DECLARATION OF THE HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE MEMBER STATES OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE GREAT LAKES REGION (ICGLR) ON THE SECURITY SITUATION IN EASTERN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)

3RD EXTRAORDINARY SUMMIT OF THE HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT

KAMPALA, UGANDA,
8th SEPTEMBER, 2012
PREAMBLE

- We, Heads of State and Government of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), meeting in Kampala, Uganda, on 8th September 2012, at the invitation of H.E. President Yoweri Museveni, the President of the Republic of Uganda and Chairperson of the ICGLR, to discuss the security situation in Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo;

- Recalling the Decisions of our previous Extraordinary Summits, held in Addis-Abba on 15th July 2012, and Kampala on 7-8 August 2012;

- Recalling our decisions made in Kampala on 8th and 9th August 2012 to establish a Sub-Committee of the Ministers of Defence of the Republic of Angola, the Republic of Burundi, the Republic of Congo, the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Republic of Rwanda, the United Republic of Tanzania and the Republic of Uganda with the mandate to propose urgent actionable steps to ensure that fighting stops completely in Eastern DRC to allow for consolidation of peace, security and stability, and to also provide details on the operationalization of the Neutral International Force;

- Recalling also our Decisions made at the same Summit to reconvene here in Kampala on 7th and 8th September 2012 to receive the report of the Sub-Committee of the Ministers of Defence on the situation in Eastern DRC;

- Taking note of the message of the Secretary-General of the United Nations supporting the ICGLR initiatives;

- Taking note of the lull in the fighting in Eastern DRC, but cognisant of the deterioration of the security and humanitarian situation in Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo due to the armed and unconstitutional activities of the so-called M23;

- Cognisant of the gravity of the security and humanitarian situation in Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo that constitutes a serious threat to peace, security, stability and development in the entire Great Lakes Region;

- Recalling our firm commitment to the ICGLR Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region of 15th December 2006 and its related Protocols;

- Appreciating the considerable diplomatic efforts that the Chairperson of the Summit H.E. President Yoweri Museveni has continuously undertaken to ensure the fighting in Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo stops completely;
Having considered and adopted the Report of the Sub-Committee of Ministers of Defence, as amended, including the Terms of Reference and Budget of the Expanded Joint Verification Mechanism (JVM) annexed to it;

Having also considered and adopted as amended the Report of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee (RIMC) on the security situation in the Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo held in Kampala on 6th September, 2012, including the recommendation to collaborate with the Southern African Development Community (SADC);

HEREBY DECIDE:

On the Cessation of Hostilities and Diplomatic Efforts

1. Request the Chairperson of the ICGLR to continue with his diplomatic engagement with the parties to the conflict in Eastern DRC with a view to securing a complete cessation of hostilities and putting an end to the crisis, if feasible, through peaceful political means;

2. Request the ICGLR Chairperson and other ICGLR Heads of State and Government to send a strong message during the proposed UN Mini-Summit on Eastern DRC scheduled for 27th September 2012, seeking diplomatic and technical support from the UN to the ICGLR initiatives, including on the Neutral International Force, the activities of the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism, and on the political and diplomatic efforts to end the crisis in Eastern DRC;

On the Neutral International Force

1. The Sub-Committee of the Ministers of Defence be expanded to include the Ministers of Defence of all the Member States;

2. The Committee of Ministers of Defence should immediately convene to take steps, inter alia, to implement the directives of the Summit on the operationalization of the Neutral International Force within three months;

3. The Committee of Ministers of Defence to inform RIMC and directly report to the ICGLR Heads of State and Government;

4. Express appreciation to the United Republic of Tanzania for its offer to contribute troops to the Neutral International Force and call upon other Member States to make the same commitment within one month;
On Mandate and Financing of the Neutral International Force

1. The Neutral International Force should be deployed under the mandate of the African Union and the United Nations;

2. Task the four ICGLR Member States that are members of the African Union Peace and Security Council (AUPSC), namely the Republic of Angola, the Republic of Congo, the Republic of Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania, to make a joint presentation to the AUPSC for formal consideration and approval for the deployment of a Neutral International Force in Eastern DRC. The Republic of Uganda to coordinate the engagement of this Group of Member States with the AUPSC;

3. Urge the AU to seek UN support for the deployment of the Neutral International Force;

4. The Chairperson of the RIMC to use his good offices with the view to providing diplomatic support for the operationalization of the Neutral International Force;

5. Request the Chairperson of the ICGLR to formally request African States, Regional and International Partners to provide financial, logistical and technical support for the operationalisation of the Neutral International Force;

6. Urge Member States to commit financial and technical resources for the Neutral International Force;

On the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism (JVM) and the Joint Intelligence Fusion Center (JIFC)

1. Urge all ICGLR Member States to urgently deploy their officers to the JVM in Goma;

2. Direct the Committee of Ministers of Defence and the Executive Secretary to launch the expanded JVM on 14th September, 2012;

3. The JIFC to directly report intelligence information to the JVM and also to the Minister of Defence of the Member State chairing the ICGLR;
On the Humanitarian Trust Fund

1. Express appreciation to the Member States that have made generous pledges to the ICGLR Humanitarian Trust Fund as follows: the Republic of Uganda (USD 1,000,000); the Democratic Republic of Congo (USD 1,000,000); the United Republic of Tanzania (USD 500,000); the Republic of Kenya (USD 500,000); and urge other Member States to also contribute to the Trust Fund;

2. Direct the Executive Secretary to identify a suitable Humanitarian Agency to manage the ICGLR Humanitarian Trust Fund, and to report to the Summit for a decision;

4th Extraordinary ICGLR Summit

Decide to hold another Extraordinary Summit to review progress on the implementation of our decisions, on 8th October 2012, in Kampala, Uganda.
Done in Kampala, Uganda on 8th September 2012

1. H.E. JOSE EDUARDO DOS SANTOS
   President of the Republic of Angola

2. H.E. PIERRE NKURUNZIZA
   President of the Republic of Burundi

3. H.E. FRANÇOIS BOZIZE
   President of the Central African Republic

4. H.E. DENIS SASSOU-NGUESSO
   President of the Republic of Congo

5. H.E. JOSEPH KABILA KABANGE
   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 the 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