contributions. I do not therefore wish to take much of your time in indulging in the details at this stage.

In conclusion, I wish to draw the National Coordinators attention that the meeting will be briefed on the on a new joint project between ICGLR and the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID) on the training of the young diplomats from the ICGLR Member States. I encourage you all to attend this briefing at the end of your deliberations tomorrow afternoon for

mutual benefit. It may be recalled that in 2009 in Bujumbura, Burundi, the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies with the support from the Swiss Development Cooperation conducted the first training to 25 young diplomats from the ICGLR Member States. I am glad to report that under the new three-year joint project, the Institute will organize similar trainings. I would like to thank all our partners in making the meetings of the Summit possible. Specifically, I pay tribute to UNWOMEN, Norway, Sweden, Swiss Development Cooperation and USA Government for their valuable financial contribution.

Finally, Honourable Guest of Honour, let me say that while I will have an occasion to bid farewell to all of you at the Summit before my term in Office come to an end in a few days to come, allow me to use this opportunity to thank the Government of the Republic of Uganda and especially the leadership of this great country and the National Coordination mechanism under the able leadership of Amb. James Mugume for taking me as a daughter of the land and for the unwavering support to the work of the Secretariat since its establishment that has enabled us to gather here today. I leave office with great memories of this wonderful country and peoples.

To the National Coordinators, you have been my strength and inspiration. I thank you for making me what I am today, for allowing me to serve you and the membership with gratifying sense of accomplishment, however modest. To my Staff we will have our own occasion to start begging bye bye. It is not how much we have accomplished but how far we have come! I will forever cherish our moments together in our collective struggle for peace and stability in the region. As I watch the TV screens with great trepidation on the post elections situation in DRC, I can only say the struggle continues!-A luta continua! I have confidence we shall overcome!

**Mwebare.
I thank you for your kind attention.**

Interview: Executive Secretary Zachary Muburi-Muita discusses various interventions to fight SGBV

Make coming years, years of action

The Great Lakes Region is grappling with the problem of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV). This has been a concern of the Great Lakes Region since its inception in the 1990s. The ICGLR was established in 2004. In an interview, the Executive Secretary of the ICGLR **Ambassador Zachary Muburi-Muita** (pictured) discusses how the ICGLR acknowledged the problem of SGBV and made various interventions to fight it. He discusses the achievements and challenges of this struggle, as well as the strategies in place to ensure that access to justice is enhanced and impunity eradicated.

How prevalent is sexual and gender based violence in the Great Lakes Region?

It is worse in conflict settings but it is also common in peace times, in our homes, in our institutions, in our communities, in our schools and at times in our places of worship. It negatively impacts on our economic, social, cultural, political and security conditions as a people. We must collectively fight it. There are always new statistics and usually alarmingly high in each country showing both reduction and increment depending on particularities of each.

The situation is always increasingly changing for the better as countries get determined to eradicate it. When the circumstances change into war however, the situation deteriorates for women and children especially as they become easy targets of sexual violence.

Briefly explain how the 12 member states in the region came together to address SGBV as a major concern of the ICGLR.

The problem of sexual violence has been around since time immemorial subsequent wars in the DRC in late 1990s where it was clear that rape was used as a weapon of war. When the leaders of the Great Lakes Region met in Dar-es-Salaam in 2004, they identified sexual violence as one source of insecurity and that its eradication would contribute to peace, stability and development.

The leaders working together with many stakeholders including the AU, UN, civil society, religious leaders endorsed the Pact on Security, Stability and Development which committed them to prevent and punish all forms of sexual violence. They also endorsed a specific Protocol, the first of its kind, to fight sexual violence:

The Protocol on Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children. On this they added the Goma Declaration on Sexual Violence in 2008 and the Kampala Declaration on Sexual Violence in 2011. It is now time to implement the commitments.

The ICGLR has a progressive legal framework to enhance access to justice for SGBV and fight impunity. What are the mechanisms for enforcement of this legal framework?

Implementation or enforcement of the obligations under the ICGLR legal instruments is by member states



Executive Secretary of the ICGLR Ambassador Zachary Muburi-Muit

“ACT NOW
Let us stop the shame that this heinous crime is putting on our Member States both in conflict and in peace. Let us stop it in our homes, schools and work places. If we put what we have agreed in practice we shall eradicate sexual violence. Let us make the next years, years of action.

which are required to respect, protect and fulfill provision under those instruments. They either domesticate the Pact and the protocols or implement it as it is (depending on legal system of the Member states). Many countries now have a law to fight sexual violence. They cooperate to fight sexual violence through the Protocol of judicial cooperation.

You might have heard that suspected criminals have been extradited from one country to another to face serious crimes including sexual violence. We have a National Coordinator in each member state through whom we work with their respective countries. We have Regional inter-ministerial committees (RIMC) where Foreign Ministers of the 12 countries meet to share their progress and challenges in implementing the Pact on security, Stability and Development and above all we have a Summit which can even impose sanctions over failure to implement the Pact and protocols, when the explanation is not satisfactory to them. The Secretariat is only a technical and coordinating arm of the ICGLR. We have the convening power in all this.

How easy is it to coordinate these regional efforts on SGBV? Share your experience on the adequacy of the coordination arrangements, the major challenges and what can be done to enhance the regional coordination efforts

It is easy because there is the necessary political will to fight sexual violence. The Member States gave us the convening power to coordinate them. They respond when we call on them. You should not forget that in 2004 sexual violence was identified as one core area to address if the region was to have sustainable peace and development. The Member States committed to prevent and punish the crime of sexual violence in 2006; they also put in place a binding instrument, the first of its kind, on prevention and suppression of sexual violence against women and children. In 2011 they went ahead and

put in place the Kampala Declaration to fight sexual violence. With all this commitment, it is the easiest thing to rally the region against the cause. They are determined to see zero tolerance on sexual violence. The only challenging situation is having some of our member states in conflict, which inhibits their own capacity and commitment to fighting all forms of violence.

How is the ICGLR addressing the disparity in progress made by each member state in improving access to justice and ending impunity for SGBV?

We know that ICGLR Member States are not homogeneous. The different stages of development at which they are, present opportunities for us. We use this to learn from the best practices so that we aspire to achieve them and inspire many towards the direction of best practices. We also learn from the challenges from our different member states in order to avoid them. We share both knowledge and challenges so that we can all move together knowing that there are standards below which we should not be. In the case of SGBV, we are developing training manuals and curriculum under the RTF that will provide minimum standards below which we should never be. It is a struggle in which we all have to be engaged.

What major successes have been achieved in implementing the Protocol on the Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children?

The Protocol is a short instrument with about 7 articles only but it is a solid weapon to fight sexual violence. Most countries have legislated against sexual violence; we now have the Regional Training Facility, governments and civil society have used the Protocol to sensitise and train different stakeholders against sexual violence.

We have also further elaborated the protocol by putting in place more enabling instruments such as the Goma declaration and Kampala declaration to better implement

the protocol. Members are measuring their performance against the commitments in these instruments. In fact some countries have action plans about these instruments. We keep monitoring and evaluating and reporting to the responsible organs of the ICGLR such as the RIMC and Summit for future guidance and support as the case might be.

What are the major challenges that the ICGLR faces in its efforts to end impunity for SGBV?

Conflicts that keep cropping up in Member States make the struggle difficult. In conflict, the state is neither fully operational nor effective. The organs of the state, such as the police, courts and the general law and order, all break down. Yet that is when sexual violence is rampant and impunity reigns. We also still have challenges of culture and corruption that makes it difficult to access justice. In some cases, there are no enabling laws to fight sexual violence.

How do you ensure that best practices are identified, shared and replicated?

We allow the exchange of experiences of professionals through convening meetings in different countries. We also use the national structures to share reports and then monitor and ensure that they report on progress every six months in RIMC and the Summit

What are you planning to do to consolidate these successes and address the challenges?

We intend to vigorously support the existing structures namely the RTF, the Regional Women Forum and the Department of gender, women and children which are working on different aspects of sexual violence.

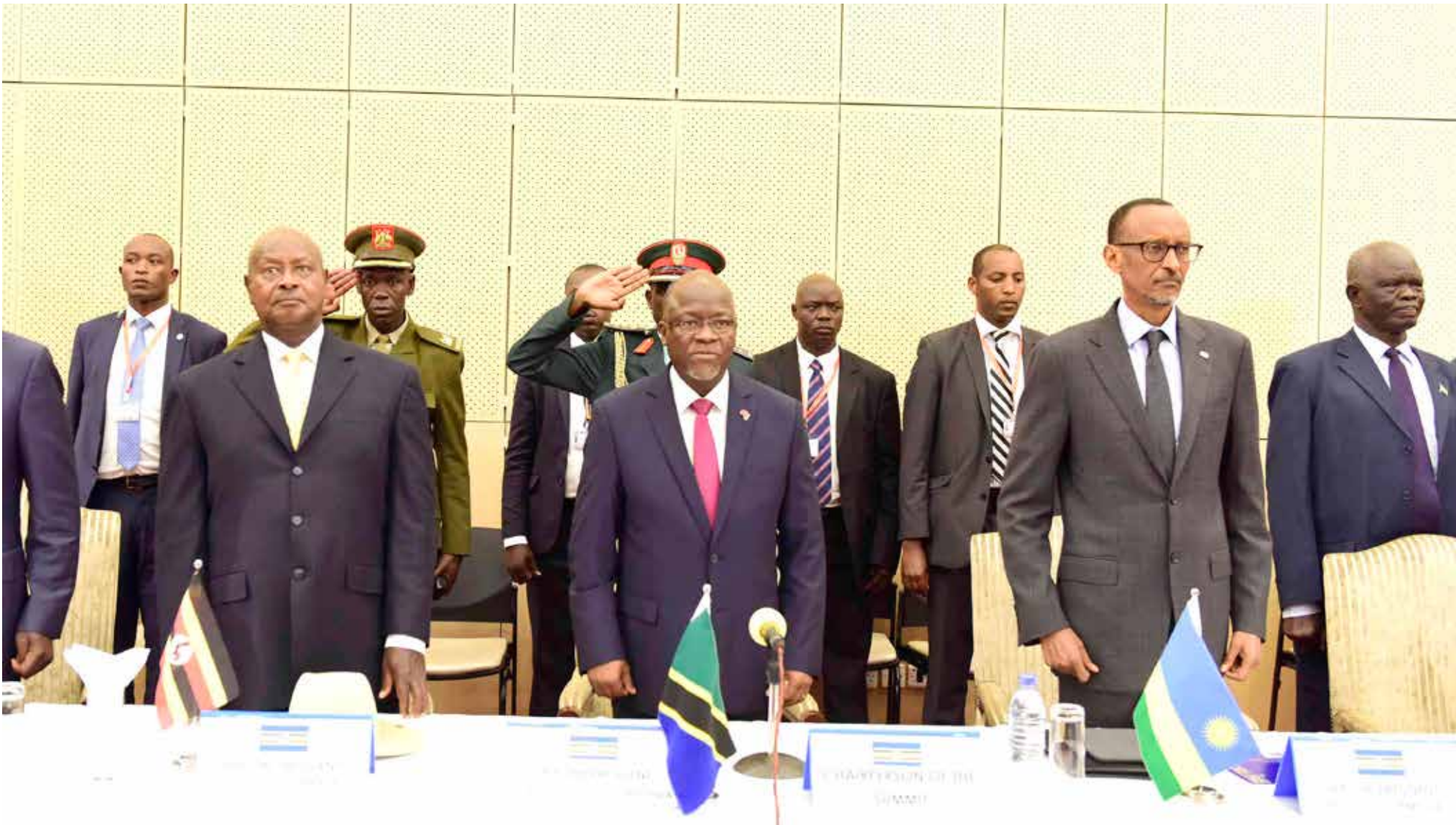
In particular the RTF will be supported to train and sensitise the major stakeholders in the prevention and punishment of sexual violence as well as supporting the survivors. We will also keep coordinating, collaborating and encouraging national structures in all the 12 Member States to implement the ICGLR Instruments on sexual violence. We will encourage our Member States and partners to push this agenda forward.

How much more should the Member States do to support the coordination structure and mechanisms in place for ending impunity?

They should keep the political will alive and also provide the funding necessary for the structures to keep running as per the already agreed resolutions, declarations and protocols of the ICGLR.

Your last word?

Let us stop the shame that this heinous crime is putting on our Member States both in conflict and in peace. Let us stop it in our homes, schools and work places. If we put what we have agreed in practice we shall eradicate sexual violence. Let us make the next years, years of action. Let us support the RTF and the ICGLR mechanisms in general to fight sexual violence. If we put what we have agreed in practice we shall eradicate sexual violence. Let us support the RTF and the ICGLR mechanisms in general to fight sexual violence.



The contributions received have helped in fostering further partnerships, acquiring a permanent home for RTF, among other milestones.



Declaration of the Heads of State and Government of the Member States of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region

at
The Fourth Ordinary Summit and Special Session on Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)

15th - 16th December, 2011
at Munyonyo Commonwealth Resort,
Kampala, Uganda

Preamble

WE the Heads of State and Government of the Member States of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR); gathered in Kampala Uganda on 15th - 16th, December 2011, at the 4th Ordinary Summit and Special Session on Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) under the theme "United to prevent, end impunity and provide support to the Victims of SGBV"

HAVING considered the report of Ministers responsible for Gender, on SGBV, the report of Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee (RIMC), and the Declaration of the First Ladies from the Region in preparation to this 4th Ordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government from the ICGLR Member States, highlighting efforts made by the Member States, challenges and gaps on prevention, ending impunity and support to survivors;

FURTHER considering that Sexual and Gender Based Violence in its various manifestations occurs in peacetimes, during conflict and in post conflict settings;

DEEPLY concerned that the incidence of SGBV in the Great Lakes Region remains alarmingly high, despite the existence of institutional, policy and legal frameworks for the prevention of SGBV and punishment of perpetrators;

RECOGNIZING the severe impact of SGBV on the individual, family, community and the State;

CONSCIOUS of the serious threat that SGBV pose on security and development of the Great Lakes Region;

RECALLING commitments made under the Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region (2006) and the Protocol on Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children (2006);

MINDFUL of other relevant international instruments and mechanisms including the UN Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)(1979) and UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009) and 1960 (2010) and the Africa UNITE campaign to end Violence against Women and Girls;

AWARE of the importance of the theme of this Summit and the Special Session on SGBV;

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

HAVING considered the report and recommendation from the high level consultative meeting of Ministers responsible for Gender held in Arusha, Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee (RIMC) report preceding the Summit and the Kampala Declaration of the First Ladies on Sexual and Gender Based Violence;

DO HEREBY commit to the following:

Prevention of SGBV

1. Within an agreed time-frame to eradicate existing armed groups in the Region in conformity with the ICGLR Protocol on Non Aggression and Mutual Defense;
2. Fully domesticate and implement the Protocol on Non aggression and Mutual Defense, the Protocol on Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children as well as the Protocol on Judicial Cooperation, in order to eradicate existing armed groups, combat Sexual and Gender Based Violence and cooperate in matters of extradition, judicial investigation and prosecution of perpetrators;
3. Increase financial and technical support for judicial and security sector reform on human and women's rights and SGBV eradication. This will provide institutional capacity and accountability to protect women, girls, men and boys from Sexual and Gender Based violence in peace time, during conflict and post-conflict situations as a political and security strategy within 12 months;
4. Direct responsible institutions to strengthen or establish national level structures for prevention, protection and support of women and children against SGBV and establish early warning mechanisms within 12 months after this 4th Ordinary Summit and Special Session on Sexual and Gender Based Violence to facilitate reporting and documentation of SGBV cases from the grassroots and fast track prosecution of those responsible for perpetrating sexual violence to make sure that justice is done swiftly and effectively;
5. Integrate SGBV in the national planning frameworks and allocate budget lines for prevention, and response to SGBV particularly the ministries of

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Gender, Health, Defense, Security, Interior, Local Government, Justice, Education and Youth;

6. To establish Gender desks (where they do not exist), strengthen them where they exist and allocate relevant budget to facilitate the fight against SGBV within the next financial year.

Ending Impunity for SGBV

7. Declare «Zero Tolerance Now» on SGBV crimes and impunity. Launch national campaigns for zero tolerance on SGBV simultaneously including men in all member states of the ICGLR after this Summit and Special Session on SGBV (2011);
8. Direct concerned ministries to establish and strengthen special courts, sessions and procedures in order to fast track SGBV cases in the Police and the Judiciary (with adequate financing, facilities and gender sensitive officers) within 12 months after this Summit and Special Session on SGBV (2011) to improve access to justice and protect SGBV victims/survivors in line with Article 6 (5) of ICGLR Protocol (2006) on Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children;
9. Establish appropriate mechanisms to investigate and prosecute sexual violence crimes, including crimes that amount to genocide, war crimes or crimes against humanity committed in the region.

Providing support to victims/survivors of SGBV

10. Fast-track the contribution to ICGLR special fund for reconstruction and development so that assistance for victims/survivors of SGBV is provided in line with Article 6 (8) of the ICGLR Protocol (2006);
11. Fast track the establishment and scale up "Recovery Centres" that provide comprehensive services of free medical, psychosocial, forensic, judicial/prosecution services within the next two years of this Summit and Special Session on SGBV. Such centres should be user friendly particularly to women, youth, children, persons with disabilities and men;
12. Direct the relevant ministries and public agencies to establish and strengthen income generating programmes and initiatives to support

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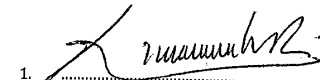
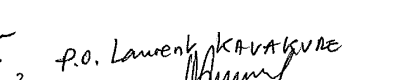
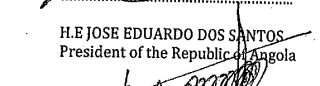
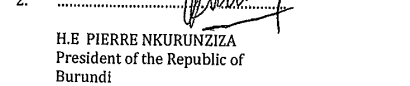
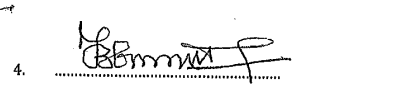
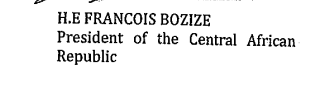
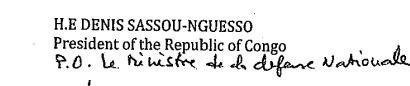
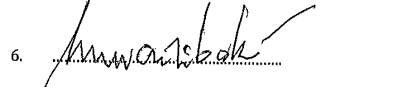
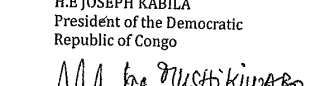
women especially those in cross-border trade areas, targeting survivors of SGBV.

General Resolution

13. Strengthen the Levy Mwanawasa Regional Centre for Democracy, Good Governance, Human Rights and Civic Education in order to fulfill its mandate;
14. We take note of Uganda's offer to host the Regional SGBV Training Facility and direct the ICGLR Secretariat to prepare the financial requirements (budget) for the establishment of the Facility and present it to the next meeting of RIMC for decision;
15. Put in place national and regional media strategy for sustainable use of electronic and print media especially radios, news papers, televisions and traditional /community based means to expose the atrocities of sexual and gender based violence, facilitate the sensitization and fight against SGBV;
16. Direct the Secretariat to strengthen the inter-linkages between the Regional Initiatives on Natural Resources (RINR) and the Regional Initiative on Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) by supporting Member States to mainstream gender aspect into their national policies on the natural resources sector and foster regional exchange and cooperation for sustainable development of the natural resources sector;
17. Direct the Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee (RIMC) at their next meeting in Bangui, Central African Republic (CAR) to discuss unemployment, more especially among youth, within the context of infrastructure development and investment and present the report to their respective Heads of state for relevant action and later report to the next Summit;
18. Empowerment of Professional and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) such as International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA) and all the others in the Great Lakes Region that provide support to victim/survivors of SGBV;
19. Direct ICGLR Secretariat to follow-up the implementation of the above resolutions and report on regular basis to RIMC and the Summit during

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Done at Kampala, Uganda on, 15th December 2011

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|---|--|
| 1. 
H.E JOSE EDUARDO DOS SANTOS
President of the Republic of Angola | 2. 
P.O. Laurent Nkuruwiza
President of the Republic of Burundi |
| 3. 
H.E FRANCOIS BOZIZE
President of the Central African Republic | 4. 
H.E DENIS SASSOU-NGUESSO
President of the Republic of Congo
P.O. le ministre de la defense Nationale |
| 5. 
H.E JOSEPH KABILA
President of the Democratic Republic of Congo | 6. 
H.E MWAI KIBAKI
President of the Republic of Kenya |
| 7. 
H.E PAUL KAGAME
President of the Republic of Rwanda | 8. 
H.E OMAR HASSAN AHMED EL BASHIR
President of the Republic of Sudan |
| 9. 
H.E JAKAYA MRISHO KIKWETE
President of the United Republic of Tanzania | 10. 
H.E YOWERI KAGUTA MUSEVENI
President of the Republic of Uganda |
| 11. 
H.E MICHAEL CHILUFYA SATA
President of the Republic of Zambia | |

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Préambule

NOUS, Chefs d'Etat et de Gouvernement des États membres de la Conférence Internationale sur la Région des Grands Lacs (CIRGL), réunis à Kampala en Ouganda les 15 et 16 décembre 2011 lors du 4^{ème} Sommet ordinaire et de la Session spéciale sur les violences sexuelles et basées sur le genre (VSBG) sous le thème "Unis pour Prévenir, Mettre fin à l'Impunité et Accorder une Assistance aux Victimes des VSBG";

AYANT examiné les rapports des réunions des Ministres en charge du Genre sur les VSBG et du Comité interministériel régional (RIMC) ainsi que la Déclaration des Premières Dames de la région tenues en préparation du présent 4^{ème} Sommet ordinaire des Chefs d'Etat et de Gouvernement des États membres de la CIRGL soulignant les efforts déployés par les États Membres mais également les défis et les lacunes en matière de prévention, de lutte contre l'impunité et d'assistance aux victimes;

CONSTATANT PAR AILLEURS que les violences sexuelles et basées sur le genre dans leurs différentes manifestations sont commises en temps de paix, dans des situations de conflit et de post-conflit;

PROFONDÉMENT préoccupés par le fait que l'incidence des VSBG dans la région des Grands Lacs reste très élevée, malgré l'existence de cadres institutionnels, politiques et juridiques pour la prévention des VSBG et les sanctions infligées aux auteurs;

RECONNAISSANT la gravité de l'impact des VSBG sur les individus, les familles, les communautés et les États.

CONSCIENTS de la menace grave que représentent les VSBG pour la sécurité et le développement de la région des Grands Lacs.

RAPPELANT l'engagement pris par les Chefs d'Etat et de Gouvernement dans le cadre du Pacte sur la Sécurité, la Stabilité et le Développement dans la région des Grands Lacs (2006) et du Protocole pour la Prévention et l'Eradication des violences sexuelles faites aux femmes et aux enfants (2006);

CONSCIENTS de l'existence d'autres instruments et mécanismes internationaux pertinents en la matière, notamment la Convention des Nations Unies pour l'élimination de toutes formes de discrimination à

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l'égard des femmes (CEDAW) (1979) et les Résolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009) et 1960 (2010) du Conseil de Sécurité de l'ONU ainsi que la campagne 'Africa UNITE' visant l'éradication des violences faites aux femmes et aux filles;

CONSCIENTS de l'importance du thème du présent Sommet et Session spéciale sur les VSBG;

AYANT EXAMINÉ le rapport et les recommandations de la réunion consultative de haut niveau des Ministres en charge du Genre tenue à Arusha (Tanzanie), le rapport du Comité interministériel régional (RIMC) qui a précédé le Sommet et la Déclaration de Kampala des Premières Dames sur les violences sexuelles et basées sur le genre;

NOUS ENGAGEONS PAR LES PRÉSENTES comme suit:

Prévention des VSBG

1. Dans un délai convenu, éradiquer les groupes armés existant actuellement dans la région, conformément au Protocole de la CIRGL sur la Non-agression et la Défense mutuelle;
2. Intégrer dans les législations nationales et mettre en œuvre complètement le Protocole sur la Non-agression et la Défense Mutuelle, le Protocole sur la Prévention et l'Eradication des Violences Sexuelles faites aux Femmes et aux Enfants, ainsi que le Protocole sur la Coopération Judiciaire en vue d'éradiquer les groupes armés existants, combattre les violences sexuelles et basées sur le genre et coopérer en matière d'extradition, d'enquêtes judiciaires et de poursuite des auteurs;
3. Renforcer l'appui financier et technique pour la réforme des secteurs de la justice et de la sécurité en matière de droits de la personne humaine et en particulier ceux de la femme, et d'éradication des VSBG. Ceci permettra le renforcement des capacités institutionnelles et la responsabilisation afin de protéger les femmes, les filles, les hommes et les garçons contre les violences sexuelles et basées sur le genre, en temps de paix, pendant les situations de conflit et de post-conflit, dans le cadre d'une stratégie politique et sécuritaire dans un délai de 12 mois;

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Déclaration des Chefs d'Etat et de Gouvernement des États Membres de la Conférence Internationale sur la Région des Grands Lacs

lors de leur Quatrième Sommet ordinaire et Session
Spéciale sur les Violences Sexuelles et Basées sur le
Genre (VSBG)

15 - 16 décembre 2011
à Munyonyo Commonwealth Resort,
Kampala (Ouganda)

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4. Charger les institutions compétentes de renforcer ou de mettre en place des structures au niveau national pour la prévention, la protection et l'assistance aux femmes et aux enfants contre les VSBG et des mécanismes d'alerte précoce dans un délai de 12 mois, à compter du 4^{ème} Sommet ordinaire et de la Session spéciale sur les violences sexuelles et basées sur le genre, pour faciliter la dénonciation et la documentation des cas de VSBG à la base et accélérer les poursuites des auteurs des violences sexuelles, afin de s'assurer que la justice soit rendue promptement et efficacement ;

5. Intégrer les VSBG dans les cadres de planification nationale et allouer des lignes budgétaires pour la prévention et l'intervention en cas de VSBG, en particulier en faveur des ministères du Genre, de la Santé, de la Défense, de la Sécurité, de l'Intérieur, de l'Administration locale, de la Justice, de l'Education et de la Jeunesse ;

6. Mettre en place des bureaux de liaison pour le Genre (là où ils n'existent pas), tout en renforçant les bureaux existants, et allouer un budget conséquent pour faciliter la lutte contre les VSBG pour la prochaine année budgétaire ;

Mettre fin à l'impunité.

7. Déclarer la « Tolérance Zéro Immédiate » envers les crimes de VSBG et l'impunité et lancer des campagnes nationales sur la tolérance zéro envers les VSBG, en impliquant particulièrement les hommes simultanément dans tous les États membres de la CIRGL, à la suite du présent Sommet et de la Session Spéciale sur les VSBG (2011) ;

8. Charger les ministères compétents de créer et de renforcer des tribunaux spéciaux, des sessions et des procédures spéciales afin d'accélérer le traitement des cas de VSBG au niveau de la magistrature et des services de sécurité (dotés de ressources financières, d'infrastructures adéquates et d'agents sensibles au genre) dans les 12 mois qui suivront le présent Sommet et Session Spéciale sur les VSBG (2011), afin d'améliorer l'accès à la justice et protéger les victimes/rescapés des VSBG, conformément à l'Article 6 (5) du

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14. Nous prenons note de l'offre de l'Ouganda d'abriter le Centre de formation régional sur les VSBG et chargeons le Secrétariat de la CIRGL d'évaluer les besoins financiers (budget) pour la mise en place dudit Centre et les soumettre à la prochaine réunion du RIMC.

15. Mettre en place une stratégie nationale et régionale de communication s'appuyant sur l'utilisation durable des médias électroniques et de la presse écrite, en particulier la radio, les journaux, la télévision et les moyens de communication communautaires/traditionnels pour dénoncer les atrocités des violences sexuelles et basées sur le genre, faciliter la sensibilisation et lutter contre les VSBG.

16. Charger le Secrétariat de la CIRGL de renforcer les liens entre les Initiatives régionales sur les ressources naturelles (IRRN) et l'Initiative régionale sur les VSBG en assistant les États membres à intégrer la dimension genre dans leurs politiques nationales afférentes au secteur des ressources naturelles et promouvoir un échange et une coopération régionaux pour le développement durable du secteur des ressources naturelles ;

17. Charger le Comité interministériel régional (RIMC) de convoquer une session spéciale lors de sa prochaine réunion à Bangui en République Centrafricaine (RCA) sur le chômage, en particulier le chômage des jeunes dans le contexte du développement des infrastructures et d'investissement et de présenter leur rapport aux Chefs d'État.

18. Autonomiser les Organisations professionnelles et de la Société civile (OSC) telles que la Fédération internationale des avocates (FIDA) et autres dans la région des Grands Lacs qui apportent assistance aux victimes/rescapés des VSBG ;

19. Charger le Secrétariat de la CIRGL de suivre la mise en œuvre des résolutions ci-dessus et de rendre régulièrement compte au RIMC et au Sommet pendant leurs sessions ordinaires. Un mécanisme d'établissement de rapports devrait être mis en place pour assurer le suivi de la conformité au Protocole et à la Déclaration de Kampala sur les VSBG.

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Protocole de la CIRGL sur la Prévention et l'Eradication des Violences Sexuelles faites aux Femmes et aux Enfants (2006) ;

9. Créer des mécanismes appropriés pour mener des enquêtes et poursuivre les auteurs des crimes de violences sexuelles, y compris les crimes de génocide, les crimes de guerre ou les crimes contre l'humanité commis dans la région ;

Assistance aux victimes/rescapés des VSBG

10. Accélérer le versement des contributions au fonds spécial de la CIRGL pour la reconstruction et le développement afin d'offrir une assistance aux victimes/rescapés des VSBG, conformément à l'Article 6 (8) du Protocole de la CIRGL (2006) ;

11. Accélérer la mise en place et renforcer les « Centres de rétablissement » offrant des services médicaux, psychosociaux, médico-légaux, d'assistance juridique et judiciaire complets gratuits, dans les deux ans qui suivront le présent Sommet et Session Spéciale sur les VSBG. Ces centres devraient être conviviaux, en particulier pour les femmes, les jeunes, les enfants, les personnes vivant avec un handicap et les hommes ;

12. Charger les ministères compétents et les organismes publics de mettre en place et de renforcer les programmes générateurs de revenus et des initiatives visant à appuyer les femmes, en particulier celles engagées dans le commerce transfrontalier, tout en ciblant les rescapés des VSBG.

Recommandations d'ordre général

13. Renforcer le Centre régional Levy Mwanawasa pour la Démocratie, la Bonne Gouvernance, les Droits de l'Homme et l'Education Civique pour qu'il puisse remplir son mandat.

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Fait à Kampala (Ouganda), le 15 décembre 2011

S.E. JOSE EDUARDO DOS SANTOS
Président de la République d'Angola

P.O. Laurent Nkundwa
S.E. PIERRE NKURONZIZA
Président de la République du Burundi

S.E. FRANÇOIS BOZIZE
Président de la République Centrafricaine

S.E. DENIS SASSOU-NGUESSO
Président de la République du Congo
P.O. Le Ministre de la Défense nationale

S.E. JOSEPH KABILA
Président de la République Démocratique du Congo

S.E. MWAI KIBAKI
Président de la République du Kenya

S.E. PAUL KAGAME
Président de la République du Rwanda

S.E. OMAR HASSAN AHMED EL BASHIR
Président de la République du Soudan

S.E. JAKAYA MRISHO KIKWETE
Président de la République Unie de Tanzanie

S.E. YOWERI KAGUTA MUSEVENI
Président de la République de l'Ouganda

S.E. MICHAEL CHILUFYA SATA
Président de la République de Zambie

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Conférence internationale sur la Région des Grands Lacs

Pacte sur la sécurité, la stabilité et le développement dans la Région des Grands Lacs

14 au 15 décembre 2006
Modifiée 2012

01

Préambule

Nous, Chefs d'Etat et de gouvernement des Etats membres de la Conférence internationale sur la Région des Grands Lacs;

Conscients de la nécessité de respecter la démocratie et la bonne gouvernance ainsi que les principes fondamentaux consacrés par la Charte des Nations unies et par l'Acte constitutif de l'Union africaine, notamment l'intégrité territoriale, la souveraineté nationale, la non-ingérence et la non-agression, l'interdiction pour tout Etat membre de permettre l'utilisation de son territoire comme base pour l'agression ou la subversion contre un autre Etat membre ;

Conscients de la nécessité d'une volonté politique effective et soutenue de rechercher conjointement des solutions pacifiques à nos différends et, plus particulièrement d'honorer nos engagements dans un esprit de confiance mutuelle;

Réaffirmant notre détermination individuelle et collective de fonder les relations entre nos Etats sur les instruments juridiques internationaux, les principes fondamentaux universels, les options politiques prioritaires et les principes directeurs contenus dans la Déclaration de Dar-es-Salaam et de transformer la Région des Grands lacs, dans le cadre de notre destin commun, en un espace de paix et de sécurité durables, de stabilité politique et sociale, de croissance économique et de développement partagés, par une coopération et une intégration multisectorielles au seul profit de nos peuples;

Déterminés à assurer le respect strict des normes et principes fondamentaux du droit international humanitaire, notamment ceux afférents à la protection et à l'assistance devant être apportées aux femmes, aux enfants, aux réfugiés et aux personnes déplacées, dont les violations ont gravement affecté les populations concernées ;

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Réaffirmant notre décision prise à Dar-es-Salaam de déclarer la Région des Grands Lacs Zone spécifique de reconstruction et de développement et déterminés à relever ensemble le défi de la reconstruction et du développement avec la pleine participation de tous nos peuples, notamment en partenariat avec les organisations de la société civile, les jeunes, les femmes, le secteur privé et les organisations religieuses, ainsi qu'en coopération étroite avec les organisations régionales compétentes à savoir l'Union africaine, les Nations unies et la communauté internationale en général ;

Résolus à adopter et à mettre en œuvre de manière collective les Programmes d'action, Protocoles et mécanismes propres à traduire dans les faits les options politiques prioritaires et les principes directeurs de la Déclaration de Dar-es-Salaam

Convenons Solennellement De Ce Qui
Suit:

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Chapitre I. Dispositions Générales

Article 1

Définitions

Aux fins du présent Pacte, à moins que le contexte n'en décide autrement, on entend par :

- a) Conférence: La Conférence internationale sur la Région des Grands Lacs ;
- b) Région des Grands Lacs: La Région composée de l'ensemble des territoires des douze Etats membres du champ de la Conférence ;
- c) Déclaration de Dar-es-Salaam: La Déclaration sur la paix, la sécurité, la démocratie et le développement dans la Région des Grands Lacs, adoptée lors du premier Sommet de la Conférence à Dar-es-Salaam (République-unie de Tanzanie) le 20 novembre 2004 ;
- d) Etats membres: Les onze Etats membres du champ de la Conférence internationale sur la paix, la sécurité, la démocratie et le développement dans la Région des Grands Lacs à savoir : la République d'Angola, la République du Burundi, la République Centrafricaine, la République du Congo, la République démocratique du Congo, la République du Kenya, la République de l'Ouganda, la République du Rwanda, la République du Sud Soudan, la République du Soudan, la République unie de Tanzanie, la République de Zambie ;
- e) Mécanismes nationaux de Coordination : mécanisme national de coordination facilitant la mise en œuvre du présent Pacte dans un Etat membre ;

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- f) Sommet: L'organe composé des Chefs d'Etat et de gouvernement des Etats membres;
- g) Comité interministériel régional: L'organe composé des Ministres des Etats membres en charge de la Conférence ;
- h) Secrétariat de la Conférence: Le Secrétariat de la Conférence internationale sur la Région des Grands Lacs ;
- i) Pacte: Le Pacte sur la sécurité, la stabilité et le développement dans la Région des Grands Lacs ;
- j) Protocoles: Les Protocoles adoptés sous ce Pacte ainsi que ceux dont l'adoption interviendrait ultérieurement;
- k) Programmes d'action: Les Programmes d'action adoptés sous ce Pacte;
- l) Projets: Les projets adoptés sous ce Pacte ainsi que ceux dont l'adoption interviendrait ultérieurement;
- m) Mécanisme de suivi: Le mécanisme institutionnel régional de suivi adopté dans le cadre de ce Pacte;
- n) Fonds: Le Fonds spécial pour la reconstruction et le développement prévu par le Pacte ;

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Article 2
Objectifs

Le présent Pacte a pour objectifs de :

- a) donner un cadre juridique aux relations entre les Etats membres auquel le présent Pacte s'applique, comme prévu à l'article 4 ;
- b) mettre en œuvre la Déclaration de Dar-es-Salaam, les Protocoles, les Programmes d'action, le Mécanisme régional de suivi, le Fonds spécial pour la reconstruction et le développement adoptés à l'article 3 du présent Pacte ;
- c) créer les conditions de sécurité, de stabilité et de développement durables entre les Etats membres.

Article 3
Contenu

- 1. La Déclaration de Dar-es-Salaam, les Protocoles, les Programmes d'action, le Mécanisme régional de suivi et le Fonds font partie intégrante du présent Pacte ;
- 2. Toute référence au Pacte s'applique à toutes ses composantes.

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Article 4

Champ d'application et principes fondamentaux

- 1. Le présent Pacte régit les relations juridiques entre les Etats l'ayant ratifié dans le cadre et les limites des domaines prioritaires choisis en matière de paix et de sécurité, de démocratie et de bonne gouvernance, de développement économique et d'intégration régionale ainsi que de questions humanitaires, sociales et environnementales;
- 2. Les Etats membres s'engagent à fonder leurs relations sur le respect des principes de souveraineté nationale, d'intégrité territoriale, de non-ingérence dans les affaires intérieures des autres Etats membres, de non-agression, de coopération et de règlement pacifique des différends

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Chapitre II. Des Protocoles

Article 5

Protocole sur la non-agression et la défense mutuelle dans la Région des Grands Lacs

Les Etats membres s'engagent à maintenir la paix et la sécurité, conformément au Protocole sur la non-agression et la défense mutuelle dans la Région des Grands Lacs et, en particulier:

- (a) à renoncer à recourir à la menace ou à l'utilisation de la force comme politique ou instrument visant à régler les différends ou litiges ou à atteindre les objectifs nationaux dans la Région des Grands Lacs ;
- (b) à s'abstenir d'envoyer ou de soutenir des oppositions armées ou des groupes armés ou rebelles sur le territoire d'un autre Etat Membre ou de tolérer sur leur territoire des groupes armés ou rebelles engagés dans des conflits armés ou impliqués dans des actes de violence ou de subversion contre le gouvernement d'un autre Etat ;
- (c) à coopérer à tous les niveaux en vue du désarmement et du démantèlement des groupes rebelles armés existants et à promouvoir une gestion participative conjointe de la sécurité étatique et humaine aux frontières communes.
- d) si un Etat membre ne se conforme pas aux dispositions du présent Article, un Sommet extraordinaire sera convoqué en vue d'examiner les mesures appropriées à prendre

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Article 6

Protocole sur la démocratie et la bonne gouvernance

Les Etats membres s'engagent à respecter et à promouvoir la démocratie et la bonne gouvernance, conformément au Protocole sur la démocratie et la bonne gouvernance, et, en particulier :

- (a) à respecter et à promouvoir les principes et normes démocratiques ;
- (b) à mettre en place des institutions de promotion de la bonne gouvernance, de l'état de droit et du respect des droits de l'homme, à travers des systèmes constitutionnels fondés sur la séparation des pouvoirs, le pluralisme politique, l'organisation régulière d'élections libres, démocratiques et crédibles, la gestion participative, transparente et responsable des affaires, des institutions et des biens publics.

Article 7

Protocole sur la coopération judiciaire

Les Etats membres s'engagent, conformément au Protocole sur la coopération judiciaire, à coopérer en matière d'extradition, d'enquête et de poursuites judiciaires.

Article 8

Protocole sur la prévention et la répression du crime de génocide, des crimes de guerre et des crimes contre l'humanité et de toute forme de discrimination

Les Etats membres, conformément au Protocole sur la prévention et la répression du crime de génocide, des crimes de guerre et des crimes contre l'humanité ainsi que de toute forme de discrimination, reconnaissent que le crime de génocide, les crimes de guerre et les crimes contre l'humanité sont des crimes en droit international et contre les droits des peuples, et s'engagent en particulier :

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- a) à s'abstenir, à prévenir et à réprimer de tels crimes ;
- b) à condamner et à éliminer toute forme de discrimination et de pratiques discriminatoires ;
- c) à veiller au strict respect de cet engagement par toutes les autorités et institutions publiques, nationales, régionales et locales ;
- (d) à proscrire toute propagande et organisation qui s'inspire d'idées ou de théories fondées sur la supériorité d'une race ou d'un groupe de personnes d'origine ethnique particulière, ou qui tentent de justifier ou d'encourager toute forme de haine ou de discrimination raciale, ethnique, religieuse ou fondée sur le genre.

Article 9

Protocole sur la lutte contre l'exploitation illégale des ressources naturelles

Les Etats membres conviennent, conformément au Protocole sur la lutte contre l'exploitation illégale des ressources naturelles, de mettre en place des règles et mécanismes régionaux pour lutter contre l'exploitation illégale des ressources naturelles qui constitue une violation du droit de souveraineté permanente des Etats sur leurs ressources naturelles et qui représente une source grave d'insécurité, d'instabilité, de tension et de conflits, et en particulier :

- (a) de s'assurer que toute activité portant sur les ressources naturelles respecte scrupuleusement la souveraineté permanente de chaque Etat sur ses ressources naturelles et soit conforme aux législations nationales harmonisées ainsi qu'aux principes de transparence, de responsabilité, d'équité et de respect de l'environnement et des établissements humains ;

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- (b) de mettre fin par des voies judiciaires nationales et internationales, à l'impunité dont jouissent les personnes physiques et morales dans l'exploitation illégale des ressources naturelles ;
- (c) de mettre en place un mécanisme régional de certification de l'exploitation, de l'évaluation et du contrôle des ressources naturelles dans la Région des Grands Lacs.

Article 10

Protocole sur la zone spécifique de reconstruction et de développement

Les Etats membres conviennent, conformément au Protocole sur la zone spécifique de reconstruction et de développement, de mettre en œuvre une dynamique de développement économique et d'intégration régionale de proximité, en application de la décision contenue dans la Déclaration de Dar-es-Salaam, de faire de la Région des Grands Lacs une zone spécifique de reconstruction et de développement et, à cet effet, instituent en particulier :

- (a) des bassins transfrontaliers de développement pour promouvoir une intégration régionale de proximité des populations aux frontières des pays de la Région ;
- (b) un Fonds spécial pour la reconstruction et le développement ayant pour but de financer la mise en œuvre des Protocoles, des Programmes d'action retenus dans les domaines prioritaires de la paix et de la sécurité, de la démocratie et de la bonne gouvernance, du développement économique et de l'intégration régionale, du traitement des questions humanitaires et sociales, ainsi que des questions liées à l'environnement.

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Article 11

Protocole sur la prévention et la répression de la violence sexuelle à l'égard des femmes et des enfants

Les Etats membres s'engagent, conformément au Protocole sur la prévention et la répression de la violence sexuelle à l'égard des femmes et des enfants, à lutter contre ce fléau grâce à des mesures de prévention, dépénalisation et de répression en temps de paix comme en temps de guerre, conformément aux lois nationales et au droit pénal international.

Article 12

Protocole sur la protection et l'assistance aux personnes déplacées

Les Etats membres conviennent, conformément au Protocole sur la protection et l'assistance aux personnes déplacées, d'apporter une protection et une assistance spéciales aux personnes déplacées et en particulier, d'adopter et de mettre en œuvre les Principes directeurs relatifs aux personnes déplacées tels que proposés par le Secrétariat des Nations Unies.

Article 13

Protocole sur les droits à la propriété des rapatriés

Les Etats membres s'engagent, conformément au Protocole sur les droits de propriété des rapatriés à assurer la protection juridique des propriétés des personnes déplacées et des réfugiés, dans leurs pays d'origine, et en particulier à :

- a) adopter des principes juridiques en vertu desquels les Etats membres garantissant aux réfugiés et aux personnes déplacées la récupération, à leur retour dans leur

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zone d’origine, de leurs biens avec l’assistance des autorités traditionnelles et administratives locales ;

- (d) coordonner la mise en oeuvre des activités de la Conférence relevant des communautés économiques régionales compétentes et des institutions décentralisées et affiliées ;
- (e) élaborer les programmes d’activités et le projet de budget du Secrétariat de la Conférence, et assurer leur exécution après leur approbation par le Comité interministériel.

3. Le Secrétaire exécutif peut demander une assistance technique auprès de l’Union africaine, des Nations unies, des partenaires et organisations de coopération ;

4. Le budget de fonctionnement du Secrétariat de la Conférence est proposé tous les deux ans par le Secrétaire exécutif et approuvé par le Sommet sur recommandation du Comité interministériel régional. Il est alimenté par les contributions statutaires des Etats Membres et des ressources mobilisées auprès des partenaires à la coopération et au développement de la Région des Grands Lacs et par toute autre ressource déterminée par la Conférence ;

5. Le mode de calcul des contributions des Etats membres et la monnaie de paiement sont déterminés par le Comité interministériel ;

6. Le recrutement des cadres supérieurs du Secrétariat respecte le principe de la représentation équitable et s’effectue sur une base rotative entre les ressortissants des Etats membres.

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2. Le Comité interministériel établit des mécanismes de coopération visant à coordonner les activités de mise en oeuvre du Pacte en collaboration avec les Etats membres, les communautés économiques régionales et les institutions régionales compétentes.

Chapitre VI. Règlement Pacifique Des Différends

Article 28

Règlement pacifique des différends

1. Les Etats membres conviennent de régler pacifiquement leurs différends ;
2. A cet effet, les Etats membres s’engagent à régler leurs différends par la négociation, les enquêtes, la médiation, la conciliation ou par tout autre autre moyen politique dans le cadre du Mécanisme régional de suivi ;
3. Les Etats membres s’engagent à recourir aux instruments de règlement des litiges visés au paragraphe 2 ci-dessus, avant d’avoir recours à d’ autres mécanismes internationaux, politiques, diplomatiques ou judiciaires ;
4. les Etats membres peuvent s’inspirer des moyens de règlement pacifique prévus par la Charte des Nations Unies et l’Acte constitutif de l’Union africaine après avoir épuisé les moyens de règlement pacifique des différends visés aux paragraphes 2 et 3 ci-dessus.

Article 29

Différends relatifs à l’interprétation et à l’application du présent Pacte

Les Etats membres conviennent de soumettre à la Cour africaine de justice tout différend relatif à l’interprétation ou à l’application de l’intégralité ou d’une partie

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du Pacte lorsque le recours aux instruments visés à l’article 28 (2), (3), (4) s’avère infructueux.

Chapitre VII. Dispositions Finales

Article 30

Signature et ratification

1. Le présent Pacte est ouvert à la signature et à la ratification de tous les Etats membres de la Conférence;
2. Les instruments de ratification sont déposés auprès du Secrétariat de la Conférence.

Article 31

Non-sélectivité et réserves

1. Les Etats membres acceptent d’appliquer l’intégralité des dispositions du présent Pacte selon le principe de la non sélectivité ;
2. Aucune réserve ne peut être émise sur le présent Pacte.

Article 32

Dépôt et enregistrement

1. Le Secrétaire-Général des Nations Unies est le dépositaire du présent Pacte ;
2. Le Secrétariat de la Conférence prend les dispositions nécessaires pour l’enregistrement du présent Pacte après son entrée en vigueur, auprès du Secrétaire Général des Nations unies, et du Président de la

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- c) la promotion de l’intégration régionale de proximité par le renforcement de la coopération et de la solidarité multisectorielle entre populations aux frontières des pays limitrophes.

Article 33

Entrée en vigueur

1. Le présent Pacte entre en vigueur trente jours après réception du huitième instrument de ratification par le Secrétariat de la Conférence;
2. Pour tout Etat ayant ratifié le présent Pacte après la date de réception par le dépositaire du huitième instrument de ratification, le présent Pacte entre en vigueur le trentième jour après la date de réception de son instrument de ratification par le Secrétariat de la Conférence.

Article 34

Amendements et révision

1. Tout Etat membre ayant ratifié le présent Pacte peut proposer des amendements ou une révision du Pacte ;
2. Toute proposition d’amendement ou de révision du Pacte est adressée par écrit au Secrétariat de la Conférence qui en informe immédiatement les autres Etats membres ;
3. La proposition d’amendement ou de révision du Pacte est soumise aux Etats membres au moins six mois avant la session du Sommet au cours de laquelle elle sera proposée et adoptée ;
4. La décision d’amendement ou de révision du Pacte est prise à la majorité qualifiée de huit des douze Etats membres présents et votants ;

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5. Tout amendement ou révision adopté, conformément aux dispositions de l'alinéa 4 du présent article, est adressé par le Secrétariat de la Conférence à tous les Etats membres pour acceptation. Les instruments d'acceptation des amendements ou des révisions sont déposés auprès du Secrétariat de la Conférence ;
6. L'amendement ou la révision entre en vigueur pour tous les Etats membres 30 jours après réception par le Secrétariat de la Conférence du 8ème instrument de ratification conformément à l'article 33 ci-dessus.
7. Toutefois, les projets et budgets approuvés dans le cadre des Programmes d'action, des Protocoles et des mécanismes de suivi peuvent faire l'objet de modifications sans recours aux procédures d'amendement ou de révision prévues.

Article 35
Dénonciation

1. Toute Etat membre ayant ratifié le présent Pacte peut se retirer de ce Pacte dix ans après l'entrée en vigueur du Pacte dans ce pays en notifiant par écrit au dépositaire sa décision de se retirer ;
2. Ce retrait prend effet après l'expiration du délai d'un an à partir de la date de réception de la notification du retrait par le dépositaire.

En foi de quoi, nous, Chefs d'Etat et de Gouvernement des pays membres de la Conférence Internationale sur la Région des Grands Lacs, avons signé solennellement le présent Pacte en cinq versions originales, en anglais, français, arabe, portugais et kiswahili, chaque version faisant également foi.

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Fait à Nairobi, le 15 / 12 / 2006

1. S.E. JOSE EDUARDO DOS SANTOS Président de la République d'Angola	2. S.E. PIERRE NIKUNZINZIMU Président de la République du Burundi
3. S.E. FRANCOIS BOZIZE Président de la République Centrafricaine	4. S.E. DENIS SASSOU-NGUESSO Président de la République du Congo
5. S.E. JOSEPH KABILA Président de la République démocratique du Congo	6. S.E. MWAI KIBAKI Président de la République du Kenya
7. S.E. YOWERI KAGUTA MUSEVENI Président de la République d'Ouganda	8. S.E. PAUL KAGAME Président de la République du Rwanda
9. S.E. OMAR HASSAN AHMED EL-BAHIR Président de la République du Soudan	10. S.E. JAKAYA MRISHO KIKWETE Président de la République unie de Tanzanie
11. S.E. LEVY MWANAWASA Président de la République de Zambie	

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Signed at Juba, Republic of South Sudan on 24 / 12 / 2013

H.E. Salva Kiir Mayardit
President of the Republic of South Sudan

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NOTE CONCEPTUELLE:

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON THE GREAT LAKES REGION



SECRÉTARIAT EXÉCUTIF
CONFÉRENCE INTERNATIONALE
SUR LA RÉGION DES GRANDS LACS

Conférence Régionale sur les Stratégies pour la Mise en œuvre des Instruments de la CIRGL sur les Violences Basées sur le Sexe et le Genre dans la Région des Grands Lacs.

Conférence de Haut Niveau pour les Ministres du Genre, les autorités judiciaires, les Parlementaires, les Coordonnateurs Nationaux de la CIRGL ainsi que les Centres de la CIRGL et les Forums sur les Stratégies pour la Mise en œuvre des Instruments de la CIRGL sur les Violences basées sur le Genre.
Kampala, Ouganda, du 1er au 3 décembre 2017

Lieu de la tenue de la conférence: Munyonyo Commonwealth Resort Hotel, Kampala-Uganda
Date: 1er au 3 Décembre 2017

Nathan Mwesigye Byamukama
Ag. Director,
Centre de Formation Régionale de la CIRGL (RTF)
pour la Prévention et la Répression des Violences Basées sur le Genre

Introduction

La Violence Sexuelle est l'un des crimes les plus répandus, et le plus complexe dans la Région des Grands Lacs que la Conférence Internationale sur la Région des Grands Lacs (CIRGL) s'est engagée à éradiquer. Sa prévention, la criminalisation et punition n'ont été ni faciles ni efficaces. La lutte menée pour mettre fin à ce crime se poursuit et il faut attaquer ce problème sur tous les fronts en utilisant une approche multisectorielle, à même de relever le défi. Il est plus que temps de réévaluer la mise en œuvre de ces instruments par les Etats Membres au moment où le Pacte sur la Sécurité, la Stabilité et le Développement dans la Région des Grands Lacs (ce que d'autres qualifient de Constitution de la "CIRGL") et son Protocole relatif à la Prévention et la Répression des Violences Sexuelles Contre les Femmes et les Enfants auront 11 ans d'âge après leur signature par les Etats Membres. En outre, le 15 décembre sera célébré le sixième anniversaire de la signature de la Déclaration de Kampala sur les Violences Sexuelles.

Historique et contexte

La CIRGL est une organisation intergouvernementale composée de 12 Etats Membres qui ont signé et ratifié le Pacte sur la Sécurité, la Stabilité et le Développement dans la Région des Grands Lacs. Le Pacte comporte 10 protocoles et 4 Programmes d'Actions. Le rôle des parlements, de la jeunesse, des femmes et la société civile de participer à l'instauration de la paix, la sécurité et le développement dans la Région des Grands Lacs

est institutionnalisé. Le Forum des Parlements de la CIRGL (FP-CIRGL) basé à Kinshasa, le Forum régional des jeunes (FRJ) basé à Nairobi, le Forum de la Société Civile (RCSF) de Dar es Salam et le Forum Régional des Femmes (RWF) qui sera basé à Kigali contribuent à la mise en œuvre du mandat international du Secrétariat de la CIRGL qui a son siège à Bujumbura et qui consiste à assurer le suivi de la mise en œuvre du Pacte sur la Sécurité, la Stabilité et le Développement dans la Région des Grands Lacs. Par ailleurs, la CIRGL a d'autres organes décentralisés comme le Régional Training Facility/Centre de Formation Régional (RTF) sur la Prévention des Violences sexuelles et basées sur le Genre à Kampala et le Centre Levy Mwanawasa sur la Démocratie et la Bonne Gouvernance dont le siège est à Lusaka (LMWCDGG). En sus, le Mécanisme de Coordination Nationale de la CIRGL mandaté aux termes du Pacte est un organe de la CIRGL qui assure la mise en œuvre du Pacte au niveau national. Au niveau régional, le secrétariat de la conférence suit la mise en œuvre des décisions du comité des ministres des affaires étrangères, appelé comité Interministériel Régional (RIMC) et des Chefs d'Etat et de Gouvernement (Somet).

La Problématique

La CIRGL possède des instruments légaux dûment signés dont certains ont été ratifiés avec un caractère contraignant pour les Etats Membres. Ces instruments ne sont malheureusement pas connus ni vulgarisés comme il se doit auprès de tous les

acteurs. La CIRGL possède aussi un mécanisme pour la mise en œuvre de ses instruments et décisions tant aux niveaux national que régional, notamment ceux en lien avec les violences sexuelles; mais, pour diverses raisons, entre autres, le manque de sensibilisation, les mécanismes ne sont pas exploités de manière uniforme ou harmonieuse. Les obligations aux termes de ces instruments exigent que les Etats Membres domestiquent ces instruments; financent les structures créées par ces instruments, amendent les lois et les procédures enclenchées par les cours et tribunaux qui sont contraires aux instruments et prennent des mesures juridiques et administratives légales dans le but de s'y conformer. La conférence se mettra d'accord sur des stratégies réalistes visant la mise en œuvre effective de ces instruments dans tous les secteurs gouvernementaux tout en réalisant des concertations significatives avec la société civile, les femmes et la jeunesse.

Objectifs

Les objectifs de la conférence sont les suivants:

(i) Informer les Ministres en charge du genre, les Parlementaires, les Autorités judiciaires, les Coordonnateurs Nationaux et les Membres du FRF sur la situation en général, en soulignant les défis et les faiblesses persistants dans la mise en œuvre des Instruments de la CIRGL sur les Violences Sexuelles (plus particulièrement la Déclaration de Kampala et le Protocole de la CIRGL sur les Violences sexuelles et Basées sur le Genre);

(ii) Rendre opérationnel le Comité du FP-CIRGL sur les Femmes, les Enfants et les Personnes Vulnérables qui aura la charge de gérer la mise en œuvre des Instruments de la CIRGL sur les violences sexuelles au sein des Etats Membres respectifs;

(iii) Evaluer la mise en application des instruments de la CIRGL par les Etats Membres en matière des Violences sexuelles et Basées sur le Genre six ans la mise en œuvre de la Déclaration de Kampala et 10 ans pour ce qui concerne la mise en œuvre du Pacte;

(iv) Partager le travail et les stratégies du Secrétariat de la CIRGL et de ses organes décentralisés dont le Centre régional de formation sur les VSBG et les Foras de la Société civile, des jeunes Forum des Parlementaires et tous les organes de la CIRGL engagés dans la lutte contre le crime des violences sexuelles;

(v) Sensibiliser les délégués sur le progrès réalisé par le Centre régional de formation depuis le début, il y a 3 ans et sensibiliser les Etats Membres sur leur rôle pour les besoins d'efficacité du Centre en tant que centre d'excellence;

(vi) Ouvrir officiellement le nouveau bureau du Centre de Kampala, Ouganda.

La conférence sera ouverte par un invité d'Honneur (probablement la Première Dame et Ministre en charge de l'Education & des Sports) ou le Ministre en charge des Affaires Etrangères. La méthodologie utilisée prévoit des exposés d'experts conformément au programme, avec des sessions thématiques sur la do-

mestication, l'accès à la justice, la formation des acteurs, la sensibilisation, la Prévention, la lutte contre l'impunité, l'appui aux victimes et le Financement des Violences sexuelles et Basées sur le Genre.

La conférence se terminera par l'inauguration des nouveaux bureaux du RTF à Munyonyo,

1ère Journée: Sera axée sur les Instruments de la CIRGL, d'autres instruments régionaux et les instruments de l'ONU sur les Violences sexuelles et Basées sur le Genre. Il sera également prévu une évaluation de l'état de leur mise en œuvre par les Etats Membres.

2ème Journée: Il est prévu des débats sur les perspectives des gouvernements et des organisations de la Société Civile sur comment ils voient l'évolution, les défis et les recommandations/nouvelles stratégies après les 10 ans de la mise en œuvre du Pacte et les 6 ans de la mise en œuvre de la Déclaration de Kampala.

3ème Journée: Sera axée sur les débats avec les membres des différents gouvernements et des partenaires sur les stratégies d'un Centre régional d'Excellence pour combattre le crime de violences sexuelles et basées sur le genre et se terminera par une information sur le Centre et l'ouverture officielle de ce dernier.

Justification

Le Pacte sur la Sécurité, la Stabilité et le Développement dans la Région des Grands Lacs engage les Etats

NOTE CONCEPTUELLE:



People Fleeing fighting in South Sudan. The Most affected are women and children and face sexual and gender based Violence.

Membres de la CIRGL à prévenir, criminaliser et punir les actes de violences sexuelles aussi bien en temps de paix qu'en temps de guerre (art 11). La CIRGL possède en outre un Protocole sur la Prévention et la Répression des Violences Basées sexuelles et basées sur le Genre, signé et ratifié en même temps que le Pacte de la CIRGL par tous les Etats Membres. Le Protocole exige sa domestication et de ce point de vue, le rôle des parlementaires est crucial. Le Protocole créé aussi le Centre de Formation Régional sur la Prévention des violences sexuelles, avec pour mandat de former et de sensibiliser les autorités judiciaires, les officiers de police, les agents sociaux, le personnel médical et tout autre personne qui s'occupe des cas de violences sexuelles au sein des Etats membres de la CIRGL (art 6(9)). Ce centre est opérationnel depuis 3 ans et a formé plus de 450 acteurs professionnels sur la manière de traiter efficacement les cas de violences sexuelles.

Les instruments de la CIRGL sur les Violences sexuelles et Basées sur le Genre comportent : la Déclaration de Dar es Salaam (2004), l'article 11 du Pacte sur la Sécurité, la Stabilité et le Développement dans la Région des Grands Lacs, le Protocole sur la Prévention et la Répression des Violences Sexuelles contre les Femmes et les Enfants dans la Région des Grands Lacs, la Déclaration de Goma (2008) et la Déclaration de Kampala. Cependant, très peu d'acteurs sont au courant de leurs obligations aux termes de ces instruments et pourtant ils ont un rôle important dans leur mise en œuvre au niveau national. C'est le lieu de sensibiliser les participants sur ces instruments et de partager les rapports sur la portée du problème de violences sexuelles dans la Région des Grands Lacs

En étroite collaboration avec le Forum des Parlementaires (FP-CIRGL) basé à Kinshasa, en RDC, il préparera

des invitations à remettre par le biais des Parlements Nationaux des Etats Membres de la CIRGL à leurs Membres désignés pour servir dans le Comité du FP-CIRGL sur les Femmes, les Enfants et les Personnes Vulnérables pour rendre opérationnel le Comité des Femmes, des Enfants et des Personnes Vulnérables. Après la conférence, le Comité jouera un rôle central en s'assurant que les Parlements des Etats Membres priorisent la domestication des Instruments sur les Violences sexuelles et Basées sur le Genre, mènent un plaidoyer pour les budgets y relatif et répondent à leurs obligations financières aux termes de ces instruments.

La lutte contre les violences sexuelles exige des efforts collectifs et transversaux dans plusieurs domaines : la paix, la sécurité et le Développement, tel que reflété dans la Déclaration de Kampala sur les Violences sexuelles et Basées sur le Genre; de ce fait, les différents or-

ganes de la CIRGL et les centres et forums décentralisés marqueront leur entrée et contribution dans la lutte contre le crime des violences sexuelles et basées sur le genre dans leurs domaines respectifs. A l'exception du Centre où le mandat est de former et de sensibiliser les acteurs dans le domaine des Violences sexuelles et Basées sur le Genre, on attend un engagement des autres centres et forums de la CIRGL en démontrant comment ils comptent contribuer à la prévention, à la lutte contre l'impunité et assister les victimes des Violences sexuelles et Basées sur le Genre. Tous les participants ont un rôle à jouer dans la lutte contre le crime des violences sexuelles et basées sur le genre.

Vulgarisation du mandat du Centre de Formation

Le Centre de Formation Régional (RTF) (autrement appelé centre de Kampala pour la lutte contre les Violences sexuelles et Basées sur le

Genre) est une nouvelle institution de la CIRGL dont les services et la valeur doivent être vulgarisés. Il a été créé en application de l'Article 11 du Pacte de la CIRGL, l'Article 6(9) du Protocole de la CIRGL sur la Prévention et la Répression des Violences Sexuelles contre les femmes et les enfants ainsi que la Résolution 14 de la Déclaration de Kampala sur les Violences Sexuelles et les Sommets de la CIRGL ultérieurs et des décisions du Comité interministériel régional (RIMC). Le Centre de Formation Régionale de la CIRGL (RTF) sur la Prévention des Violences Sexuelles a été officiellement ouvert le 18 février 2014 et rendu opérationnel en avril 2014. Le mandat du Centre est de "...former et sensibiliser les unités de police, les autorités judiciaires, le personnel médical, les agents Sociaux et d'autres catégories des personnes qui traitent des cas de violences sexuelles dans la Région des Grands Lacs". C'est conforme aux engagements de la CIRGL de prévenir, de criminaliser, de combat-

tre l’impunité contre les crimes de violences sexuelles et d’appuyer les victimes de violence Sexuelles conformément à l’art 11 du Pacte et des Protocoles y relatifs.

Dès le début, il y a trois ans, le Centre a pu organiser huit (8) ateliers régionaux de haut niveau et des ateliers de formation au niveau national pour la Police, les Militaires, les officiers judiciaires, le personnel médical, les procureurs, la société civile et les journalistes dans la Région des Grands Lacs. La GIZ et d’autres partenaires ont appuyé ces formations. D’autres ont associé l’Initiative de la Banque Mondiale et des Pays Bas pour le Renforcement des Capacités dans l’Enseignement Supérieur (NICHE).

L’Initiative de la Banque Mondiale et des Pays Bas pour le Renforcement des Capacités dans l’Enseignement Supérieur (NICHE), appuie un projet de quatre ans dans le cadre du “Projet des Grands Lacs sur la Lutte contre les Violences sexuelles et Basées sur le Genre et la Santé des Femmes” et “le Renforcement Institutionnel du Centre pour assurer les Programmes de Formation dans la Prévention et la Réduction des Violences sexuelles et Basées sur le Genre (VSBG) dans la Région des Grands Lacs” respectivement. En général, les Projets appuient le Centre dans l’élaboration et la mise en œuvre de deux programmes de formation de haute qualité pour les acteurs et le renforcement des capacités du Centre à exécuter son mandat. Aux termes de ces deux projets, le Centre aura mis au point les manuels de formations standardisés et des programmes de formation pour les officiers judiciaires, la police, les agents d’assistance psycho-sociale, le personnel médical et les officiers de police d’ici avril 2018. Par ailleurs, le Centre aura 12 maîtres formateurs qui travailleront avec les consultants pour mettre au point des matériels de formation standardisés et les 120 Formateurs Nationaux (NT) (c.à.d. 10 de chaque Etat Membre) qui seront formés par les Maîtres Formateurs pour apporter leur appui à l’organisation des formations en cascade au niveau national pour les professionnels respectifs. Toutes ces évolutions doivent être communiquées aux acteurs des Etats Membres de la Conférence pour solliciter leur appui.

En conséquence, outre la sensibilisation des participants sur les instruments de la CIRGL, lesquels instruments visent la domestication pour une applicabilité facile dans les Etats membres, le Centre sollicitera auprès des acteurs l’appui dans les domaines suivants:

(i) Des programmes de formation du Centre en cascade au niveau National – Au moins 4 différentes formations (pour le personnel de la police, du judiciaire, d’assistance psycho-sociale et médicaux), s’appuyant sur les matériels élaborés par le Centre pour chaque Etat membre pour environ 35 professionnels par formation d’au moins cinq jours. Ces formations seront assurées dans les pays membres et auront besoin de l’appui des Coordinateurs Nationaux, des Parlementaires, des Ministres en charge du genre et

de représentant des femmes;

(ii) Appui à la Recherche – Le Centre poursuivra ses recherches dans les Etats Membres sur la problématique des Violences sexuelles et Basées sur le Genre pour les besoins de la formation. Nous pensons maintenant à une recherche comparative dans la Région des Grands Lacs pour évaluer le lien entre les violences sexuelles et l’industrie extractive (plus précisément dans les domaines de l’exploitation illégale des ressources nationales). Nous aurons aussi besoin des données sur ce qui existe et ce qui n’existe pas dans les différents Etats par rapport au renforcement des droits des femmes, de l’égalité en matière de genre et de l’équité conformément aux instruments des droits de l’homme et des normes pour les besoins d’améliorations et de conformité – partiellement à travers la formation pour le changement d’attitude et l’acquisition des aptitudes selon le cas;

(iii) Tribunaux Spéciaux sur les Violences Basées sur le Genre et le Sexe: - Les Etats Membres sensibilisés sur comment mettre en place les Tribunaux Spéciaux, des Sessions et Procédures Spéciales pour les cas des Violences Sexuelles tel que requis par la déclaration de Kampala. Certains Etats de la région sont en train d’évoluer lentement mais surement vers cet engagement (ex. l’Ouganda et le Burundi) et cette évolution sera partagée avec les Etats membres. Le personnel dans ces tribunaux sera formé par le Centre conformément à la Résolution 8 de la Déclaration de Kampala pour accélérer le traitement des dossiers de Violences sexuelles et Basées sur le Genre par la police et l’appareil judiciaire. En sus, le Centre travaillera avec l’appareil judiciaire pendant les formations pour veiller à la conformité avec l’Art 6(5) du protocole de la CIRGL sur les Violences sexuelles et Basées sur le Genre qui stipule que “les procédures pour la poursuite des personnes accusées de crime de violence Sexuelle auront un caractère sensible vu l’état émotionnel des victimes et des survivants de ces crimes. Aux termes de ces procédures ces victimes et survivants fourniront la preuve, à huis clos ou par vidéo, et ne seront ni forcées ni obligées de fournir des preuves dans une procédure criminelle ouverte; il ne sera non plus permis un quelconque dénigrement sur leur caractère et intégrité dans le cadre de la défense de toute personne accusée de crimes de Violence Sexuelle”;

(iv) Financement des dossiers de Violences sexuelles et Basées sur le Genre et Contribution au Fond Spécial pour la reconstruction et le développement: Sensibiliser les Etats Membres à mettre en œuvre les clauses du Protocole de la CIRGL sur la Prévention et la Répression des Violences Sexuelles contre les Femmes et les Enfants – et la Déclaration de Kampala sur les Violences Sexuelles (2011) – plus particulièrement celles qui ont trait à l’assistance aux victimes survivantes des violences sexuelles, plus particulièrement:

(a) Accélérer l’appui aux victimes en appliquant l’article 6 (8) du protocole sur les Violences sexuelles

et Basées sur le Genre . Il déclare “..... création de structure spéciale grâce au fond pour la reconstruction et le développement, dont le but sera d’apporter l’assistance sociale et juridique, le traitement médical, le soutien psychologique, la formation, la réhabilitation et la réintégration des survivants et des victimes de violences sexuelles ainsi qu’à ceux qui ne pourront identifier les auteurs de violences sexuelles”;

(b) Traitement accéléré des “Centres de récupération” tel que prévu aux termes de la Résolution 11 de KD, fournir des services complets d’assistance psycho-sociale, médico-sociaux et judiciaires/poursuites. Des services beaucoup plus assouplis particulièrement pour les femmes, la jeunesse, le PWD et les hommes”;

(c) Formation pour la Réhabilitation et Récupération en faveur du personnel carcéral- La plupart des initiatives de prévention des Violences sexuelles et Basées sur le Genre se focalisent sur les victimes. Les auteurs sont rarement inquiétés et donc l’impunité et l’injustice font le lit du récidivisme et davantage des actes de Violences sexuelles et Basées sur le Genre couplés de victimisation. Art 5(2) du Protocole de la CIRGL sur la situation des Violences Sexuelles “les Etats Membres veilleront à ce que les personnes condamnées pour les cas de violences sexuelles soient l’objet des mesures correctionnelles et de réhabilitation sociale pendant qu’elles servent leurs peines”. Des études ont démontré que la plupart des personnes en prison sont là pour des cas liés aux violences sexuelles, alors que le taux de condamnation est trop bas suite à la difficulté de réunir des preuves liées au crime. L’appui est requis pour que le Centre mette au point les manuels de formation qui aideraient le personnel carcéral à offrir les thérapies de réhabilitation des personnes condamnées pour actes de violences sexuelles afin de les amener à changer d’attitude par rapport à leur attitude affichée au moment de la commission du crime surtout les amener à régler définitivement leur comportement vis-à-vis des femmes, des hommes et la communauté une fois relaxées de la prison;

(d) Appui au Renforcement des capacités du Centre La Commission de l’Union Africaine a renouvelé son engagement à se positionner au centre de l’excellence non seulement pour la Région des Grands Lacs mais pour l’Afrique en général. La Résolution 14 du KD et l’Art 6(9) du Protocole de la CIRGL crée le Centre conformément à un mandat de formation et de sensibilisation des officiers judiciaires, des agents sociaux, des officiers médicaux, de la police et de tous ceux qui gèrent les dossiers de violence sexuelle. Cette institution doit dans sa formation inclure la gestion des survivants des Violences Sexuelles et Basées sur le Genre. Le Centre a fait un travail louable jusque-là, y compris dans l’acquisition d’un bureau permanent vu la nécessité d’améliorer la performance des ressources humaines et les infrastructures appropriées pour le centre d’excellence qui devra abriter un centre de formation pour les formateurs et les formés, un restaurant,

une bibliothèque, des activités extrascolaires et des centres de stimulation. Nous envisageons de réaliser tout cela dans les trois prochaines années pour assurer la pérennisation du centre. L’établissement aura besoin de l’appui des Etats Membres et des Partenaires au Développement pour accélérer la matérialisation de cette vision.

Résultats attendus

- a)** Election du Bureau du Comité du FP-CIGRL sur les Femmes, les Enfants et les Personnes Vulnérables;
- b)** Présentation sur les Instruments de la CIRGL sur les Violences sexuelles et Basées sur le Genre découlant d’un examen objectif de l’état de mise en œuvre des Instruments de la CIRGL, notamment le Pacte, le Protocole et la Déclaration de Kampala sur les Violences sexuelles et Basées sur le Genre au sein des Etats Membres de la CIRGL.
- c)** Faire une mise au point sur les Formations futures au niveau du Centre sur les Violences sexuelles et Basées sur le Genre;
- d)** Rapport de l’engagement sur les stratégies de mise en œuvre des Instruments de la CIRGL sur les Violences Sexuelles;
- e)** Présentation du communiqué final de la Réunion de Haut Niveau sur les Stratégies de mise en œuvre des instruments de la CIRGL sur les violences sexuelles.

Résultats escomptés

- a)** Le Bureau du Comité du FP-CIRGL sur le Genre, les Femmes et les Personnes Vulnérables sera installé avec pour mission de mener des plaidoyers pour la domestication des instruments de lutte contre les Violences sexuelles et Basées sur le Genre par les Parlements de la Région des Grands Lacs.
- b)** Les Parlementaires, les Ministres, les Coordonnateurs Nationaux et les représentants du Forum Régional des Femmes acquérons la compréhension du contenu de plusieurs instruments de la CIRGL sur les Violences sexuelles et Basées sur le Genre;
- c)** Les participants, c.à.d. les Parlementaires, les Ministres et les représentants des Mécanismes Nationaux de Coordination et du Forum Régional des Femmes vont acquérir ainsi une nette compréhension du Centre basé à Kampala (centre de Kampala) et une mise au point est prévue sur comment les services du Centre seront utilisés et comment le centre d’excellence sera appuyé;
- d)** Les progrès réalisés dans la mise au point du programme standardisé par le Centre seront partagés pour une meilleure appréciation et contribution;
- e)** Une discussion interactive sera tenue sur le progrès réalisé et les défis auxquels a fait face la mise en œuvre du Pacte de la CIRGL au cours des 10 dernières années et 6 ans après la déclaration de Kampala sur les violences sexuelles;
- f)** Des discussions seront organisées pour mieux cerner les défis et les leçons apprises dans la mise en œuvre des Protocoles;
- g)** Des consultants (s) feront des exposés sur les conclusions découlant des travaux sur l’accès à la justice en matière de genre au sein des Etats Membres de la CIRGL;

h) Les Parlementaires partageront les expériences de leurs Etats Membres respectifs dans la domestication des Instruments de la CIRGL sur les Violences sexuelles et Basées sur le Genre;

i) La documentation sur les rapports pertinents et les magazines sur les Violences sexuelles et Basées sur le Genre, le Centre, le Secrétariat de la CIRGL et d’autres organes de la CIRGL seront disponibles pour faciliter les partages et les discussions;

j) Les partenaires au Développement et les Etats Membres feront des sensibilisations sur la nécessité d’appuyer de manière pérenne le Centre comme centre d’excellence;

k) Un rapport de la réunion sera produit et partagé avec tous les acteurs.

Participants

- 1- Ministres du Genre (1x12)
- 2- Parlementaires (1x 12)
- 3- Patron de la Justice (1x12)
- 4- FRF (1x12)
- 5- Coordonnateurs nationaux (1x12)
- 6- Secrétariat de la Conférence (1x4)
- 7- Centre de Lusaka (1x1)
- 8- Forum Régional de la Société Civile (1x3)
- 9- Centre de Formation Régionale (RTF) (1x 8)
- 10- Regional Youth Forum (RYF) (1x2)
- 11- Forum de Parlement (1x3)
- 12- JVM (ix1)
- 13- JFC (1x1)
- 14- Norvège x 1
- 15- Ambassade d’Allemagne x1
- 16- Danemark
- 17- Chine
- 18- Représentants des Etats Membres de la CIRGL/Ambassadeurs

Société Civile

- 19- FIDA
 - 20- AMwA
 - 21- Action Aid
 - 22- UWONET
 - 23- SOS
 - 24- Plan-International
 - 25- WICCE
 - 26- Raising Voices
 - 27- CEDOVIP
- Partenaires (à peu près 10 ainsi que l’ONU-pourront se prendre en charge mais pourront être couverts dans le package de la conférence)**
- 29- GIZ x1
 - 30- UNITAR x1
 - 31- Coopération Suisse
 - 32- O/SESG-GLR
 - 33- O/SRSG-SVC
 - 34- Banque Mondiale x 1
 - 35- Ambassade des Pays Bas x1
 - 36- Représentant NICHE x 1
 - 37- Suède x 1
 - 38- British High Commission x1
 - 39- Union Européenne x 1
 - 40- Italie x 1
 - 41- DFID
 - 42- USAID/Consulat Américain

Gouvernement Ougandais

- 43- IGP/police
- 44- Genre
- 45- Justice
- 46- Tribunaux
- 47- JLOs
- 48- UPDF
- 49- Finance
- 50- SURGE
- 51- Prisons

Venue Munyonyo Commonwealth Resort Hotel, Kampala-Uganda.

NOTE CONCEPTUELLE:

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON THE GREAT LAKES REGIONSECRÉTARIAT EXÉCUTIF
CONFÉRENCE INTERNATIONALE
SUR LA RÉGION DES GRANDS LACS

La Déclaration de Goma sur l'Élimination de la violence sexuelle et la lutte contre l'impunité dans la Région des Grands Lacs -- Goma, le 18 Juin 2008

Nous, participants des États membres de la Conférence internationale sur la Région des Grands Lacs (CIRGL) délégués de différents ministères et départements gouvernementaux, de concert avec les organisations de la société civile, les leaders traditionnels et religieux, les organisations non gouvernementales internationales, les partenaires de développement et les agences onusiennes de la région, prenant part à la Consultation Régionale de Haut Niveau sur l'Élimination de la Violence Sexuelle et la Lutte contre l'impunité dans la Région des Grands Lacs tenue à Goma, République démocratique du Congo (RDC), du 16 au 18 Juin 2008,

Ayant écouté les témoignages sur le terrain des représentants des organisations de la société civile chefs traditionnels, des organisations de femmes, des chefs traditionnels et religieux, ainsi que les exposés des représentants du Fonds des Nations Unies pour les Populations (FNUAP), du Fonds des Nations Unies pour la Femme (UNIFEM), du Bureau du Haut Commissaire des Nations Unies pour les Droits de l'Homme (OHCHR), la Conférence Internationale sur la Région des Grands Lacs (CIRGL), le Vice-Gouverneur de Goma (RDC) la Mission des Nations Unies pour le Congo (MONUC) et le Vice-Commandant de la 8ème Région Militaire du Nord Kivu, et au vu des documents sur les histoires horribles de violence sexuelle et d'exploitation des femmes, des filles et des garçons,

Réaffirmant les dispositions des instruments régionaux et internationaux des Droits de l'Homme qui protègent les femmes et les enfants, tels que la Charte des Nations Unies (1945), la Déclaration Universelle des Droits de l'Homme (1948), les résolutions 1325 (2000) et 1612 (2005) du Conseil de Sécurité, la Convention sur l'Élimination de toutes les Formes de Discrimination à l'encontre des Femmes (1979), la Recommandation Générale 19 sur la Violence à l'égard des Femmes, la Recommandation Générale 19 sur la Violence à l'encontre des Femmes, la Convention relative aux Droits de l'Enfant (1989), le Protocole visant à prévenir, réprimer et punir la traite des personnes, en particulier des femmes et des enfants (2000), la Charte Africaine des Droits de l'Homme et des Droits des Peuples (1981), la Charte Africaine sur les Droits de l'homme et les Droits des Peuples (1981), le Protocole à la Charte Africaine sur les Droits de l'homme et les Droits des Peuples (2003) et la Charte Africaine sur les Droits et le Bien-Être des

Enfants (2000), le Statut de Rome (2002), la Déclaration de Bamako qui constitue la position commune africaine sur la prolifération, la circulation et le trafic sur les armes légères et les armes de petit calibre (2000), le Protocole de Nairobi pour la prévention, le contrôle et la réduction des armes légères et des armes de petit calibre (2004), les recommandations éthiques et de sécurité de l'Organisation Mondiale de la Santé pour la Recherche, la Documentation et l'Observation de la violence sexuelle dans les situations d'urgence;

Convaincus que le Protocole de la CIRGL sur la Prévention et la Suppression de la Violence Sexuelle à l'encontre des Femmes et des Enfants et le Projet de la CIRGL sur la Prévention et la Lutte contre l'Exploitation Sexuelle, les Abus et la Violence Basée sur le Genre et l'Assistance aux Victimes prévoient un cadre efficace et adéquat pour la prévention, la protection, la poursuite et la punition des auteurs de violence sexuelle dans la Région des Grands Lacs,

Conscients des conditions qui engendrent la violence sexuelle et l'impunité, telles que la persistance des guerres, l'insécurité, les pratiques culturelles répréhensibles, la discrimination, la corruption et les systèmes juridiques inadéquats dans la Région des Grands Lacs, Conscients que le pourcentage des victimes de la violence sexuelle s'accroît de manière inquiétante dans certains pays de la Région des Grands Lacs,

Profondément préoccupés par la pandémie de la violence sexuelle et sexospécifique (VSS) et les violations des Droits Fondamentaux des Femmes et des Enfants, et l'impunité prévalant dans la Région des Grands Lacs pour les cas ayant trait à la violence sexuelle et à l'exploitation, Compte tenu de la responsabilité qui incombe à l'État de protéger ses citoyens contre les violations des droits de l'homme, y compris la violence sexuelle et sexospécifique,

Conscients du fait que la violence sexuelle et sexospécifique représente une menace pour la sécurité nationale et régionale, et un facteur de propagation du VIH/SIDA,

Reconnaissant l'impact de la violence sexuelle et sexospécifique sur le développement économique des pays de la Région des Grands Lacs, Conscients du fait que la violence sexuelle et sexospécifique n'est pas seulement liée à des situations de crise et de guerre, Conscients du fait que la VSS est non seulement commise par des éléments armés, mais de

plus en plus par des civils également, Convaincus que la situation dans la Région des Grands Lacs est très complexe et spéciale et que tous les survivants, y compris les déplacés internes et les réfugiés ont besoin de protection, de justice et de réadaptation, en dépit des différences de situation sociale et de statut politique,

Conscients que la prolifération des armes légères ou de petit calibre a exacerbé le problème de la violence sexuelle et sexospécifique dans la région, Déterminés à travailler avec et à influencer sur nos gouvernements et organisations respectifs pour qu'ils contribuent à l'élimination de toutes les formes de violence basée sur le genre, en particulier la violence sexuelle, et prennent des mesures appropriées pour l'autonomisation et la représentation équitable des femmes et des enfants,

Convaincus que les efforts de lutte contre la violence sexuelle et sexospécifique impliquent un effort combiné des hommes, des femmes, des garçons et des filles ainsi que les institutions étatiques,

Recommandons ce qui suit : Au niveau national:

1. Les Etats membres devront allouer des fonds du budget national à des projets liés à la prévention de la violence sexuelle et sexospécifique et à l'assistance aux survivants et au renforcement des institutions qui s'occupent des violences basées sur le genre ;

2. Les Etats membres renforceront leurs systèmes judiciaires par la formation des juges sur les problèmes de violences sexuelles et sexospécifiques, la révision des lois discriminatoires, l'allègement des procédures d'instruction, la disponibilité de services juridiques gratuits aux victimes ainsi que la lutte contre la corruption et la banalisation des cas de violence sexuelle,

3. Les Etats membres veilleront à ce que, lors des procès portant sur des cas de violence sexuelle et sexospécifique, des garanties de poursuites pénales efficaces, de confidentialité, de procédures judiciaires à huis clos et de protection des victimes et des témoins soient prises en compte,

4. Les Etats membres renforceront les structures médicales afin qu'elles délivrent plus facilement les certificats médicaux requis pour l'audience des cas de SGBV dans un délai raisonnable,

5. Les Etats membres appuieront les cliniques mobiles, juridiques et les centres de santé en vue de faciliter

l'accès aux soins médicaux, services juridiques et psycho-sociaux,

6. Les Etats membres devront créer un mécanisme de contrôle pour filtrer les candidatures à des postes officiels dans l'armée, la police ou d'autres services de sécurité d'individus ayant un passé de violation des droits de l'homme, y compris la violence sexuelle basée sur le genre,

7. Les Etats membres veilleront à ce que les militants des Droits de l'Homme et les ONG locales qui luttent pour la promotion des droits de la femme, y compris la lutte contre la SGBV, soient protégés et aptes à travailler en toute sécurité et créeront un environnement qui encourage leur travail,
8. Les Etats membres décentraliseront les services au niveau des communautés de base pour les victimes de violences sexuelles et sexospécifiques et leurs familles en sorte qu'elles puissent recevoir l'assistance gratuite telle que l'assistance juridique et médicale, y compris la pilule du lendemain, l'assistance socio-psychologique pour surmonter le traumatisme et l'assistance en nourriture, en logement ainsi que les ARV et d'autres types d'assistance liés au VIH/SIDA et aux maladies sexuellement transmissibles ;

9. Les Etats membres veilleront à ce que des kits médicaux spécifiques et suffisants soient disponibles dans tous les centres de santé,

10. Les Etats membres devront veiller à ce qu'il y ait une formation spéciale pour tous les acteurs en rapport avec les besoins spécifiques des mineurs, les victimes de violence sexuelle, en matière de soins médicaux, de gestion des traumatismes et d'assistance juridique,

11. Les Etats membres organiseront la formation de la police, de l'armée, de l'appareil judiciaire, du personnel médical, et des travailleurs sociaux dans la gestion du traumatisme et la sensibilité face aux victimes de violence sexuelle,

12. Les Etats membres devront former des policiers, des magistrats et le personnel judiciaire sur la collecte de preuves, y compris des preuves médico-légales sur les cas de violence sexuelle,

13. Les Etats membres mettront en place un mécanisme de protection pour les victimes et les témoins qui sont prêts à témoigner en justice contre les auteurs présumés,

14. Les Etats membres entreprendront la sensibilisation soutenue du public, en ciblant les femmes, les filles et les garçons sur leurs droits et responsabilités et sur les pro-

grammes d'assistance disponibles aux victimes de violences sexuelles et sexospécifiques dans des langues et formats qui sont accessibles à la population à la base et aux sociétés civiles,

15. Les Etats membres mettront en place une stratégie nationale des médias pour un usage durable de ressources médiatiques électroniques et imprimées, particulièrement les radios, la presse écrite, la télévision et les moyens communautaires/traditionnels de base pour dénoncer les atrocités de la violence sexuelle, et faciliter la sensibilisation et la lutte contre la violence sexuelle et sexospécifique (VSS),

16. Les Etats membres élaboreront et mettront en œuvre des programmes de changement de comportement et de réhabilitation des détenus pour crime de violence sexuelle en conformité avec les procédures pénales prévues pour les mineurs auteurs de crimes de VSS;

17. Les Etats membres mettront sur pied un Comité pour la Protection des Femmes, des Filles et des Garçons contre la violence sexuelle pour veiller à la mise en œuvre du Protocole de la CIRGL pour la Prévention et la Suppression de la Violence Sexuelle contre les Femmes et les Enfants ;

18. Les Etats membres constitueront un Fonds de Compensation pour aider les victimes de violences sexuelles et sexospécifiques et mettront en place une Commission d'Indemnisation pour traiter les demandes d'indemnisation relatives à la violence sexuelle ;

19. Les Etats membres appliqueront et modifieront au besoin la législation pour se conformer au Protocole de la CIRGL sur la Prévention et la Suppression de la Violence Sexuelle contre les Femmes et les Enfants,

20. Les Etats membres mettront en place des Bureaux Spéciaux sur les Questions du Genre (ou « Gender Desks ») dans tous les établissements pénitentiaires, postes de police et camps militaires sous la responsabilité d'officiers des deux sexes formés dans le traitement des questions de violences sexuelles et sexospécifiques et des questions de sécurisation, de prévention et de poursuite efficace de cas de VSS,

21. Les Etats membres devront intaquer des unités de protection de l'enfance dans toutes les stations de police et des camps militaires dans toutes les étapes de l'appareil judiciaire, tant civils que militaires,

22. Les Etats membres devront

systématiser la collecte des données pour renforcer la base de preuves sur le nombre, la situation, et les expériences des victimes de violences

sexuelles et sexospécifiques en particulier des femmes, des filles et des jeunes garçons ainsi que les mesures sociales, politiques, économiques et légales qui sont en place;

23. Les Etats membres ne devraient pas accorder l'amnistie, le pardon ou la liberté conditionnelle aux auteurs de violences sexuelles et sexospécifiques et la peine maximale devrait être administrée en toutes circonstances ;

24. les Etats membres devront soutenir la mise en œuvre d'un programme d'égalité entre les sexes visant à transformer la relation entre les femmes et les hommes d'une manière durable et équitable, impliquant les chefs traditionnels et religieux, ainsi que des femmes leaders au niveau local ;

25. Les Etats membres devront inclure la prévention de la violence sexuelle et sexospécifique dans les programmes des écoles et des autres établissements d'enseignement pour permettre aux jeunes garçons et filles de se développer dans un environnement plus éclairé et sensible,

26. Les Etats membres devront mettre en place des mesures efficaces pour mettre fin à la prolifération des armes légères et de petit calibre dans les pays de la région,

27. les Etats membres veilleront à ce que les processus de DDR facilitent l'accès aux filles, garçons et des femmes associés aux groupes armés afin de promouvoir la responsabilité eu égard au sort des enfants et des

femmes dans les programmes de réinsertion,

28. Les Etats membres veilleront à ce que toutes les filles et les femmes enlevées et gardées comme épouses ou esclaves sexuels soient libérées et réunies avec leurs familles,

29. Les Etats membres devront engager un soutien économique en faveur des survivants des violences sexuelles et sexospécifiques et d'autres survivants vulnérables ;

Au niveau régional:

30. Assurer le suivi de manière à accélérer le processus de stabilisation et de consolidation de la paix dans la Région des Grands Lacs, à travers le désarmement, la démobilisation et la réintégration de groupes armés illégaux dans la région, en vertu des accords comme le Communiqué de Nairobi (2007) et l'Acte d'Engagement de Goma (2008),

31. Les Etats membres devront saisir les Etats membres qui n'ont pas encore ratifié le Pacte sur la Sécurité, la Stabilité et le Développement dans la Région des Grands Lacs, pour qu'ils le ratifient ;

32. Les Etats membres devront domestiquer le Pacte sur la Prévention et la Suppression de la Violence Sexuelle contre les Femmes et les Enfants en réformant les Codes Pénaux pour prévoir des punitions sévères pour les crimes liés à la violence sexuelle et sexospécifique;

33. Les Etats membres devront examiner les lois discriminatoires et les dispositions incompatibles avec la mise en œuvre effective du Protocole,

34. Les Etats membres devront s'impliquer et assurer la coopération

en matière pénale relativement à la violence sexuelle et sexospécifique;

35. Conformément à l'article 6.8 du Protocole, les Etats Membres devront mettre en place un établissement régional dans le cadre du Fonds spécial pour la Reconstruction et le Développement pour prévenir la violence sexuelle et sexospécifique et aider les survivants en particulier dans le domaine de la formation, l'assistance juridique, les soins médicaux, la réhabilitation et la réinsertion des survivants de violence sexuelle y compris les auteurs de ces crimes,

36. Conformément à l'article 6.9 du Protocole, les Etats Membres devront mettre en place un centre régional spécial pour la formation et la sensibilisation des magistrats, des unités de police, des travailleurs sociaux, des médecins et de tous ceux qui traitent des questions de violences sexuelles et sexospécifiques;

37. Les Etats Membres faciliteront les consultations de haut niveau sur la lutte contre la VSS entre les militaires et policiers haut gradés de la Région des Grands Lacs, 38. Avec l'aide des Nations Unies, les Etats membres faciliteront des consultations régionales sur la lutte contre la VSS pour les chefs traditionnels, religieux et les femmes leaders,

39. les Etats membres devront prendre des mesures pour arrêter la traite et la prostitution

des filles et des garçons dans la Région des Grands Lacs en abordant spécifiquement les réseaux régionaux transfrontaliers qui permettent la traite de ces enfants ;

40. les Etats membres mettront en place des mécanismes législatifs

et des politiques pour répondre aux vulnérabilités des enfants nés du viol et des femmes enceintes suite au viol en donnant la possibilité à celles qui veulent garder la grossesse de bénéficier de l'assistance maternelle et à celles qui ne le veulent pas d'être autorisées à interrompre leur grossesse,

Au niveau international (Partenaires de Développement et Nations Unies) :

41. Apporter une aide financière et technique aux Etats membres afin de renforcer les capacités de leurs réponses juridiques, judiciaires et médicales en vue d'éliminer la violence sexuelle et sexospécifique et mettre fin à l'impunité en conformité avec le Protocole sur la Prévention et la Suppression de la Violence Sexuelle à l'encontre des Femmes et des Enfants et d'autres instruments internationaux et régionaux ;

42. Mobiliser l'appui international, politique et financier pour la mise en œuvre du Pacte sur la Sécurité, la Stabilité et le Développement dans la Région des Grands Lacs et le Protocole y afférent sur la Prévention et la Suppression de la Violence Sexuelle contre les Femmes et les Enfants ;

43. Promouvoir l'harmonisation d'initiatives internationales sur la violence sexuelle et sexospécifique en rapport avec les contextes nationaux et régionaux ,

44. Apporter des ressources financières et des capacités techniques au Secrétariat de la Conférence Internationale sur la Région des Grands Lacs (CIRGL) pour faciliter la coordination, la mise en œuvre, le suivi et l'évaluation du Protocole sur la

Prévention et la Suppression de la Violence Sexuelle contre les Femmes et les Enfants et du Projet de la CIRGL sur la Prévention et la Lutte contre l'Exploitation Sexuelle, les Abus et la Violence Sexuelle et Sexospécifique et l'Assistance aux Victimes.

45. L'Organisation des Nations Unies et les missions de maintien de la paix devront aider les gouvernements à élaborer des mécanismes juridiques, politiques et institutionnels et des ressources humaines afin d'assurer la continuité dans la lutte contre la violence

sexuelle et sexospécifique, **46.** Assurer le déploiement d'une force de maintien de la paix adéquate et l'exécution de son mandat de protection,

47. Mettre en place des processus spécialisés adaptés à la VSS dans les systèmes judiciaires et au sein de mécanismes de justice transitionnelle pour expédier la poursuite d'auteurs présumés,

48. Appuyer la coordination, le suivi et l'évaluation des réponses à la violence sexuelle et sexospécifique aux niveaux national, régional et international

49. Soutenir le renforcement des appareils judiciaires nationaux afin de s'assurer que tous les auteurs présumés de violences sexuelles sont traduits en justice et que les décisions judiciaires et afférentes sont exécutés.

50. Appuyer et former les forces de maintien de la paix pour régler le problème de la VSS

et des cas connexes.

Fait à l'hôtel IHUSI, Goma, RDC, le 18 juin 2008

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Les Etats membres élaboreront et mettront en œuvre des programmes de changement de comportement et de réhabilitation des détenus pour crime de violence sexuelle en conformité avec les procédures pénales prévues pour les mineurs auteurs de crimes de VSS;



THE EVOLUTION OF RTF IN PICTURES





