



FIVE YEARS AFTER ITS SIGNING, THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PEACE, SECURITY AND COOPERATION FRAMEWORK FOR THE DRC AND THE REGION IS ON TRACK

On the fifth anniversary of the signing of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework agreement for the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and the region, regional stakeholders met in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in a two-day workshop on 26-27 February, to review the status of implementation of the Framework agreement, and to make recommendations on its continued and effective implementation as called for by the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2389.

The workshop brought together representatives of the signatory countries and the Guarantors of the Framework agreement, namely the United Nations (UN), the African Union (AU), the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), and the Southern African Development Community (SADC), as well as experts and representatives of civil society organizations. High level representatives at the event included Moussa Faki Mahamat, AU Chairperson; Said Djinnit, UN Special Envoy for the Great Lakes region; Basile Ikoube, AU Special Envoy to the Great Lakes region; Jean-Claude Gakosso, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Congo representing President Denis Sassou-Nguesso; and Wilbert Ibuge, representing SADC. Representatives from partner countries also attended the meeting. [Read more](#)



LAUNCH IN GOMA OF THE JOINT FOLLOW UP MECHANISM FOR THE REPATRIATION OF FOREIGN EX-COMBATANTS

Goma (Eastern DRC), 24 April 2018 – In line with the decision of the Eighth high-level meeting of the Regional Oversight Mechanism (ROM) of the Peace, Security and Cooperation (PSC) Framework Agreement for the DRC and the region to “Complete the repatriation without preconditions of the FDLR disarmed combatants and their dependents located in transit camps in eastern DRC, and of the ex-M23 combatants that are in Rwanda and Uganda no later than 20 October 2018,” Special Envoy Said Djinnit and AU Special Representative Basile Ikoube, together with representatives of the Governments of the DRC, Rwanda, Uganda, as well as other Guarantors of the Framework Agreement, including the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) and the United Nations Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO), launched the Joint Follow-Up Mechanism on the repatriation of disarmed FDLR combatants. Also in attendance were representatives UN agencies (UNHCR, UNICEF and UNDP) and the ICGLR’s Extended Joint Verification Mechanism (EJVM). [Read more](#)



SPECIAL ENVOY SAID DJINNIT ATTENDS THE OECD-ICGLR 12TH FORUM, DISCUSSES WITH OIF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION

Paris, 20 April 2018 – The United Nations Special Envoy for the Great Lakes region, Said Djinnit, attended the 12th Forum of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) on Responsible Mineral Supply Chains organised jointly with the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) and the United Nations Group of Experts on the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). The meeting took place in Paris, France, from 17-19 April 2018.

In his opening remarks, Special Envoy Djinnit highlighted the negative impact of the illicit exploitation and trade of natural resources in the DRC on the stability of the entire Great Lakes region.

He welcomed the ICGLR led-efforts, supported by the OECD and the donor community, to help the countries of the region tackle the illegal trade of natural resources in the DRC and the region through a strict application of international and regional standards in the industry, especially on gold. As a concrete step in this direction, Mr. Djinnit agreed that his Office would join hands with the OECD and the ICGLR to support the countries of the region in strengthening governance of the exploration and trade of natural resources. [Read more](#)



UN SECURITY COUNCIL URGES AN END TO RECURRING CYCLES OF INSTABILITY IN AFRICA'S GREAT LAKES REGION

The United Nations Security Council on Tuesday, 10 April 2018, called for an end to the recurring cycles of violence and instability in Africa's Great Lakes region, as the United Nations Special Envoy for the Great Lakes region reported that some armed groups are continuing attacks on civilians in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. “The negative forces, including the Allied Democratic Forces, continue to attack and terrify the population, causing suffering and displacement, and fuelling mistrust between the countries of the region,” said the Special Envoy for the Great Lakes, Said Djinnit. [Read more](#)



A CLOSER LOOK: THE SPECIAL ENVOY ON THE GREAT LAKES REGION

Said Djinnit, the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region, briefed the Security Council on 10 April 2018 on his work. The Special Envoy presented the Secretary-General's latest report on the situation in the region, in which he highlighted continuing challenges relating to peace and security, including stalled political processes, ongoing activities by armed groups, human rights violations and a worsening humanitarian crisis. [Read more](#)



THE UN OFFICE FOR THE GREAT LAKES REGION TAKES PART IN THE EAST & SOUTHERN AFRICA REGIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY IN NAIROBI

UN Women of the Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office (ESARO) convened a symposium on Women, Peace and Security in Nairobi, Kenya, on 22-23 March 2018. The two-day symposium was a follow up to the launch of the Global Study Report on Progress on the implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 also held in Nairobi in November 2016. [Read more](#)



ICGLR YOUTH FORUM HOSTS A WORKSHOP ON THE ROLE OF THE YOUTH IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION

The International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) Youth Forum – Kenya Chapter hosted a one-day workshop on the “Role of Youth towards Sustainable Development Goals and United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250 – Youth, Peace and Security”. The workshop was organized as a result of the deliberations and recommendations of the 2018 Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Conference in New York, where the UN Secretary General's Envoy on Youth met with a delegation of youths from the ICGLR on 29 January 2018. [Read more](#)



SAID DJINNIT: DESPITE PROGRESS IN WOMEN'S ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN POLITICAL AND PEACE PROCESSES IN THE GREAT LAKES, WE MUST ENSURE THAT OUR STRATEGIC WORK CAN ALSO BE TRANSLATED INTO QUALITATIVE OUTPUT IN OUR DELIBERATIONS

The Advisory Board of the Women's Platform for the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and the region met in Nairobi, Kenya, on 21 and 22 February 2018 to identify ways and means to strengthen political advocacy for women's participation in peace and political processes at local, national and regional levels in the Great Lakes region. [Read more](#)



AFRICA'S GREAT LAKES YOUTH PARTICIPATE IN THE 2018 UN-ECOSOC YOUTH FORUM IN NEW YORK

The International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) Youth Forum participated in the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Youth Forum that took place at the United Nations headquarters in New York from 29-31 January 2018. The ICGLR youth delegation was composed of members from Burundi, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, South Sudan and Tanzania. The Office of the UN Special Envoy for the Great Lakes region was also represented at the event by Aniefik Johnson, Chief of Staff. [Read more](#)



UN PARTNERS MEET IN NAIROBI TO REVIEW THE REFUGEE AND IDP SITUATION IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION OF AFRICA

The Office of the United Nations Special Envoy for the Great Lakes region and representatives of UN agencies, including the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), UNICEF, World Food Programme (WFP), International Organization for Migration (IOM), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UN Women, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) as well as regional partners, namely the World Bank and the European Union, met in Nairobi, Kenya, on 22 January 2018 to review the refugee and displacement situation in the Great Lakes region. [Read more](#)



THE SPECIAL ENVOY FOR AFRICA'S GREAT LAKES REGION MEETS WITH UN RESIDENT COORDINATORS AND REGIONAL DIRECTORS TO REVIEW POLITICAL AND SECURITY ISSUES AFFECTING THE REGION

The Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes region, Said Djinnit, convened a coordination meeting on 22 January 2018 with UN Resident Coordinators and Regional Directors to review political, security and humanitarian developments in the region and their implications for a joint UN programmatic engagement. [Read more](#)

GENDER MAINSTREAMING

- UN Commission on the Status of Women, 12-23 March 2018
- UN Women Eastern and Southern Africa Regional (ESARO) Symposium on Women, Peace and Security, 22nd and 23rd March, 2018

- African Union Commission workshop on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 27-29 March 2018

ADVOCACY

- Women's Platform 9th Advisory Board Meeting and 3rd Face-to-Face meeting, 21-22 February 2018

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 25 May 2018**
 - Africa Day
- 29 May 2018**
 - International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers
- 31 May 2018, Nairobi, Kenya**
 - Special Envoy Said Djinnit Briefing to the diplomatic community

- 13 - 14 June 2018, Goma, DRC**
 - 2nd Regional Convening of the women's platform grantee organizations
- 13 - 14 June 2018, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania**
 - 2nd meeting of the Great Lakes Judicial Cooperation Network
- 21 – 22 June 2018, Nairobi, Kenya**
 - Meeting of the Great Lakes Private Sector Forum

The PSC Framework in a few words...

In February 2013, 11 nations signed the Peace, Security and Cooperation (PSC) Framework for the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and the region, in a renewed drive to end the recurring cycles of devastating conflicts in eastern DRC which impact stability and development in the Great Lakes area of Africa. On 31 January 2014, two more countries, Rwanda and Sudan, became signatories of the PSC Framework. The Framework aims to help “address the root causes of conflict and put an end to recurring cycles of violence” in eastern DRC and the Great Lakes Region...[Read more](#)

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