PRESS RELEASE

THE AU AND THE GIZ SUPPORT THE CONVENING OF THE BURUNDI - TANZANIA JOINT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING ON BORDER DEMARCATION

Bujumbura, 13 March 2015: Members of the Joint Commission in charge of Border Demarcation between Burundi and Tanzania concluded their Joint Technical Committee meeting on the reaffirmation of the international boundary between the two countries, in Bujumbura, Burundi. The JTC meeting, which took place from 9 to 13 March 2015, was supported by the African Union Border Programme (AUBP) and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.
The meeting reviewed the implementation of the plan of activities developed by the two countries in 2014. The two countries, which have been engaged with the AUBP since 2011, were each represented by fifteen members from the relevant National Boundary Commissions in charge of border demarcation.

Speaking during the opening session, the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Burundi, Amb. Salvator Ntacobamaze, acknowledged the support provided by the AU and the GIZ, and reiterated the importance of implementing the AU Border Programme’s Strategic Plan 2015-2017, as part of the efforts to promote sustainable peace and development in Africa.

On his part, the Head of the AUBP, Amb. Aguibou DIARRAH, commended the initiative taken by the Government of Tanzania and of Burundi in the implementation of their demarcation exercise. He urged the two countries to accelerate the signing and ratification of the African Convention on Cross-Border Cooperation.

The meeting adopted the joint Work Plan for 2015-2016. The meeting was concluded with a visit, by the Joint Commission, to the demarcation site at the Burundi – Tanzania Border.

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