Four Resolutions of International Conference on ICGLR

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4. RESOLUTIONS OF INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ICGLR

1. ICGLR is a unique and critical initiative that needs support and commitment from national state actors, other stakeholders and international partners. Participants urge for ratification of the ICGLR Pact and Protocols and incorporate them into national laws.

2. To speed up the implementation of the ICGLR agenda, participants encourage the ICGLR Secretariat to establish partnerships with national and regional non state actors, including universities and research institutions, CSOs and PSOs.

3. Participants also recommend that home grown mechanisms of conflict resolution and peace building be researched on and developed in order to promote their application in similar situations in ICGLR member states.

4. Participants also recommend the use of ICT in different domains of social, political and economic activities, especially in governance and electoral processes for purposes of efficiency, effectiveness and transparency.

5. In order to promote good governance and democracy, participants call upon the leaders of ICGLR member states to consult their people and constituencies and to work collectively when signing international agreements.

6. In order to promote political stability, collective security, prosperity and social welfare in member states, participants urge regional statemen to implement the protocol of Non Aggression and Mutual Defense.

7. In order to achieve ICGLR goals, there is a need for regional and national leaders to work collectively in order to appropriately address recurrent internal contradictions, root causes of the conflicts and external interferences.

8. With regard to the promotion of Kiswahili as a strategy for regional integration and communication link, participants recommend that this should go hand in hand with the promotion of national languages, particularly those with a trans- national or cross- border nature.

9. Elections and electoral systems are critical to political stability, democracy, socio- economic transformation and good governance. Participants recommend that electoral processes in the ICGLR member states be clearly defined, free, fair and adequately managed.

10. Economic empowerment and promotion of women in policy making organs should not be seen as a favor, but as a prerequisite to sustainable peace and social equality.

11. Participants note with relief and satisfaction that Kenyan leaders have come to a consensual mechanism for settling the political crisis. They further urge the government and the people of Kenya to ensure the sustainable and effective implementation of the power sharing agreement.

12. Participants also note that the Government of Burundi and FNL- Palipehutu have signed a peace agreement and urge them to foster its effective implementation for the benefit of people of Burundi.

13. Participants call upon ICGLR and world leaders to urgently resolve the conflict in Darfur. In this regard, they urge AU and UN leaders to provide necessary means and institutional support for effective operationalization of UNAMID forces and provide peace and security to the people of Darfur.

14. Participants urge ICGLR and African leaders to effectively address issues for which the ICGLR process was initiated. They further call upon those leaders to make sure that new threats to stability in ICGLR member states, especially those with international and regional dimensions, be met with adequate responses in a spirit of collective responsibility and shared sovereignty.

15. The question of armed groups was among the top priorities of the ICGLR process and continues to be on its agenda. Participants recommend that the disarmament and reintegration of those groups be implemented and fast tracked. In this regard, they further urge the DR Congo government to take its responsibility vis a vis neighboring countries and DRC citizens.

16. Participants further urge all stakeholders to involve and work with the media to streamline the ICGLR agenda and to anchor its ownership in local communities.

17. Participants also recommend that regional integration be preceded by large popular consultations and be based within the grass roots communities and the civil society.

18. Unity and reconciliation among citizens and across boarders as well as civic and peace education, are critical to post conflict stabilization. Participants recommend the use of these tools in the ICGLR peace agenda.

19. The ICGLR projects on Development Zones are very important to peace and development in the region. Participants recommend that they be implemented soonest possible.

20. Participants commend the Center for Conflict Management, National University of Rwanda and their Partners (PADIRGU/GU and SAREC) for organizing such an important conference and suggest that such an event be held on a regular basis.