



UNITED NATIONS
GREAT LAKES REGIONAL
STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

GREAT LAKES REGION CROSS-BORDER FUND (GLR MPTF) ANNUAL REPORT 2020

May 2021
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PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS



International
Organization for
Migrations



United Nations
Development
Programme



United Nations
Population Fund



UN High Commissioner
for Refugees



UNWOMEN

CONTRIBUTORS



EUROPEAN UNION



Peacebuilding Fund

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Introduction

This report provides an update of the Great Lakes Region Cross-border Fund (GLR MPTF) progress, which was set-up in 2017 to support regional and cross-border development efforts in the Great Lakes region. This Fund contributes to the concretization of the United Nations Great Lakes Regional Strategic Framework (GLRSF), launched in 2016 to align the development work of UN agencies with the Road Map of the UN Special Envoy for the Great Lakes (SESG-GL) for the implementation of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and the region (PSC-F). The GLRSF promotes a joint UN approach towards collective regional goals that address the root causes of conflict and instability in the region. This framework is a great example of implementing the New Way of Working at regional and cross-border level, and of how various UN entities can lend and complement each other in delivering the promise of the 2030 Agenda to 'Leave No One Behind'.

The report is divided in two parts. The first part is the consolidated Annual Narrative report up to April 2021, which has been developed by the GLR MPTF Secretariat, currently hosted by the UNDP Resilience Hub in Nairobi. The second part is the consolidated 2020 Annual Financial report, which has been developed by the UNDP Multi Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTFO), as Administrative Agent of the Fund.

PART I: NARRATIVE REPORT

The United Nations Great Lakes Regional Strategic Framework

The GLRSF was established as a programmatic approach to tackle the regional conflicts in the eastern DRC, and adopted as a regional, cross border, multi-agency set of projects along the most conflict affected DRC borders: the eastern DRC border with Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and Tanzania. Efforts to achieve peaceful development in the region are often made in individual countries and United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs) traditionally act at national level, even though the underlying causes of conflicts are not contained within country borders. On the contrary, the border areas feed the drivers of conflict but are, at the same time, strategic locations which can be tapped to build confidence, create trust, and establish momentum for peaceful resolution of conflicts.

In light of this, the GLRSF was developed and validated in 2015 under the leadership of the SESG-GL, the Chair of the Regional UN Sustainable Development Group for East and Southern Africa (R-UNSDG-ESA), the five UN Resident Coordinators of the involved countries, the R-UNSDG-ESA and representatives of regional organisations. It was launched by the UN Secretary-General and endorsed by the UN Security Council in 2016. To support and strategically finance the implementation of the GLRSF, the GLR MPTF was established.



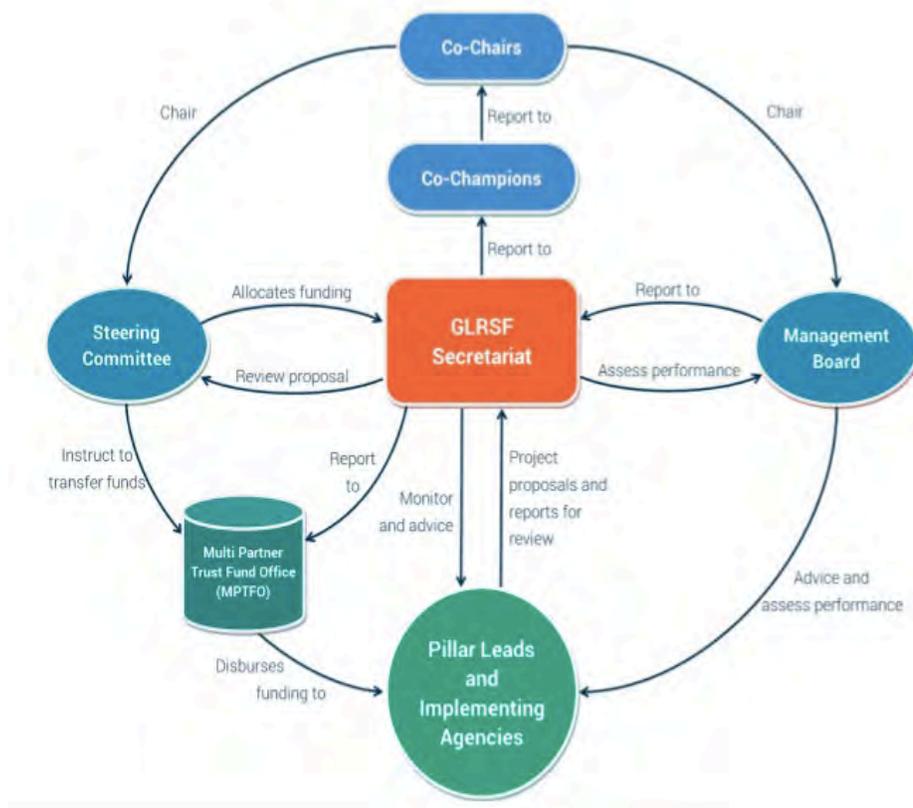
Six Pillars in line with SDGs



The GLRSF enabled the UN to join forces across its Pillars when addressing root causes of conflict in the region, but this cannot be implemented without the strong engagement of the international community, key donors and partners. The GLRSF was structured along the above six thematic Pillars: 1) sustainable natural resources and land management, co-led by UNEP, UN HABITAT and FAO; 2) economic integration, cross-border trade, food security, co-led by UNDP, WFP, FAO; 3) Mobility co-led by IOM, WHO, and UNHCR; 4) youth and adolescents, co-led by UNFPA and UNICEF; 5) gender and sexual and gender-based violence, co-led by UNWOMEN and UNFPA; and 6) justice and conflict prevention, co-led by UNDP and OHCHR.

The Governance Structure of the GLRSF

The GLRSF decision-making structures included the Co-Chairs (SESG-GL and Chair of the GLRSF), the Co-Champions (UNDP and WFP), the GLRSF Secretariat (Secretariat, currently hosted by UNDP Resilience Hub in Nairobi), the Steering Committee, the Management Board, the MPTFO, the Pillar Leads and the implementing agencies.



September 2020 – March 2021: Development of GLRSF Assessment Report

The process to develop the joint UNDP-WFP- OSESG-GL GLRSF assessment report started in September 2020, to inform the development and implementation of the new UN Strategy on Peace Consolidation, Conflict Prevention and Conflict Resolution in the Great Lakes Region. The joint assessment was completed in March 2021 evaluating progress, highlighting milestones, documents challenges and lessons learned in the implementation of the GLRSF. Followed this, the last GLRSF Management Board meeting convened on 27 April 2021.

October 2020: Approval of UN Strategy -for Peace Consolidation, Conflict Prevention and Conflict Resolution in the Great Lakes Region

The UN Strategy for Peace Consolidation, Conflict Prevention and Conflict Resolution in the Great Lakes Region was developed by the Office of the Special Envoy of the Great Lakes upon wide consultations with representatives of the signatory countries and co-guarantors of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework, the United Nations entities, regional organizations, civil society organizations, international financial institutions, women’s organizations, former senior officials of the UN and the African Union, and various experts. The strategy was approved by the UN Secretary-General on 22 October replacing the GLRSF, followed by publishing on 14 January 2021. The UN Strategy forms the

basis for joint UN interventions in the GLR. Whereas the GLRSF had six thematic pillars, the UN Strategy identifies ten priorities, structured under three pillars namely: (i) peace, security and justice; (ii) sustainable development and shared prosperity and; (iii) resilience to long-standing and emerging challenges.

Reports of the UN Secretary General on the Implementation of the PSC-F

The bi-annual Secretary General Reports on the implementation of the PSC-F, released in April and September 2020, continued to call upon the International community to support the implementation of the GLRSF and its ongoing project. The reports can be found [here S/2020/272](#) and [here S/2020/951](#)

April 2021: Last GLRSF Management Board Meeting

The last GLRSF Management Board Meeting was convened on 27 April 2021. The meeting started with opening remarks from the co-Chairs Huang Xia, United Nations Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes region (SESG-GL) and Ahunna Eziakonwa, United Nations Assistant Secretary General and UNDP Regional Director for Africa. This was followed by presentations from Alessandra Casazza, UNDP Resilience Hub Manager and co-champion of the GLRSF on the lessons learned and recommendations of the joint UNDP-WFP- OSESG-GL GLRSF assessment report; then Jennifer Topping, Executive Coordinator of the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office on the current MPTF and options for the way forward; and Luc Ngowet, OSESG-GLRR Senior Political Affairs Officer on priority interventions and governance structure of the UN Strategy for Peace Consolidation, Conflict Prevention and Conflict Resolution in the Great Lakes Region. The Management Board agreed on the following:

- Acknowledging that the UN Strategy for Peace Consolidation, Conflict Prevention and Conflict Resolution in the Great Lakes Region as the guiding framework to support all UN engagement in the region
- Transition and handover from Management Board to the new SPG under the aegis of the UN Strategy
- The joint secretariat (UNDP-WFP) is being handed over to the OSESG-LR, to mark the transition from GLRSF to the new Strategy
- Replacement of the pillar lead system by the Implementation Support Mechanism to support Senior Policy Group
- Welcomed that Opportunity/initiative based coalition Eight (OIBC-8) under Regional Collaborative Platform provides a platform for collaboration in the context of the UN development system to support the implementation of the UN Strategy
- The need for a resource mobilization strategy developed in conjunction with the action plan and promotion of greater ownership of UN Strategy and action plan by all stakeholders
- Members committed to continue their collaboration and promote greater ownership across all different segments and stakeholders.

Key Activities in the Implementation of the EU/UN Joint Project

The Covid-19 pandemic posed a number of challenges to the implementation of GLRSF and peace and security in the Great Lakes region. As a result of the pandemic, a number of activities planned had to be postponed. Notwithstanding that, the Pillar Leads undertook some key activities in the implementation of the GLRSF. These are highlighted below:

March: Solidarity mission to Burundi on the participation, representation and protection of women in the electoral processes

A solidarity mission to Burundi, undertaken by representatives of FemWise, ICGLR Gender Directorate, the Office of the UN Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region, UN Women and the ICGLR Regional Women's Forum took place on 2nd to 4th March 2020. The solidarity mission led by Ambassador Liberata Mulamula, former Executive Secretary of ICGLR in her capacity as member of FemWise met with Burundi Government officials i.e., the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Human Rights, Social Affairs and Gender and the Minister of Justice and Keeper of the Seals, Minister of Home Affairs and the Ombudsman. The Burundi Government officials all reaffirmed the need to take quotas into account in the elections in order to support women's participation in the elections and consequently

gender parity. The delegation and government authorities noted that the electoral context and framework had become more open for women to participate in the electoral process.

April: Virtual Joint Extraordinary Meeting of the Regional Project on Peace and Security in the Great Lakes Region

During the reporting period, the UN participated actively in the Regional Project on Peace and Security in the Great Lakes Region virtual joint extraordinary meeting of the Steering Committee and Technical Coordination Committee on 15 April 2020. As a result, all implemented activities have been coordinated with partners, both from a substantial and a financial point of view.

August, September: Design of joint training modules on Insider Mediation for DDR/RR;

The Core Team is led by UNDP and composed of a representation of key actors, the ICGLR, GIZ, MONUSCO, UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations, Clingendael Academy and the Office of the Special Envoy of the Great Lakes region, established to provide expertise in the project thematic. The Core Team continued the design of joint training modules combining insider mediation and DDR/RR, to be tailored to the specific regional context. The joint training was designed through virtual workshops in August and September 2020, with a testing of the modules through regional training targeting the ICGLR Mediators' pool, the EJVM and key individuals identified at the workshop. Considering the restrictions to movement that were in place in response to the current pandemic and alternative implementation modalities were not feasible, the training was held virtually in April 2021. The training will serve as a wider support package for the regional network and the Community of Practice (CoP). A concept note to create and maintain a CoP on Insider Mediation for DDR/RR has been developed and validated by the Core Team, with ongoing discussions on membership, dialogue framing, cross-country engagement and mapping of capacities and learning/development needs.

December: ICGLR member states Media Training on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV)

UN Women in partnership with ICGLR Regional Training Facility conducted a virtual training for senior journalists from 11 of the ICGLR member states on SGBV and the skills required for reporting and accountability. The journalists were trained from 9th -11th December 2020. A draft Media Action Plan on SGBV Accountability, outlining key outputs for SGBV accountability and the related indicators, baselines, targets, and activities was developed and a Great Lakes Media Campaign Against SGBV was launched.

November, December: Virtual Joint Planning Workshop for Regional Project on Peace and Security in the Great Lakes Region

To ensure coordination among the various partners and regular updates on key results and challenges, the UN participated actively in the virtual joint planning workshop for the Regional Project on Peace and Security in the Great Lakes region held from 30th November to 4th December 2020. The workplan and budget have been adapted, in collaboration with the donor and partners, in light of the COVID-19 response and its impact on the overall project implementation.

December: Virtual Steering Committee and Fund Extension

The Fund's Steering Committee by silence procedure virtually approved the extension of the GLRSF MPTF until 31 December 2021.

PART II: FINANCIAL REPORT

This Consolidated Annual Financial Report of the GLR Cross-border Fund is prepared by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office) in fulfillment of its obligations as Administrative Agent, as per the terms of Reference (TOR), the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between the UNDP MPTF Office and the Participating Organizations, and the Standard Administrative Arrangement (SAA) signed with contributors.

The MPTF Office, as Administrative Agent, is responsible for concluding an MOU with Participating Organizations and SAAs with contributors. It receives, administers and manages contributions, and disburses these funds to the Participating Organizations. The Administrative Agent prepares and submits annual consolidated financial reports, as well as regular financial statements, for transmission to contributors.

This consolidated financial report covers the period **1 January to 31 December 2020** and provides financial data on progress made in the implementation of projects of the GLR Cross-border Fund. It is posted on the MPTF Office GATEWAY (<http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/GLR00>).

The financial data in the report is recorded in US Dollars and due to rounding off of numbers, the totals may not add up.

1. Sources and uses of funds

As of 31 December 2020, 1 contributor deposited US\$ 813,200, the Peacebuilding Fund deposited US\$ 1,999,981 in contributions and US\$ 4,581 was earned in interest. The cumulative source of funds was US\$ 2,817,761.

Of this amount, US\$ 2,805,024 has been net funded to 5 Participating Organizations, of which US\$ 2,429,218 has been reported as expenditure. The Administrative Agent fee has been charged at the approved rate of 1% on deposits and amounts to US\$. Table 1 provides an overview of the overall sources, uses, and balance of the GLR Cross-Border Fund as of 31 December 2020.

Table 1. Financial Overview, as of 31 December 2020 (in US Dollars)

	Annual 2019	Annual 2020	Cumulative
Sources of Funds			
Contributions from donors	-	-	813,200
Contributions to MDTFs	-	-	1,999,981
- Sub-total Contributions	-	-	2,813,181
Fund Earned Interest and Investment Income	3,436	51	4,581
Interest Income received from Participating Organizations	-	-	-
Refunds by Administrative Agent to Contributors	-	-	-
Fund balance transferred to another MDTF	-	-	-
Other Income	-	-	-
Total: Sources of Funds	3,436	51	2,817,761
Use of Funds			
Transfers to Participating Organizations	805,043	-	2,805,024
Refunds received from Participating Organizations	-	-	-
Net Funded Amount	805,043	-	2,805,024
Administrative Agent Fees	-	-	-
Direct Costs: (Steering Committee, Secretariat...etc.)	-	-	-
Bank Charges	1	0	26
Other Expenditures	-	-	8,132
Total: Uses of Funds	805,044	0	2,813,182
Change in Fund cash balance with Administrative Agent	(801,608)	50	4,579
Opening Fund balance (1 January)	806,137	4,529	-
Closing Fund balance (31 December)	4,529	4,579	4,579
Net Funded Amount (Includes Direct Cost)	805,043	-	2,805,024
Participating Organizations' Expenditure (Includes Direct Cost)	494,221	309,380	2,429,218
Balance of Funds with Participating Organizations			375,806

2. Partner Contributions

Table 2 provides information on cumulative contributions received from all contributors to this Fund as of 31 December 2020.

The GLR Cross-Border Fund is currently being financed by 2 contributors, as listed in the table below. The table below includes commitments made up to 31 December 2020 through signed Standard Administrative Agreements, and deposits made through 2020. It does not include commitments that were made to the fund beyond 2020.

Table 2. Contributors' Commitments and Deposits, as of 31 December 2020 (in US Dollars)

Contributors	Total Commitments	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2019 Deposits	Current Year Jan-Dec-2020 Deposits	Total Deposits
EUROPEAN UNION	1,753,800	813,200	-	813,200
Peacebuilding Fund	1,999,981	1,999,981	-	1,999,981
Grand Total	3,753,781	2,813,181	-	2,813,181

3. Interest earned and Investment Income

Interest income is earned in two ways: 1) on the balance of funds held by the Administrative Agent (Fund earned interest), and 2) on the balance of funds held by the Participating Organizations (Agency earned interest) where their Financial Regulations and Rules allow return of interest to the AA. As of 31 December 2020, Fund earned interest amounts to US\$ 4,581.

Table 3. Sources of Interest and Investment Income, as of 31 December 2020 (in US Dollars)

Interest Earned	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2019	Current Year Jan-Dec-2020	Total
Administrative Agent			
Fund Earned Interest and Investment Income	4,530	51	4,581
Total: Fund Earned Interest	4,530	51	4,581
Grand Total	4,530	51	4,581

4. Transfer of funds

Allocations to Participating Organizations are approved by the Steering Committee and disbursed by the Administrative Agent. As of 31 December 2020, the AA has transferred US\$ 2,805,024 to 5 Participating Organizations (see list below). Table 4 provides additional information on the refunds received by the MPTF Office, and the net funded amount for each of the Participating Organizations.

Table 4. Transfer, Refund, and Net Funded Amount by Participating Organization, as of 31 December 2020 (in US Dollars)

Participating Organization	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2019			Current Year Jan-Dec-2020			Total		
	Transfers	Refunds	Net Funded	Transfers	Refunds	Net Funded	Transfers	Refunds	Net Funded
IOM	560,431		560,431				560,431		560,431
UNDP	1,263,707		1,263,707				1,263,707		1,263,707
UNFPA	137,684		137,684				137,684		137,684
UNHCR	594,266		594,266				594,266		594,266
UNWOMEN	248,936		248,936				248,936		248,936
Grand Total	2,805,024		2,805,024				2,805,024		2,805,024

5. Expenditure and financial delivery rates

All final expenditures reported for the year 2020 were submitted by the Headquarters of the Participating Organizations. These were consolidated by the MPTF Office. Project expenditures are incurred and monitored by each Participating Organization, and are reported as per the agreed upon categories for inter-agency harmonized reporting. The reported expenditures were submitted via the MPTF Office's online expenditure reporting tool. The 2020 expenditure data has been posted on the MPTF Office GATEWAY at <http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/GLR00>.

5.1 EXPENDITURE REPORTED BY PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION

In 2020, US\$ was net funded to Participating Organizations, and US\$ 309,380 was reported in expenditure. As shown in table below, the cumulative net funded amount is US\$ 2,805,024 and cumulative expenditures reported by the Participating Organizations amount to US\$ 2,429,218. This equates to an overall Fund expenditure delivery rate of 87 percent.

Table 5.1 Net Funded Amount, Reported Expenditure, and Financial Delivery by Participating Organization, as of 31 December 2020 (in US Dollars)

Participating Organization	Approved Amount	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure			Delivery Rate %
			Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2019	Current Year Jan-Dec-2020	Cumulative	
IOM	560,431	560,431	519,561	40,706	560,267	99.97
UNDP	1,613,819	1,263,707	876,884	51,780	928,663	73.49
UNFPA	470,444	137,684	86,089	45,331	131,420	95.45
UNHCR	594,266	594,266	594,267		594,267	100.00
UNWOMEN	469,270	248,936	43,038	171,563	214,601	86.21
Grand Total	3,708,229	2,805,024	2,119,838	309,380	2,429,218	86.60

5.2 EXPENDITURE BY PROJECT WITHIN SECTOR

Table 5.2 displays the net funded amounts, expenditures reported and the financial delivery rates by Participating Organization within Pillar.

Table 5.2 Expenditure by Project within Pillar, as of 31 December 2020 (in US Dollars)

Pillar / Project No. and Project Title		Participating Organization	Project Status	Total Approved Amount	Net Funded Amount	Total Expenditure	Delivery Rate %
3 Mobility							
00108156	BUR Preventing conflict and bu	IOM	On Going	140,000	140,000	140,000	100.00
00108156	BUR Preventing conflict and bu	UNDP	On Going	745,041	745,041	681,581	91.48
00108156	BUR Preventing conflict and bu	UNHCR	On Going	169,359	169,359	169,359	100.00
00108157	TAN Preventing conflict and bu	IOM	On Going	420,431	420,431	420,268	99.96
00108157	TAN Preventing conflict and bu	UNDP	On Going	100,243	100,243	100,071	99.83
00108157	TAN Preventing conflict and bu	UNHCR	On Going	424,908	424,908	424,908	100.00
3 Mobility: Total				1,999,981	1,999,981	1,936,186	96.81
4 Youth & Adolescents							
00115217	UNFPA_UN in support of peace a	UNFPA	On Going	470,444	137,684	131,420	95.45
4 Youth & Adolescents: Total				470,444	137,684	131,420	95.45
5 Gender & SGBV							
00115216	UN Women_UN in support of peac	UNWOMEN	On Going	469,270	248,936	214,601	86.21
5 Gender & SGBV: Total				469,270	248,936	214,601	86.21

6 Justice & Conflict Prev							
00115215	UNDP_UN in support of peace an	UNDP	On Going	768,535	418,424	147,011	35.13
6 Justice & Conflict Prev: Total				768,535	418,424	147,011	35.13
Grand Total				3,708,229	2,805,024	2,429,218	86.60

5.3 EXPENDITURE BY PROJECT WITHIN COUNTRY

Table 5.3 displays the net funded amounts, expenditures reported and the financial delivery rates by Participating Organization within country.

Table 5.3 Expenditure by Project within Pillar, as of 31 December 2020 (in US Dollars)

Country / Project No. and Project Title		Participating Organization	Approved Amount	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure	Delivery Rate %	
Burundi							
00108156	BUR Preventing conflict and bu	IOM	140,000	140,000	140,000	100.00	
00108156	BUR Preventing conflict and bu	UNDP	745,041	745,041	681,581	91.48	
00108156	BUR Preventing conflict and bu	UNHCR	169,359	169,359	169,359	100.00	
Burundi Total			1,054,399	1,054,399	990,939	93.98	
Tanzania							
00108157	TAN Preventing conflict and bu	IOM	420,431	420,431	420,268	99.96	
00108157	TAN Preventing conflict and bu	UNDP	100,243	100,243	100,071	99.83	
00108157	TAN Preventing conflict and bu	UNHCR	424,908	424,908	424,908	100.00	
Tanzania Total			945,581	945,581	945,247	99.96	
United Nations							
00115215	UNDP_UN in support of peace an	UNDP	768,535	418,424	147,011	35.13	
00115216	UN Women_UN in support of peac	UNWOMEN	469,270	248,936	214,601	86.21	
00115217	UNFPA_UN in support of peace a	UNFPA	470,444	137,684	131,420	95.45	
United Nations Total			1,708,248	805,043	493,032	61.24	
Grand Total				3,708,229	2,805,024	2,429,218	86.60

5.4 EXPENDITURE REPORTED BY CATEGORY

Project expenditures are incurred and monitored by each Participating Organization and are reported as per the agreed categories for inter-agency harmonized reporting.

2012 CEB Expense Categories

1. Staff and personnel costs
2. Supplies, commodities and materials
3. Equipment, vehicles, furniture and depreciation
4. Contractual services
5. Travel
6. Transfers and grants
7. General operating expenses

Indirect costs

Table 5.4 Expenditure by UNDG Budget Category, as of 31 December 2020 (in US Dollars)

Category	Expenditure			Percentage of Total Programme Cost
	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2019	Current Year Jan-Dec-2020	Total	
Staff & Personnel Cost	395,165	(1,725)	393,440	17.35
Suppl, Comm, Materials	162,168	118,163	280,331	12.36
Equip, Veh, Furn, Depn	38,956	(4,384)	34,572	1.52
Contractual Services	738,225	86,361	824,585	36.36
Travel	175,873	4,649	180,522	7.96
Transfers and Grants	133,545	192,523	326,067	14.38
General Operating	323,805	(95,222)	228,583	10.08
Programme Costs Total	1,967,736	300,365	2,268,100	100.00
¹ Indirect Support Costs Total	152,102	9,015	161,118	7.10
Total	2,119,838	309,380	2,429,218	

6. Cost recovery

Cost recovery policies for the Fund are guided by the applicable provisions of the Terms of Reference, the MOU concluded between the Administrative Agent and Participating Organizations, and the SAAs concluded between the Administrative Agent and Contributors, based on rates approved by UNDG.

The policies in place, as of 31 December 2020, were as follows:

- **Indirect Costs of Participating Organizations:** Participating Organizations may charge 7% indirect costs. In the current reporting period US\$ 9,015 was deducted in indirect costs by Participating Organizations. Cumulatively, indirect costs amount to US\$ 161,118 as of 31 December 2020.

7. Accountability and transparency

In order to effectively provide fund administration services and facilitate monitoring and reporting to the UN system and its partners, the MPTF Office has developed a public website, the MPTF Office Gateway (<http://mptf.undp.org>). Refreshed in real time every two hours from an internal enterprise resource planning system, the MPTF Office Gateway has become a standard setter for providing transparent and accountable trust fund administration services.

The Gateway provides financial information including: contributor commitments and deposits, approved programme budgets, transfers to and expenditures reported by Participating Organizations, interest income and other expenses. In addition, the Gateway provides an overview of the MPTF Office portfolio and extensive information on individual Funds, including their purpose, governance structure and key documents. By providing easy access to the growing number of narrative and financial reports, as well as related project documents, the Gateway collects and preserves important institutional knowledge and facilitates knowledge sharing and management among UN Organizations and their development partners, thereby contributing to UN coherence and development effectiveness

ANNEXES

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2. 2020 Annual Report of the EU/UN Joint Regional Project
3. Joint UNDP-WFP-OESG-GL GLRSF Assessment Report: 2016-2020
4. UN Strategy for Peace Consolidation, Conflict Prevention and Conflict Resolution in the Great Lakes Region

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Progress made in the establishment and strengthening of special courts/mechanisms for fast tracking sexual offences in the criminal justice system in the ICGLR

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Introduction

This is a report of a multi-pronged assignment, at the behest of the Regional Training Facility of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR-RTF), focused on progress made by ICGLR member states in the implementation of the commitment to establish and strengthen special courts, sessions and procedures to fast track prosecution of SGBV crimes, pursuant to the Declaration of Heads of State and Government of the Member States of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region at the Fourth Ordinary and Special Session on Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV), 2011. In commitment 8 of the Declaration (Kampala Declaration) ICGLR Heads of State and Government committed to direct concerned ministries to establish and strengthen special courts, sessions, and procedures with the aim of fast tracking SGBV cases in the police and the judiciary.¹ They committed to provide the special courts, sessions and procedures with adequate financing, facilities and gender sensitive officers.

Objectives of the assignment

The objectives of the study were to:

1. Assess progress and identify good practices in the establishment of implementation of commitment 8 in the Kampala Declaration 2011
2. Conduct a regional workshop for judicial officers and prosecutors to sensitise them on the sensitisation on ICGLR legal instruments, particularly the commitment to fast-track the prosecution of sexual offences trials through special courts, sessions and procedures
3. Propose a model law to guide ICGLR member states as they enact or strengthen domestic legislation for the establishment of special courts, sessions and procedures.
4. Present the report on progress, good practices and model law for consideration and adoption at the High Level Meeting of Ministers of Justice and Gender in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo.

Methodology

Information on progress in the implementation of commitment 8 of the Kampala Declaration was obtained from questionnaires completed by national consultants in each member state. The consultants were identified and contracted by the ICGLR-RTF. Additional information was provided by the judicial officers, prosecutors and ICGLR-RTF trainers that participated in the sensitisation workshop held on 12-14 November 2019, and by experts from the ministries of justice and of gender who met in Brazzaville on 24-26 November

¹ Paragraph 8, Kampala Declaration (2011).

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2019.² Additional and complementary information was collected through document review.³

A regional workshop for judicial officers and prosecutors was organised in Kampala, Uganda on 12-14 November 2019. It was attended by Participants from Burundi, Central African Republic, Republic of Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Republic of South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania and Zambia.⁴ It was designed to sensitise the participants on ICGLR legal/policy instruments for the prevention, investigation, prosecution and trial of sexual offences. The workshop was also to generate and validate the information collected through questionnaires on the status of implementation of commitment 8 of the Kampala Declaration 2011, as well as input into the proposed model law on the establishment of special courts, sessions and procedures for fast-tracking the prosecution of sexual offences cases.

PART I: SGBV and the legal framework in the ICGLR

Sexual violence in the ICGLR region

The International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) is an inter-governmental organization of the countries in the African Great Lakes Region, namely Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Republic of Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Republic of South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania and Zambia. The ICGLR traces its origins in UN Security Council 1291 (2000), and 1304 (2000) that called for an International Conference on peace, security, democracy and development in the Great Lakes region. The resolutions were passed against a backdrop of intense armed conflicts in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) that involved many non-state armed groups, as well as several neighbouring countries. The repercussions threatening regional peace, security and development were many: loss of life and property; widespread use of rape and other forms of sexual and gender based violence as weapons on war; movement of large numbers of people around the region as refugees and internally displaced; illicit flow of small arms and exploitation of natural resources.

In response the ICGLR adopted the Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes (2006) that entered into force in June 2008. The Pact has 10 Protocols, namely:

- Protocol on Non-aggression and Mutual Defence in the Great Lakes Region
- Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance
- Protocol on Judicial Cooperation

² A copy of the questionnaire is annexed to the report (Annex 1).

³ A list of documents reviewed is annexed to the report.

⁴ The Report of the workshop is Annex 3.

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- Protocol for the Prevention and the Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity and all forms of Discrimination
- Protocol Against the Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources
- Protocol on the Specific Reconstruction and Development Zone
- Protocol on the Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence Against Women and Children
- Protocol on the Protection and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons
- Protocol on the Property Rights of Returning Persons
- Protocol on the Management of Information and Communication

Legal framework for SGBV crimes

Global Level

International humanitarian and criminal law

At the global level there is a strong legal framework for addressing sexual crime in both international humanitarian and criminal law. The Geneva Conventions 1949 which apply during war and seek to protect non-combatants, prisoners of war, and wounded fighters prohibit sexual violence. Of particular relevance to the prevention of sexual violence is the Fourth Geneva Convention which protects civilians including during non-international armed conflict (civil war).⁵ The Convention prohibits cruel and inhuman treatment, and crimes against personal dignity and honour of an individual. Article 27 clearly states that “*women shall be especially protected against any attack on their honour, in particular against rape, enforced prostitution, or any form of indecent assault...*” This prohibition is reiterated in the 1977 Additional Protocol to the Geneva Convention. Article 76(1) provides that women are especially protected from “rape, forced prostitution and any other form of assault”.

In the recent past international criminal law has been explicit in its condemnation of sexual violence. The statutes governing the establishment of the international tribunals for former Yugoslavia; the criminal court for Rwanda, and the Special Court for Sierra Leone included rape and other forms of sexual violence in the mandates of the criminal tribunals. Article 5 of the Updated Statute of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) classifies rape when committed against civilians during war as a crime against humanity.⁶ Similarly, rape was listed as a crime against humanity in the Statute of the International Tribunal for Rwanda.⁷ The Special Court for Sierra Leone was given jurisdiction to try “...[r]ape, sexual slavery, enforced prostitution, forced pregnancy and any other form of sexual violence” as crimes against humanity.⁸ The Rome Statute establishing the

⁵ Convention (IV) relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War. Geneva, 12 August 1949

⁶ http://www.icty.org/x/file/Legal%20Library/Statute/statute_sept09_en.pdf

⁷ Article 3 of the Statute.

⁸ Article 2, Statute of the Special Court for Sierra Leone, 16 January 2002

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International Criminal Court lists rape, sexual slavery, enforced prostitution, forced pregnancy, enforced sterilization, or any other form of sexual violence of comparable gravity among the crimes against humanity.⁹ The statute also lists them as serious violations of the laws and customs applicable in both international and non-international conflicts.¹⁰

The Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

The Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) treats SGBV crime as a form of discrimination against women, which is defined as, “...any distinction, exclusion or restriction made on the basis of sex which has the effect or purpose of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by women, irrespective of their marital status, on a basis of equality of men and women, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field.” State parties are required to regularly include in their periodic reports to CEDAW measures taken to deal with SGBV.¹¹ CEDAW obligates states parties to prohibit, prevent, and prosecute SGBV as a violation of fundamental human rights of women. It asserts that violence against women prevents women from enjoying the rights to life, to equal protection of the law, to liberty and security of the person, and to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health.¹² States parties commit to ensure that laws against family violence and abuse, rape, sexual assault and other gender-based violence give adequate protection to all women, and respect their integrity and dignity.¹³ The state obligation to eliminate SGBV is of an immediate nature with no justification for delayed action.¹⁴

General Recommendation No. 35 the obligation of states parties extend to ensuring that ensure that victims/survivors of gender based violence have access to justice and to an effective remedy.¹⁵ The CEDAW Committee urges states to ensure that judicial bodies refrain from engaging in any act or practice of discrimination against women and to strictly apply all criminal law provisions punishing such violence. They should also ensure that “...all legal procedures in cases involving allegations of gender-based violence against women are impartial, fair and unaffected by gender stereotypes or the discriminatory interpretation of legal provisions, including international law.”¹⁶ CEDAW prohibits the mandatory referral of sexual crime cases to alternative dispute resolution procedures, including mediation and conciliation. It recommends that the use of such procedures should be strictly regulated and

⁹Article 7 (1)(g)

¹⁰ Article 8(2)(b)(xxii) and Article 8(e)(vi)

¹¹ General Recommendation No. 19 on Violence Against Women issued by the CEDAW Committee during its Eleventh session (1992)

¹² Ibid, paragraph 7.

¹³ Ibid, paragraph 24.

¹⁴ General Recommendation No. 35 on Gender based violence (2017), CEDAW/C/GC/35, paragraph 21

¹⁵ Ibid, Paragraph 29

¹⁶ Ibid, paragraph 26

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used only if a specially qualified team confirms that the victim/survivor's consent is freely given.¹⁷

Continental Level

The Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol)

The ICGLR Protocol on SGBV provides for member countries to be guided by regional and international law in their effort to prevent and prosecute SGBV Crimes. The Maputo Protocol has been ratified by the majority of ICGLR member countries.¹⁸ Under the Protocol of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol) ... SGBV is a violation of a woman's rights to life, integrity and security of person. States Parties are obligated to enact and enforce laws that prohibit all forms of SGBV including sexual violence.¹⁹ The States Parties to the Protocol commit to enact and enforce laws to prohibit all forms of violence against women including unwanted or forced sex whether the violence takes place in private or public.²⁰ They further commit to punish the perpetrators of violence against women and implement programmes for the rehabilitation of women victims.²¹ The Protocol defines violence against women as including any acts or threats of non-consensual sex whether committed in times of peace or of war.²²

In 2017 the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, which promotes and monitors progress in the implementation of the Maputo Protocol, issued the *Guidelines on Combating Sexual Violence and Its Consequences in Africa*. The Guidelines define sexual violence as:

“...any non-consensual sexual act, a threat or attempt to perform such an act, or compelling someone else to perform such an act on a third person. These acts are considered as non-consensual when they involve violence, the threat of violence, or coercion. Coercion can be the result of psychological pressure, undue influence, detention, abuse of power or someone taking advantage of a coercive environment, or the inability of an individual to freely consent. This definition must be applied irrespective of the sex or gender of the victim and the perpetrator, and of the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator.”

The Guidelines further expound the definition by listing the different forms of sexual violence in the same manner as the ICGLR Protocol in Articles 5-8. Sexual violence can also amount to international crimes.

¹⁷ Ibid, paragraph 32

¹⁸ Only Burundi, Central African Republic, South Sudan and Sudan are yet to ratify the Maputo Protocol.

¹⁹ Article 4, Maputo Protocol.

²⁰ Article 4(1)(a), Maputo Protocol.

²¹ Ibid Article 4(1)(e)

²² Ibid. Article 1



Protocol on the Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children (2006)

At the ICGLR level the main instrument is the Protocol on the Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children adopted in 2006. The objectives of the protocol are to:

1. Provide protection for women and children against the impunity of sexual violence in the specific context of the Great Lakes Region;
2. Establish a legal framework under which Member States undertake to prosecute and punish the perpetrators of crimes of sexual violence in the Great Lakes Region;
3. Provide a legal basis for the surrender of persons and fugitives charged with committing offences of sexual violence, without prejudice to the Protocol on Judicial Cooperation;
4. Make provision for the establishment of a regional mechanism for providing legal, medical, material and social assistance, including counselling and compensation, to women and children who are victims and survivors of sexual violence in the Great Lakes Region.

The Protocol defines sexual violence to include any act which violates the sexual autonomy and bodily integrity of women and children under international criminal law, including, but not limited to:²³

- a) Rape;
- b) Sexual assault;
- c) Grievous bodily harm;
- d) Assault or mutilation of female reproductive organs;
- e) Sexual slavery;
- f) Enforced prostitution;
- g) Forced pregnancy;
- h) Enforced sterilization;
- i) Harmful practices, inclusive of all behaviour, attitudes and/or practices which negatively affect the fundamental rights of women and children, such as their right to life, health, dignity, education and physical integrity, as defined in the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa;
- j) Sexual exploitation or the coercion of women and children to perform domestic chores or to provide sexual comfort;
- k) Trafficking in, and smuggling of, women and children for sexual slavery or exploitation;

²³ Article 5



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- l) Enslavement by the exercise of any or all of the powers attaching to the right of ownership over women and includes the exercise of such power in the course of trafficking in women and children;
- m) Forced abortions or forced pregnancies of women and girl children arising from the unlawful confinement of a woman or girl child forcibly made pregnant, with the intent of affecting the composition of the identity any population or carrying out other grave violations of international law, and as a syndrome of physical, social, and psychological humiliation, pain and suffering and subjugation of women and girls;
- n) Infection of women and children with sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS; and
- o) Any other act or form of sexual violence of comparable gravity.

This definition draws from international and regional human rights instruments including the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol).²⁴

ICGLR Member States commit themselves to punish any person who, with intent, knowledge, recklessness, or negligence, violates the sexual autonomy and bodily integrity of any woman or child, by committing, aiding or abetting the commission of any of the acts of sexual violence as defined in the Protocol.²⁵ They further agree that any person convicted of sexual violence shall be "...subject to social correction and rehabilitation whilst serving their sentences."²⁶ Additionally member states agree to ensure that the criminal procedures for the prosecution of persons accused of sexual violence crimes are gender sensitive, taking into account the trauma and emotional state of the victims and survivors.²⁷ In dealing with SGBV, member countries are to be guided by the international human rights instruments referred to in the preamble. Importantly, member states agreed that "the principles for dealing with sexual violence under this Protocol shall derive from contemporary developments relating to the criminalisation of sexual violence and the punishment of the perpetrators of sexual violence under international criminal law."²⁸ They further agreed that sexual violence shall be punishable in terms of peace and in situations of armed conflict.

²⁴ See for instance, The Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women especially CEDAW General Comments 12, 19 and 35; the UN Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (1993); the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol).

²⁵ Article 4.

²⁶ Article 5(2)

²⁷ Article 6 (5).

²⁸ Article 3(1)

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Annexed to the Protocol is a Model Legislation on the Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children. The model legislation is meant to guide member countries in domesticating and implementing the Protocol, including in establishing institutional arrangements for the prevention and suppression of SGBV at national level.

The Kampala Declaration (2011)

Following intense advocacy by women's rights advocates a Special Heads of State Summit of the ICGLR was convened, in Kampala, Uganda in December 2011, to discuss the unabated high prevalence of SGBV in the region and the impunity with which the crimes were being committed. The Summit expressed concern that SGBV remained pervasive despite "...the existence of institutional, policy and legal frameworks for the prevention of SGBV and the punishment of perpetrators."²⁹ In the outcome document (the Kampala Declaration) ICGLR member states committed to take specific actions towards the prevention of SGBV, ending impunity for SGBV, as well as providing support to victims/survivors. Of particular relevance to this assignment is the commitment to direct concerned ministries to establish and strengthen special courts, sessions, and procedures with the aim of fast tracking SGBV cases in the police and the judiciary (Commitment 8). They agreed to provide the special courts, sessions and procedures with adequate financing, facilities and gender sensitive officers, as well as to improve access to justice for victims/survivors of sexual crimes in accordance with Article 6 (8) of the ICGLR Protocol on SGBV.³⁰

Ministers responsible for justice and for gender subsequently met in Kinshasa (DRC) to follow-up on the Kampala Declaration. Towards the implementation of Commitment 8 of the Declaration the ministers specifically committed to:

- a) Coordinate with their Chief Justices to establish and strengthen special courts to handle SGBV cases and to provide progress reports to the ICGLR secretariat
- b) Strengthen existing courts and/or tribunals by building capacities of the staff involved in handling SGBV cases
- c) Use existing institutions to organise special sessions, and to establish mobile courts to handle SGBV cases
- d) Adopt a more deterrent approach to handling SGBV cases by adopting procedures to deny any request for amnesty or parole for perpetrators of SGBV, and to amend national laws to enhance their deterrent effect.³¹

²⁹ Preamble to the Kampala Declaration

³⁰ Commitment 8 Kampala Declaration

³¹ Final Communiqué of Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Justice and for Gender held on 28 July 2012, Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo.

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Why special courts?

Sexual offences are particularly difficult to investigate, prosecute and adjudicate. A rape or defilement is generally committed in private with no witnesses. The victim becomes not only the complainant but also the sole witness. Socio-cultural norms discourage open discussion of sexual acts, whether consensual or non-consensual - particularly in the context of family. Because of the significant social stigma, victims are often not willing to testify, or if they do they are unable to provide the graphic details required to secure a conviction. More than 90% of rape are perpetrated by a person(s) known to the victim, and include family members.³² Victims are therefore under tremendous pressure either not to report the crime, to withdraw the complaint, or not to testify. That pressure may include threats of further violence to the victim or members of the family. Additionally sexual violence, in whatever form, is a traumatic experience for the victim and those close to her. The trauma is both physical and psychological and is known to have long-lasting consequences. Where the victim is a child the challenges are even more severe. During the trial the risk of re-traumatisation of the victim as she is forced to be in close proximity with her attacker, and to relive the attack. The presence of members of her family, the press and members of the public adds pressure, fear and trauma – often making it impossible for the victim to give clear evidence.

Social and cultural attitudes, perceptions, and norms often result in gender bias among key players in the criminal justice system, including judicial officers, prosecutors and defence counsels. Lastly case management systems in different countries are beset by many challenges resulting in criminal case backlog. Findings of the 2015 National Court Case Census in Uganda, for example, revealed that a staggering 114,809 cases had not been disposed of, with one in every four pending for more than a decade.³³ Many of these were criminal cases including sexual offence cases.

It is within this context that the commitment to establish special courts, sessions and procedures has to be positioned. Recognising the difficulty witnesses experience in testifying about the intimate details of these crimes, ICGLR member countries realised that special physical facilities are often necessary, such as suitably adapted court rooms, as well as private consultation and waiting areas. They realised that prosecutors, judicial, investigating, medical, as well as probation officers require specialised training and orientation to deal with sexual offences in a victim friendly environment, while ensuring that principles of justice are upheld. Special procedures are established to enable special

³² <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-43128350>; <https://www.rainn.org/statistics/perpetrators-sexual-violence>

³³ <https://www.monitor.co.ug/News/National/-150000---cases--courts--report/688334-3870082-fgp703/index.html>

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courts to expedite sexual offences trials, make temporary or permanent orders for the protection of victims, and to address impunity.

Progress and good practices in the establishment of special courts/sessions and procedures

ICGLR member countries have made progress in implementing commitment 8 of the Kampala Declaration. Almost all have established special procedures for handling and fast-tracking sexual offences cases through the criminal justice system. A few countries are operating special courts or sessions. The majority of the countries appear to have utilised existing mandates of the Chief Justice/supreme judicial council to establish the special mechanisms. Kenya's special procedures, however are established by the Sexual Offences Act (2006), the Sexual Offences Regulations (2008), and the Sexual Offences Rules of Court 2014. Most countries are broadening the collaboration between stakeholders. For instance, specialised training is offered to all key players in sexual offence cases, and some countries (Kenya, Uganda, Zambia) have regular judiciary-led forums for judicial officers, prosecutors, investigators, social workers and defence counsels. Below are the details:

Special courts

Out of the 12 ICGLR member countries only three (3) countries confirmed having established special courts for the prosecution of sexual offences. These are Burundi, S. Sudan, and Zambia. Burundi established a special chamber within its existing court system to deal with GBV cases including sexual offences in a victim friendly environment. Once a week there is a day dedicated to the hearing of GBV case. Relevant case files are coded colour red to enable easy identification, listing and expedited trial. The courts are supported by specially trained police officers for fast-tracked investigation. Civil society organisations collaborate with the government to provide training to criminal justice personnel. However, the overall level of knowledge on SGBV by justice and prosecution personnel is still considered low.³⁴

Zambia launched its first user-friendly fast track court in Kabwe Province in January 2016, and the second in Lusaka in March 2016. By October 2018 the Judiciary reported that over 750 GBV related cases have been handled in Lusaka and Kabwe since their introduction in 2016.³⁵ The third fast track court was launched in October 2018 in Mongu³⁶ and the fourth in Chipata Province in November 2018.³⁷ Currently there are special courts in 6 of Zambia's 10 provinces. In other areas Zambia operates special court sessions focused on sexual

³⁴ Information on Burundi is based on the completed questionnaire as complemented by experts from the ministries of justice and gender who participated in the workshops on 12-14 and 24-26 November 2019.

³⁵ <https://www.judiciaryzambia.com/2018/10/31/addressing-gender-based-violence-launch-of-the-mongu-user-friendly-fast-track-court-for-gender-based-violence/>

³⁶ <https://www.judiciaryzambia.com/2018/10/31/addressing-gender-based-violence-launch-of-the-mongu-user-friendly-fast-track-court-for-gender-based-violence/>

³⁷ <https://www.judiciaryzambia.com/2018/11/21/launch-of-the-chipata-user-friendly-fast-track-court-for-gender-based-violence/>

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offences. The objective for Zambia's fast track courts is to enhance access to justice for both survivor and perpetrator by reducing the time it takes to complete a case. Additionally the courts are victim friendly to ensure support and safety. They are fitted with equipment which allows protection for victims from intimidation and from facing their alleged perpetrators.³⁸ There are dedicated magistrates to handle these cases and they have to conclude the trial within 14 days.

In Zambia the Anti-Gender-Based Violence Act No. 1 of 2011 gives the special court power to protect the victim of SGBV. It has power both in civil and criminal matters to order for occupation orders and protection orders. The victim can sue to a civil court for the orders even when the criminal court is ongoing. It is the responsibility of police to enforce the order. Usually this is an interim order and court is briefed on every stage of its execution. The courts use a multi-disciplinary approach where all the stake holders in the criminal justice system meet regularly and agree on how to quicken the hearing of the cases. The interviews at the police are recorded and a CD which is cut out and is presented to court so the victim doesn't have to narrate the story again. The proceedings in the court are also recorded.

DRC

In 2012, with the support of the EU Governance Support Program, the Supreme Council of the Magistracy (CSM) of the Democratic Republic of Congo issued a circular for the establishment of special GBV control units in the High Court. The GBV control units are operational in seven provinces namely, Bandundu, Bas-Congo, Nord Kivu, Sud Kivu, Province Orientale, Kinshasa and Katanga.

South Sudan

South Sudan is still experiencing armed conflict in some areas. However a Special Court for Gender-based Violence and Juvenile Cases was established in Juba in March 2019.³⁹ The court's objective is to provide timely and effective justice services for both the victims/survivors and perpetrators. Judicial officers assigned to the court are undergoing specialised training prior to the court's operations.

Special sessions

Three (3) countries reported having established special sessions viz. Angola, Uganda and Zambia. For Angola the special sessions only handle domestic violence cases. Zambia operates special sessions in provinces where there are no special courts.

Uganda

³⁸ <https://www.zm.undp.org/content/zambia/en/home/presscenter/articles/2016/03/11/zambia-launches-second-fast-track-court-to-expedite-gender-based-violence-cases-.html>

³⁹ https://www.ss.undp.org/content/south_sudan/en/home/presscenter/articles/2019/high-level-officials-from-the-netherlands-and-head-of-undps-cris0.html

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In 2018, as part of a strategy by the Justice, Law and Order sector (JLOS) to clear case backlog, the Chief Justice established special sessions to clear SGBV case backlog.⁴⁰ These pilot special sessions were held in the High Courts of Mbale, Soroti, Moroto, Gulu, Mbarara, Bushenyi, Mukono, Criminal Division Kampala, and Masaka, as well as Chief Magistrate courts of Nabweru, Sironko, Kapchorwa, Lira and Iganga.⁴¹ The special sessions cleared 788 cases in 1 month exceeding the target of 650 cases. On average a traditional court session would clear 40 cases in 6 months or more.

“The sessions were targeted at improving the experience of survivors/victims of SGBV as they interface with the criminal justice system through emphasis on victim-centred and gender-sensitive approach; promotion of a coordinated and integrated approach among the role-players in the chain of justice; and strengthening of the investigation, prosecution and adjudication functions in the management of sexual offences.”⁴²

The establishment of the special GBV court sessions provided an opportunity for the Uganda criminal justice system to strengthen its collaborative approach. The initiative involved the development of a compendium of case law in the management of GBV cases, training of the different criminal justice actors, collection of information to inform victim impact assessment reports by Probation and Social welfare officers, and the implementation of a communication and media strategy.⁴³ Continuous support, and monitoring and evaluation from senior management were integral to the overall strategy.

Uganda intensive training in preparation for the special session is a good practice for the region. Participating were all key players in the criminal justice system, and CSOs that offer support to survivors, media, as well as representatives of the Bar. The training covered the following topics:

- How to handle the sessions to ensure that the victims are not further victimised or retraumatised.
- Understanding trauma and how it affects the testimony of the witness or victim.
- Forensic requirements of SGBV cases.
- How to customise the court environment to make a victim comfortable/ especially child victims.
- How to interview a victim with a gender lens.
- How to use a gender lens whilst handling the SGBV cases.

⁴⁰ The Practice Direction was issued under Art. 133 (1) b, Constitution of the Republic of Uganda.

⁴¹ <https://www.jlos.go.ug/index.php/com-rsform-manage-directory-submissions/services-and-information/press-and-media/latest-news/itemlist/tag/SGBV>

⁴² Ibid; see also UNFPA (2018), Special Courts in Uganda: Enabling access to justice for survivors of gender-based violence, Issue Brief 8

⁴³ Justice Law and Order Sector, <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B4la8i0MqigBMGphQUtVQy13N1dhcWZhQVIPbThiV2F6OE4/view>

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- Techniques for questioning victims
- How to handle the secondary victims
- Victim based approaches
- Use of anatomical dolls and other aids for the SGBV testimony
- Options for obtaining evidence other than the victims statement

Uganda has the Judicial Training Institute (JTI) which organises regular training for judicial officers. A training manual for judicial officers on gender-based violence was developed with support from partners. The manual and *Gender Bench Book* are resources for supporting the Judiciary to strengthen its internal capacities to deliver justice in a gender-responsive manner. An SGBV crimes unit was established in the Directorate of Public Prosecutions (DPP).

In 2017 a civil society-led initiative supported the judiciary to conduct special sessions covering cases from 11 districts of Amuria, Amuro, Dokolo, Gulu, Kaabongo, Katakwi, Kitgum, Kotido, Lira, Moroto and Pader.⁴⁴ The initiative was located in the JLOS stated strategy of creating specialised divisions and courts for the purpose of improving efficiency and effectiveness of delivery of judicial services. Its aim was to contribute to the reduction of case backlog by supporting the criminal justice system to fast track SGBV cases, including sexual offences. It is reported that 350 cases were cleared in 3 weeks as a result of the initiative.

One of the stated objectives of the Judiciary/FIDA Uganda initiative was to integrate justice, health and social services to hold offenders accountable. The initiative brought together these partners in the criminal justice system with strong communication links to promote offender accountability, victim safety, and case processing consistency, while delivering justice within a speedy time frame. Standard operating procedures (SOPs) were developed to establish the framework of accountability, and ensure that partners adhered to the highest ethical and professional standards. The initiative included coordination of all courthouse staff, linking survivors with appropriate services, using a continuum of treatment and services, timely monitoring of treatment plans, direct judicial interaction, explanation of responsibilities and decisions, and focusing on behavioural change by offenders.⁴⁵ The collaborative approach was accompanied by national consultations and in the communities where the sessions were to be held.

⁴⁴ The initiative was spearheaded by the Uganda Women Lawyers Association (FIDA-Uganda) and Action Aid, with funding from Norway through UNFPA.

⁴⁵ UNFPA (2018), *Special Courts in Uganda: Enabling Access to Justice for Survivors of Gender-based Violence*, <https://uganda.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/Issue%20Brief%208%20Special%20Courts.pdf>

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Special procedures

Almost all ICGLR countries have established special procedures for effective and expeditious management of sexual offences.

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Democratic Republic of Congo

In DRC the Sexual Violence Act (2006) outlaws rape and other forms of sexual assault, sexual harassment, sexual slavery, forced marriage, sexual mutilation, the deliberate transmission of sexually transmitted diseases, sexual relations with minors (children under 18) and forced pregnancy, among other acts.⁴⁶ The Act prohibits extra-judicial mediation and settlements for rape.⁴⁷ Act No. 0619 provides for an expedited procedure for investigation and trial of sexual violence cases. Each magistrates court is has the power to shift its seatings nearer to the community, depending on the population in a given community. In areas with ongoing armed conflict, war there are however Military operational courts that are set up to handle cases of sexual violence committed by the military or civilians together with the military. In 2014, the operational military court of Nord-Kivu sentenced 27 members of the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to terms of imprisonment of 5 to 20 years and, in some cases, to life imprisonment, for offences of rape, looting and murder committed in Minova, Sud-Kivu Province.⁴⁸

Kenya

Kenya does not have special courts per se to handle SGBV cases. The only semblance of a special court is the Children's Courts which are mandated to handle sexual offence cases where children are either victims or perpetrators. This means that SGBV cases are treated just like any other criminal cases. Occasionally, the children's court may have ad hoc special sessions to fast track SGBV cases courtesy of Rapid Results Initiative. Nevertheless Kenya has important good practices that the ICGLR Region can learn from:

The main applicable legislation is the Sexual Offences Act (2006). Article 31 confers power on a court, during sexual offences proceedings, to declare any witness a *vulnerable witness* if such a witness is the victim of the alleged sexual offence, a child, or a person with mental disability. In considering whether a witness should be declared vulnerable the court may consider any of the following factors:⁴⁹

- (a) age
- (b) intellectual, psychological or physical impairment
- (c) trauma

⁴⁶ Loi no. 06/018 du 20 juillet 2006 modifiant et complétant le Décret du 30 janvier 1940 portant Code pénal congolais.

⁴⁷ Particularly s. 167 – 174 in Title VI of the Penal Code, Book II on sexual violence crime.

⁴⁸ The ruling was issued as RP No. 003-2013 on 15 May 2014, Fourth periodic report submitted by DRC (2016) to the UN Human Rights Committee, CCPR/C/COD/4, at p. 15.

⁴⁹ Section 31(2), Sexual Offences Act (2006), Laws of Kenya

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- (d) cultural differences
- (e) the possibility of intimidation
- (f) race
- (g) religion
- (h) language
- (i) the relationship of the witness to any party to the proceedings
- (j) the nature of the subject matter of the evidence; or
- (k) any other factor the court considers relevant.

Upon making such a declaration the court may allow such witness to give evidence under the protective cover of a witness protection box; allow the witness to give evidence through an intermediary, direct that the proceedings should be held *in camera*, or prohibit the publication of any information that may lead to the identification of the witness.⁵⁰ The court may issue other protective orders, taking into consideration the right of defence to cross-examine the witness. Under the Sexual Offences Rules of Court, 2014 the court may limit access of the press to the court proceedings or to the victim, and may permit the expedited testimony of a witness where it is necessary in the circumstances to meet the ends of justice.

Importantly, the act provides that “No evidence as to any previous sexual experience or conduct of any person against or in connection with whom any offence of a sexual nature is alleged to have been committed, other than evidence relating to sexual experience or conduct in respect of the offence which is being tried...”. In some countries courts still allow victims of sexual crimes to be cross examined on their sexual history (e.g. whether or not she was a virgin at the time of the alleged crime). More recently it is accepted in international criminal law and jurisprudence that evidence of sexual history is not admissible to offset evidence of a sexual crime or reduce its gravity.

Kenya also has detailed national guidelines for the management of sexual violence. The guidelines aim to equip health workers with the skills to offer medical, psycho-social and humanitarian support to victims of sexual violence. They also provide guidance to ensure effective forensic management of evidence so as to facilitate access to justice by victims.⁵¹ Additionally in 2018 the country has adopted the National Standard Operating Procedures for the Management of Sexual Violence against Children (SOPs). The SOPs seek to enhance the capacity of Health Care Providers and Health Management Teams to respond to and support child survivors of sexual violence. Building on both National and International Sexual and Gender Based Violence SOPs, the document provides a standardized, user-

⁵⁰ See also the Sexual Offences Rules of Court, 2014 for detailed provisions applicable in proceedings with a vulnerable witness.

⁵¹ Ministry of Medical Services (2009), National Guidelines on Management of Sexual Violence in Kenya, Republic of Kenya, Nairobi, http://www.endvawnow.org/uploads/browser/files/national_guidelines.pdf

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friendly guide on how to apply child-centred approaches for the effective management and support of child survivors of sexual violence; and describes clear procedures, roles and responsibilities for all health care providers.⁵²

The country's Sexual Offences Act (2006) criminalises a wide range sexual offences including rape, sexual assault, forced indecent acts, defilement, gang rape, indecent acts with a child, child sex tourism and prostitution, child pornography, exploitation of prostitution, incest, sexual harassment, sexual abuse by persons in positions of authority, as well as cultural and religious sexual offences. The Act also prescribes minimum sentences (generally not less than 10 years) with the court having the discretion to impose up to life imprisonment. The circumstances surrounding the commission of the alleged sexual offence, and its impact on the complainant can be adduced either to show that the crime was committed or to assist in the determination of an appropriate sentence to be imposed.⁵³

The Sexual Offences Regulations (2008) mandate the Registrar of the High Court to maintain a register to be known as the Register of Convicted Sexual Offenders containing detailed particulars of the offender, the offence he was convicted for and date of such conviction. The register should also indicate the age of the victim and any relationship with the offender.⁵⁴ Once entered into the Register the offender's entry remains in the Register till the offender's death. The Registrar is required to ensure access to the Register by the following persons:⁵⁵

- a) Judicial officers
- b) Advocates of the High Court in criminal proceedings to which the information in the Register is relevant
- c) Probation officers
- d) Children officers
- e) State counsels and prosecutors
- f) Police investigators
- g) The prisons department, and
- h) Other agencies which may require the information.

The Regulations also empower a prosecutor in any criminal proceedings to apply to court to declare a person convicted of a sexual offence, a dangerous offender. The application must be made after conviction and before sentencing. Once a person is so declared, the court

⁵² Ministry of Health (2018), National Standard Operating Procedures for the Management of Sexual Violence Against Children, 6, https://www.popcouncil.org/uploads/pdfs/2018RH_KenyaMOH-SOPsMgmtSVAC.pdf

⁵³ Article 33, Sexual Offences Act (2006), Kenya.

⁵⁴ Section 6 of the Sexual Offences Regulations, 2008

⁵⁵ Ibid, Section 6(9)

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shall order that the person shall be under the supervision of a particular government agency e.g. prisons department, the police, probation or the children's department.⁵⁶

To facilitate better access to the criminal justice system and availability of forensic evidence, the law now permits either a nurse, clinical officer, or doctor can attend to a survivor and they all have full and equal authority to fill in and sign the Post Rape Care (PRC) form. Ultimately, this means that a nurse, clinical officer, or doctor can give evidence in court in regard to the medical evidence collected and documented in the PRC form. Previously only a doctor could examine a victim of sexual assault, and give evidence. With the limited number of doctors, and their concentration in major urban centres many victims had no access. Kenya has adopted detailed guidelines for the medical and forensic management of sexual violence, as well as psycho-social support of victims/survivors.⁵⁷

Rwanda

Rwanda has no special court for SGBV cases. The country has adopted a prevention-focused approach to SGBV, mobilising the Rwanda Defence Forces, Police Force and all government structures up to community level to get involved in raising awareness and preventing SGBV. The national strategic response to SGBV is victim-centred. The Penal Code provides that Sexual Gender-Based Violence cases be exclusively tried *in camera* so as to protect the victims from social stigma.⁵⁸ Law No 59/2008 of 10/09/2008 on Prevention and Punishment of Gender- Based Violence provides guidelines for the handling and disposal of GBV cases at the scene of crime whenever possible (Art. 12). Evidence of any person including children and members of the household that is of relevance to the case is admissible in a court of law.⁵⁹ Rwanda established a multi-service centre commonly known as *Isange One Stop Centre (OSC)* in 2009 within the National Police Hospital to receive and assist GBV survivors with all the relevant services needed including medical, legal, psychological and social assistance. The OSC services are available 24 hours a day and are free of charge. By cutting down on procedures and providing services under one roof, these OSC are more victim-friendly, provide rapid response, making victims more willing to seek services and to report GBV cases. Every district hospital delivers the OSC services and in those areas where the OSC have yet been constructed, the victims of gender-based violence may approach the main hospital.⁶⁰ The Rwanda National Police has an anti-GBV Directorate to respond to cases of SGBV and the rights of the victims. The Directorate has focal points in all police stations in the country who work closely with hospitals and health centres to facilitate

⁵⁶ Ibid, Section 7.

⁵⁷ National Guidelines on Management of Sexual Violence in Kenya (2009)

⁵⁸ Rwanda Seventh to ninth periodic report to CEDAW, 25, CEDAW/C/RWA/7-9

⁵⁹ Article 13, Law No 59/2008 of 10/09/2008

⁶⁰ Rwanda's Seventh to ninth periodic report to the CEDAW Committee (2015), CEDAW/C/RWA/7-9 at 14

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access to medical expertise. Similarly the National Public Prosecution Authority (NPPA), and has anti-GBV desks to ensure protection of the victims.⁶¹

While there is a framework for strong collaboration in the national health response to SGBV this is not apparent in the criminal justice system. Despite the judiciary reform, collecting evidence in sexual violence cases is still problematic and this is a limitation to the prosecution of SGBV suspects. The National Public Prosecution Authority (NPPA) and the Rwanda Investigation Bureau (RIB) have put in place special units specifically in charge of SGBV. However there is still a need for training judicial officers, prosecutors and investigators on effective and gender responsive handling of sexual violence cases.⁶²

South Sudan

South Sudan has adopted Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for Gender Based Violence to guide stakeholders and government institutions' in their efforts to prevent, protect and respond to GBV.⁶³ The SOPs emphasize the need for a multi-sectoral approach and outline the role of different stakeholders. For the criminal justice system the SOPs call for the establishment of a special GBV court and the training of judicial officers in gender-sensitive handling of GBV courts. They also call for the establishment of special units in all police stations.

⁶¹ Ibid at 14

⁶² Rutayisire Fidèle (2019), Review of the implementation of the Kampala Declaration (unpublished), October 2019.

⁶³ Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare (2014), Standard Operating Procedures (Sop) For Prevention, Protection And Response To Gender Based Violence (GBV) In South Sudan, Juba, South Sudan.



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Summary of progress in establishing special courts/session/procedures

Progress on establishment of special courts/sessions/procedures

Member country	Special Court	Session	Procedure
Angola			
Burundi	√		√
Central African Republic			
Republic of Congo			√
Democratic Republic of Congo		√	√
Kenya			√
Rwanda			√
South Sudan	√		√
Sudan			√ (2014-2016) for cases involving children only
Tanzania			
Uganda		√	√
Zambia	√	√	√
Total			

Good Practices

Most actions taken by ICGLR member countries are relatively recent, and not backed by a stringent monitoring system to track impact, although in the short term countries like Burundi, Uganda, and Zambia claimed to have significantly reduced the time for trial of sexual offences. Zambia is particularly commended for setting a 14-day maximum period for concluding cases. However, the determination of a good practice should not just be based on how fast cases are cleared. Determining what amounts to a ‘good practice’ requires clarity on the standards or parameters against which a practice is to be assessed as good or best. Best or good practices can be described as “...practices that are innovative, proven to have made a difference, and models for development elsewhere.”⁶⁴ It distinguishes ‘best practices’ from ‘promising practices’ which are either only partially successful or are in their early stages of implementation. Below are proposed criteria for assessing good practices, based on the provisions of the ICGLR Protocol on SGBV, the Kampala Declaration and

⁶⁴ European Parliament (2015), Overview of the Worldwide Best Practices for Rape Prevention and for Assisting Women Victims of Rape, Directorate for Internal Policies, p. 34, [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/etudes/JOIN/2013/493025/IPOL-FEMM_ET\(2013\)493025_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/etudes/JOIN/2013/493025/IPOL-FEMM_ET(2013)493025_EN.pdf)

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relevant continental and global human rights standards, including the Maputo Protocol and CEDAW.

Criteria for assessing good practices

The criteria for assessing good or promising practices are extremely important. They have to be derived from the Protocol on the Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children, the Kampala Declaration and other policy instruments of the ICGLR, as well as from international and regional development in the management of sexual violence crimes. The Protocol aims to provide protection for women and children against the impunity of sexual violence in the specific context of the Great Lakes Region. The Kampala Declaration commits members to end impunity, and to fast track SGBV cases with adequate finances and trained officers, improve access to justice and protect victims/survivors.⁶⁵ Additionally, in Article 3 (3) of the Protocol member countries agree that measures taken by them to protect women and children from sexual violence shall be based on the principles contained in the instruments referred to in the Preamble of this Protocol.⁶⁶

This report proposes five (5) elements that combine to make a special court, session or procedure as a good practice in the implementation of Commitment 8 of the Kampala Declaration (2011).

1. Victim/survivor-centred - the special SGBV court, session or procedures need to adopt a victim-centred approach to its work. This means appreciating victims of sexual offenses as important participants in all stages of the process. As such the victim should be kept informed of the progress of the case and role in the criminal proceedings, and advised of her rights including the rights to prompt redress, privacy, safety from the alleged perpetrator and others, and to be heard. Sexual offenses are very traumatic personal experiences. The victim has a right to be supported – the appropriate support being influenced by the nature of the victim (age, disability etc.). The criminal justice has a responsibility to adopt procedures that either eliminate or significantly reduce re-traumatisation of the victim. In the context of the right of the accused to examine witnesses and challenge adverse evidence, the defence's exercise of this must also be exercised in accordance with State obligations to protect the rights of victims and witnesses, particularly in sexual

⁶⁵ Commitments 7 and 8, Kampala Declaration (2011)

⁶⁶ The instruments referred to are the Charter of the United Nations 1945, Security Council Resolution 1325, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights 1948, Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide 1948, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women 1979, General Recommendation 19 on Violence Against Women, Convention on the Rights of the Children 1989, the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children 2000, the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights 1981, and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa 2003.



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violence cases.⁶⁷ Fast-tracking sexual offenses through investigation, prosecution and trial, is just one aspect of the victim-centred approach.

2. Offender accountability – The enactment of a law that criminalises sexual violence, and imposes stiff penalties is only the first step in complying with the ICGLR Protocol. “In violence against women cases, the criminal justice system needs to shift the focus away from questioning the credibility of victims to enhancing evidence-gathering and case-building and ensuring consistency in investigation, prosecution and punishment.”⁶⁸ It is essential that police criminal investigators conduct thorough investigations, and preserve the evidence collected. Prosecutors have a duty to work with the investigating officers to ensure that evidence gaps are addressed before commencement of trial. The Protocol on SGBV is clear in its objectives – addressing impunity. The criminal justice system needs to convey the message that perpetrators of sexual crime will be effectively prosecuted, and on conviction receive a punishment that reflects the seriousness of the offence.
3. Comprehensive, coordinated and multidisciplinary approach – the objective of coordination is to provide an efficient criminal justice response that is victim-centred and addresses impunity. Coordination allows the judge, survivor, prosecutor, defence and social worker to work towards a common purpose – the delivery of justice, efficiently, with no delays, and in an empowering environment. Judicial leadership, comprehensive training for all stakeholders and commitment to regular evaluation and system improvement are critical for effective coordination.⁶⁹
4. Specialized expertise – Professionals in the criminal justice system are highly qualified in their respective areas of work. However, the prosecution and trial of sexual violence offenders calls for additional specialised knowledge, and skills that are often not taught at universities and police training colleges. It challenges deeply held gender biases and stereotypes. Recognising the importance of specialised expertise, the ICGLR member countries established the Regional Training Facility (ICGLR-RTF) to support member countries in developing the necessary expertise. Commitment 8 of the Kampala Declaration calls on member countries to deploy gender sensitive officers to the special sexual offenses courts/mechanisms

⁶⁷ International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) (2015), Sexual and Gender Based Violence, Fair Trial Rights and the Rights of Victims Challenges in Using Law and Justice Systems Faced by Women Human Rights Defenders, ICJ, Geneva, 6, <https://www.icj.org/africa-sexual-and-gender-based-violence-fair-trial-rights-and-the-rights-of-victims/>

⁶⁸ Supra, UNODC at 26

⁶⁹ Rebecca Thomforde-Hauser and Juli Ana Grant (2010), Sex Offense Courts: Supporting Victim and Community Safety Through Collaboration, Center for Court Innovation, New York, 4 https://www.courtinnovation.org/sites/default/files/Sex_Offense_Courts.pdf .



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established to fast track SGBV cases. In addition to regular training for judicial, prosecution, and police, member countries may establish specialised units in the judiciary, prosecution service and police.

5. Adequate resources – Member countries need to allocate adequate resources to ensure country-wide coverage and victim accessibility of the special courts. For the special courts/mechanisms to effectively handle sexual violence crime in a gender responsive manner they require adequate resources in its broadest sense. Adequate and well trained personnel, facilities that provide space for ensuring the safety of the victim/survivor and prevention of re-traumatisation, and a multi-disciplinary approach. South Africa has determined, for example that minimum facilities for SGBV courts should include the following:⁷⁰
 - a) A designated courtroom equipped with CCTV and sound equipment and/or one-way glass;
 - b) A special room from which the victim will testify, which must have minimal furniture and decoration;
 - c) A private waiting room and/or play area for victims and their families, which must be informally arranged;
 - d) Victim support services;
 - e) Specialist interpreters trained in child development and those working with the mentally disabled.

Challenges and recommendations

Some challenges were identified in the effort to establish special mechanisms for fast-tracking sexual offence cases:

- a) In some countries (Uganda, DRC, Republic of Congo, Tanzania) provisions on sexual offences are scattered in various legislations, which makes it difficult to adopt common procedures, approaches, and remedies for the victims. There is need for a comprehensive law on sexual offences. In Uganda the Sexual Offences Bill is not yet passed by parliament.
- b) For many countries the establishment of special courts, sessions, and procedures has been ad hoc with no specific enabling legislation, without which there is no budgetary provision for the facilities and training required to establish and operationalise the special mechanisms envisaged in commitment 8 of the Kampala Declaration. Judicial officers and prosecutors in most countries also noted that protection orders are civil remedies that cannot be issued in criminal courts without an enabling law. It would defeat the intentions of the commitment 8 if victims were required to file applications in another court where delays and expenses are

⁷⁰ Liesl Pretorius (2018), 5 years on: Are sexual offences courts working?, <https://citypress.news24.com/News/are-sexual-offences-courts-working-20181126>



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inevitable. Only Kenya and Zambia had the enabling law for issuance of protection orders during sexual offences trials. There is a need for a law specifically on the establishment of special courts, sessions and procedures for efficient, effective, and expedient prosecution and trial of sexual offences.

- c) Due to fear of stigma, social ostracism and further violence victims frequently withdraw complaints or refuse to cooperate with the prosecutors which lead to case dismissal. Insistence by some courts on corroborating witnesses is another challenge. It was agreed, during the experts' workshops, that if the victim is believable and is consistent in her story, a conviction is possible. What is needed is for the judge/magistrate to "caution" her/himself. Corroboration can be established from other circumstantial evidence. It was also agreed that cautionary rule, based on gender bias and stereotyping women as liars, is no longer good law and there judicial precedents to guide courts on the matter.
- d) There are funding and logistics challenges including inadequate funding to ensure witness availability, specialised facilities and technology. Some governments have no or limited labs for forensic evidence including DNA. It was suggested that the focus should not be on new funding but how each country uses existing resources nationally, and within the region to start implementation. It was suggested for instance that the ICGLR secretariat could encourage countries to cooperate in the use of forensic laboratories. It was also suggested that the Burundi model of utilising existing court structures and personnel by designating a weekly schedule when the court is handling sexual offences only may reduce expenses and lead to the training of all criminal justice personnel across the country.
- e) While there is progress in fast-tracking GBV cases in the courts of first instance, there is no time-frame for appeal. Delays may be as long as 2 years or more, negating the efforts towards justice for both victims and alleged perpetrators. It is a priority that once a case is concluded the record is prepared and sent to the High court for sentencing, and where an appeal is lodged, this is prioritised.
- f) While the majority of sexual offences cases involve female victims, increasingly boys and men are suffering sexual violence. The socio-legal challenges in terms of stigma, fear of further violence apply. Existing laws do not adequately focus on male victims of sexual crimes.



PART II: Proposed model legislation for special mechanisms to fast track SGBV cases

Rationale for a legal framework

The criminal justice system has an important role in the prevention and suppression of sexual offenses, and in ensuring both procedural and substantive justice for the victim. The ICGLR Protocol on the Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children and the Kampala Declaration (2011) is founded on this tenet. It is as important for the criminal justice system to establish culpability or innocence of the accused as it is to ensure that the process and end results are responsive to the victim's interests. For the victim justice is not served just by the conviction and sentencing, but by a whole range of other factors including the extent of the victim's involvement, personal and family safety, and measures put in place to manage trauma and social stigma. The duration of the investigation and trial, as well as the gender sensitivity and responsiveness of judicial officers, prosecution officials, and social workers involved in the case are critically important aspects of justice for the victim, as well as for the deterrent impact of the law. The objectives of the criminal justice system should be to ensure the victim's safety while holding the perpetrator accountable for his actions, and to send a clear message to society that violence against women will not be tolerated.⁷¹

“An effective criminal justice system prioritises victim safety and offender accountability. It includes the opportunity to access redress for the violence in a timely manner, the avoidance of re-victimisation, and the enforcement of legal remedies, including appropriate punishment for the perpetrators.”⁷²

ICGLR member countries have identified the absence of a specific law on the establishment of special courts, sessions and procedures for fast-tracking the prosecution and trial of sexual offences, and the adoption of a victim friendly approach. They requested the ICGLR-RTF to develop a model legislation that would guide member countries, and facilitate a regional harmonised approach.

The model law (Annex 2) developed under this assignment is to support the efforts of member countries to accelerate the implementation of Commitment 8 in the Kampala Declaration (2011), and the Kinshasa Final Communique of the Ministers responsible for Justice and for Gender in 2012. The model law is informed by:

⁷¹ UNODC (2010), Handbook on Effective Prosecution Response to Violence against Women and Girls, Criminal Justice Series, p. 26

⁷² Ibid p.23.

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1. The Protocol on the Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence Against Women and Children, and the Model Legislation on the Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children annexed to the Protocol
2. The Kampala Declaration (2011)
3. The Kinshasa Final Communique
4. Commitments of member countries in various regional and global human rights instruments referred to in the preamble and Article 2 of the Protocol.
5. Good practices from African countries

The model law covers the establishment of special courts and their functions, the issuance of various orders for the protection of victims of sexual violence, and for the management of sexual offenders. It also provides for special procedures, forensic evidence, collaboration within the criminal justice system, and the issuance of guidelines for criminal investigation and prosecution officers. The text of the model law is annexed.

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PART III ANNEXES

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Annex 1 : Questionnaire on good practices



QUESTIONNAIRE ON SPECIAL COURTS (Res. 8, Kampala Declaration 2011)

Background

The ICGLR Protocol on the Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence Against Women and Children (hereinafter referred to as the Protocol) seeks to address the high prevalence and widespread incidence of sexual violence in the Great Lakes Region. Its objectives include addressing impunity and establishing a legal framework under which Member States undertake to prosecute and punish the perpetrators of crimes of sexual violence. In December 2011, a Special Heads of States Summit of the ICGLR was convened in Kampala, Uganda, to discuss the unabated high prevalence of SGBV in the region and the impunity with which the crimes were being committed. The Summit expressed concern that SGBV remained pervasive despite “...the existence of institutional, policy and legal frameworks for the prevention of SGBV and the punishment of perpetrators”. In the outcome document (the Kampala Declaration) ICGLR member states agree to take specific actions towards the prevention of SGBV, ending impunity for SGBV, as well as providing support to victims/survivors. The ICGLR Heads of State and Government **committed to direct concerned ministries to establish and strengthen special courts, sessions, and procedures with the aim of fast tracking SGBV cases in the police and the judiciary. They committed to provide the special courts, sessions and procedures with adequate financing, facilities and gender sensitive officers.** The envisaged special courts/sessions or procedures are generally set up to speed up case management, and to provide an environment conducive for efficient handling of SGBV cases, while guaranteeing the right to a fair trial to the parties involved.

Purpose of the questionnaire

The ICGLR-RTF is in the process of compiling good practices in the implementation of paragraph 8 of the Kampala Declaration on special courts. This questionnaire is prepared by the ICGLR-RTF as a tool for ICGLR member countries to contribute to this exercise by sharing information on the progress made.

Name and Designation of the respondent.....
Country

A. Establishment of special courts

1. Has your government established any of the following mechanisms, with the purpose of fast tracking SGBV cases?
 - i. special courts (Tick one)YesNo.
 - ii. Special sessions (Tick one)YesNo.
 - iii. Special procedures (Tick one)YesNo.

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2. When was the mechanism established?

- i. special courts ((insert date)
- ii. Special sessions ((insert date)
- iii. Special procedures ((insert date)

3. At what level within the judiciary hierarchy is the court/session/procedure (e.g. high court, magistrates court, quasi-judicial tribunal)

- i. special courts
- ii. Special sessions.....
- iii. Special procedures

4. What is the geographical coverage of the special court/session/procedure [e.g. country-wide, number of districts (list them)]?

- i. special courts
-
- ii. Special sessions
-
- iii. Special procedures
-

5. How was the special mechanism established? (tick as appropriate)

- i. special courts
 - a. By new or amended legislation.....
 - b. By an order of the Minister of Justice
 - c. By an order of the Chief Justice or head of the Judiciary
 - d. Other (specify)
- ii. Special sessions
 - a. By new or amended legislation.....
 - b. By an order of the Minister of Justice
 - c. By an order of the Chief Justice or head of the Judiciary
 -
 - d. Other (specify)
 -
- iii. Special procedures
 - a. By new or amended legislation.....
 - b. By an order of the Minister of Justice
 - c. By an order of the Chief Justice or head of the Judiciary
 - d. Other (specify)

Please attach a copy of the legislation or order

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6. Did designated judicial officers receive any special training as part of the preparations for launching the special court/session/procedure?YesNo
7. If yes, please explain briefly the topics of the training (attach a copy of the programme or report if possible).....
.....
.....
8. Did the designated prosecutors receive any special training as part of the preparations for launching the special court/session/procedure?YesNo
9. If yes, please explain briefly the topics of the training (attach a copy of the programme or report if possible).....
.....
10. Did any other actors in the criminal justice system participate in the training e.g. police? If yes please list them
.....

C. Operations and impact

11. When did the special mechanism become operational?
 - i. Special courts (Insert date)
 - ii. Special sessions (Insert date)
 - iii. Special procedures (Insert date)
12. How many SGBV cases has the court/session/procedure handled and in what period?.....
 - i. Special courts
 - ii. Special sessions.....
 - iii. Special procedures
13. How many of these have been completed?.....
14. How many resulted in convictions?
15. What is the average duration of each case?
16. What was the average duration of SGBV cases prior to the establishment of the special court/session/procedure?.....
17. Please briefly explain the positive changes arising from the establishment of the special court/session/procedure
.....
.....

D. Challenges

18. What challenges (if any) are the special court/session/procedure currently facing?
.....
.....
.....

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Annex 2: THE MODEL LEGISLATION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIAL COURTS AND OTHER MECHANISMS TO FAST TRACK THE TRIAL OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN⁷³

Preamble

We, Ministers responsible for gender and justice in the member states of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region;

Recalling that the protocol on the Prevention and Suppression of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence against Women and Children in the Great Lakes Region was adopted on 30th November, 2006 with an annex on the Model Legislation on the prevention and suppression of Sexual violence against women and children;

Cognizant of article 11 of the Pact on Security, Stability and Development For the Great Lakes Region 2006 as amended in 2012 that requires the Member States to undertake, in accordance with the Protocol on the Prevention and Suppression of Violence against Women and Children, to combat sexual violence against women and children through preventing, criminalizing and punishing acts of sexual violence, both in times of peace and in times of war, in accordance with national laws and international criminal law;

Noting the recommendations of the Goma Declaration on eradicating Sexual Violence and ending impunity in the Great Lakes Region including member states to ensure that during the trial of SGBV cases criminal procedure guarantees of effective prosecution, confidentiality, closed court proceedings and protection of victims and witnesses are taken into account;

Reaffirming our commitment to establish and strengthen special courts, sessions and procedures in order to fast track Sexual and Gender Based Violence cases in the police and the judiciary under commitment 8 of the Declaration of the Heads of State and Government of the Member States of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region adopted and signed on 15th December, 2011(the Kampala Declaration 2011);

Recalling the commitment of the ministers responsible for Justice and Gender to establish and strengthen special courts and to provide progress reports as contained in the final communique of the High-level Consultation of Ministers responsible for Justice and Gender on Kampala Declaration on Sexual and Gender based violence held in Kinshasa on 12th July 2012;

Conscious of the need to adopt a model legislation to guide member states in developing the appropriate legal instruments for the establishment and operationalization of special courts to try sexual violence offences in their respective criminal justice systems;

Aware that an effective criminal justice system response to sexual and gender-based violence requires collaboration among the Judiciary, prosecutors, investigators, defense counsel and probation and welfare officials;

⁷³ Final Draft of 2nd December, 2019 which was adopted by Ministers of Justice and Gender at the High Level Meeting on 27 November 2019 in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo.

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Having received and considered the final communique of the High-level consultation of Ministers responsible for Justice and gender on the Kampala Declaration on sexual and gender-based violence held in Brazzaville on 27th November, 2019;

Convinced that the adoption of a model law to establish and strengthen special courts and other mechanism in order to fast track sexual and gender based violence cases in the police and the judiciary is a facilitating tool for improved access to justice and protection of victims and survivors of sexual and gender based violence in line with article 6 of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region protocol (2006);

Do hereby adopt the Model legislation on the Establishment of Special Courts and other Mechanisms to fast track Sexual Violence against Women and Children as follows:-

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

Section

1. Interpretation
2. The object this modal law
3. Designation of special courts
4. Functions of special courts
5. Protective orders
6. Treatment orders
7. Sexual violence offender register
8. Access to the register
9. Coordination and collaboration
10. Procedure adopted by the special court
11. Evidence of medical or forensic nature
12. Powers of the competent Authority
13. Guidelines for investigations
14. Guidelines for prosecution
15. Prohibitions
16. Vulnerable witnesses
17. Monitoring and reporting

1. Interpretation

In this Act unless the context otherwise requires-

“competent Authority” means an officer responsible for the administration of the Judiciary in the member state;

“intermediary” means a person authorized by a special court, on account of his or her expertise or experience, to give evidence on behalf of a vulnerable witness and may include a parent, relative, psychologist, counselor, guardian, children’s officer, probation and welfare officer or social worker;



“investigating Authority” means an agency responsible for investigating criminal case;

“prosecuting Authority” means an agency responsible for the prosecution of criminal cases in any court with criminal jurisdiction;

“treatment” includes medical diagnosis, counselling and social support services;

“sexual violence” means an act which violates the sexual autonomy and bodily integrity of women and children under international criminal law, including-

- (a) rape;
- (b) sexual assault;
- (c) grievous bodily harm;
- (d) assault or mutilation of female reproductive organs;
- (e) sexual slavery;
- (f) enforced prostitution;
- (g) forced pregnancy;
- (h) enforced sterilization;
- (i) harmful practices;
- (j) sexual exploitation or the coercion of women and children to perform domestic chores or to provide sexual comfort;
- (k) trafficking in, and smuggling of, women and children for sexual slavery or exploitation;
- (l) enslavement by the exercise of any or all of the powers attaching to the right of ownership over women and includes the exercise of such power in the course of trafficking in women and children;
- (m) forced abortions or forced pregnancies of women and girl children arising from the unlawful confinement of a woman or girl child forcibly made pregnant, with the intent of affecting the composition of the identity any population or carrying out other grave violations of international law;
- (n) infection of women and children with sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS; and
- (o) any other act or form of sexual violence of comparable gravity.;

“gender-based violence” includes acts that inflict physical, mental or sexual harm or suffering, threats of such acts, coercion and other deprivations of liberty that are directed against a woman because she is a woman or that affects women disproportionately;

“special court” includes divisions, circuits, tribunals and sessions designated by the competent Authority of a member state for purposes of conducting trials of sexual offences;

“victim support services” includes counselling, specialised medical treatment referrals, rehabilitation, testifying in camera or chambers and related services.



2. The object of this model law

The object of this model law is to provide a guiding legal framework for member states to enact national legislation to-

- (a) provide a legal framework to operationalize commitment 8 of the Kampala Declaration 2011 under which the heads of state and government committed to direct concerned ministries to establish and strengthen special courts, sessions and procedures in order to fast track sexual and gender based violence cases in the police and the judiciary as a means to end impunity for sexual and gender based violence, among others;
- (b) provide for the designation of special courts to give effect to the Protocol on the Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children, 2006;
- (c) provide for the procedures and measures for fast tracking the prosecution and hearing of sexual offences; and
- (d) provide for the development of guidelines for judicial officers, prosecutors, investigating officers and medical personnel in handling sexual offences to ensure proper management of sexual offences.

3. Designation of special courts

- (1) The competent Authority shall designate a special court in every geographical jurisdiction, to fast track the hearing and disposal of sexual violence cases.
- (2) The special court designated by the competent Authority shall be a competent court with jurisdiction to try sexual offences.
- (3) The competent Authority shall-
 - (a) assign adequate and well-trained personnel who are gender responsive to the special court;
 - (b) provide training, orientation and motivation to equip the personnel assigned to a special court with skills necessary for the proper functioning of the special court; and
 - (c) equip the special court with adequate and gender responsive special facilities;
- (4) The special facilities referred to in subsection (2)(c) may include-
 - f) a visual - audio link for vulnerable victims;
 - g) a room from which the victim will testify, which shall be arranged in a manner that ensures victim safety and prevention of re-traumatization of the victim;
 - h) a private waiting area for victims and their families;
 - i) victim support services;
 - j) specialist interpreters who are gender responsive; and



- k) a child friendly environment, in the case of child victims.

4. Functions of special courts

- (1) The special court shall -
 - (a) manage sexual violence offences trials with a consistent and gender responsive approach;
 - (b) fast track sexual offences trials and dispose of the cases in a timely manner;
 - (c) issue protective orders or directives in favour of the victim, witness or a family member, as the court deems appropriate;
 - (d) advise the victim or survivor of their rights during the hearing; and
 - (e) operate in an environment that ensures the safety of the victim and prevents or reduces re-traumatization of the victim or survivor.

- (2) The special court shall in the performance of its functions shall adhere to the principles of natural justice.

5. Protective orders

- (1) A special court may, if it considers it appropriate, make protective orders for the victims of sexual violence, families of victims of sexual offences and vulnerable witnesses.

- (2) The protective order may include-
 - (a) an order directing the perpetrator to stay away from the premises or place where the victim resides or any part of the premises, if the prohibition is in the best interest of the victim;

 - (b) an order directing the perpetrator to pay maintenance in respect of the victim's needs or the needs of any child or dependent of the perpetrator in the case of sexual violence in the domestic setting;

 - (c) an order for temporary custody of any child or dependent of the perpetrator to any person or institution and regulate rights of access by the perpetrator to the child or dependent;

 - (d) an order directing the perpetrator to afford the victim or any child or dependent of the victim, access to their place of residence and use of the facilities associated with it; or

 - (e) make any other order the special court may consider appropriate.

6. Treatment orders.

- (1) A special court may, at any time at the request of a victim of sexual offence or an intermediary, grant an order for the treatment of a victim of sexual offence.

- (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of sub-section (1), a special court, may upon conviction of a person having committed a sexual offence and if satisfied that the



convicted person is dependent on or has the propensity to misuse alcohol, any drug or is suffering from any other disorder including the mindset that treats women as sex objects, make an order for treatment of the convicted person, in addition to any sentence, including a sentence of imprisonment which is not suspended.

- (3) A treatment order issued under this section shall specify a public hospital or institution where the treatment shall take place.
- (4) The expenses incurred for the treatment of any person convicted of an offence under this section or a victim of a sexual offence, as the case may be, shall be borne by the State.
- (5) All medical records relating to treatment under this section may be used as evidence before any court with regard to any offence under this Act.

7. Sexual violence offender register

- (1) The special courts shall establish and maintain a sexual violence offender Register.
- (2) The Register shall consist of-
 - (a) the particulars of the offender;
 - (b) passport photograph and a set of fingerprints of the offender;
 - (c) physical address of the place of residence and the place of work;
 - (d) the offence with which the offender was convicted;
 - (e) the date of conviction and the sentence imposed;
 - (f) the sentence entered on appeal if applicable;
 - (g) the age of the victim of the sexual offence;
 - (h) the relationship between the convict and the victim, if any, including information as to whether there was a position of trust;
 - (i) brief particulars of the circumstances under which the offences was committed; and
 - (j) any other information, which, in the opinion of the special court, requires to be kept.
- (3) Where a convicted offender changes the physical address referred to in section (2) (c), the offender shall notify the special court that convicted him or her of the change of address within fourteen days after the change of address.

8. Access to the register

- (1) A person who wishes to access the Register shall apply in writing to the special court for permission to access the register.
- (2) The register shall be accessed during working days and hours or any other day as the special court may determine.



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- (3) Notwithstanding subsection (1) the court shall at all times ensure access of the register by the following—
- (a) judicial officers;
 - (b) advocates involved in criminal proceedings to which information kept in the Register has a bearing;
 - (c) probation and social welfare officers;
 - (d) children officers;
 - (e) state counsel and prosecutors;
 - (f) police investigators;
 - (g) the prisons department; and
 - (h) other relevant agencies which, in the opinion of the competent authority, may require such information.
- (4) The special court shall not allow access to the Register where the special court has reason to believe that the information is intended to be used in a prejudicial manner.

9. Coordination and collaboration

- (1) The competent Authority shall require each special court to establish a mechanism for coordination and collaboration among -
- (a) judicial officers assigned to special courts;
 - (b) prosecutors handling sexual violence offenses;
 - (c) investigators handling sexual violence complaints;
 - (d) survivors or victims of sexual violence
 - (e) the family of the survivor or victim of the sexual violence, where the survivor or victim is a person with disability, a child or has suffered trauma;
 - (f) recovery centres;
 - (g) defense counsel;
 - (h) prisons authorities, or detention centres; and
 - (i) public officers responsible for probation and welfare of the victims.
- (2) The coordination and collaboration shall support the special court to ensure-
- (a) efficient delivery of justice;
 - (b) respect for the rights of the victim or survivor of sexual violence, and for the accused person; and
 - (c) an environment that is friendly to the victim throughout the trial.

10. Procedure adopted by the special court

- (1) The special court shall adopt special procedures in hearing and determining sexual violence offences.
- (2) The special procedures may relate to-
- (a) witness protection;
 - (b) appearance of witnesses;
 - (c) use of forensic evidence;
 - (d) expert evidence;



- (e) admissibility and relevancy of evidence;
- (f) handling of a child and other vulnerable victims; and
- (g) trial procedures.

11. Evidence of medical or forensic nature

- (1) A person may apply to the special court to direct that an appropriate sample be taken from the accused person charged with a sexual offence, for the purpose of forensic and other scientific testing in order to gather evidence and to ascertain whether or not the accused person committed an offence.
- (2) The sample taken from an accused person under subsection (1) shall be stored at an appropriate place until the trial is concluded and if the accused person is convicted, order that the sample be stored in a databank for dangerous sexual offenders and where the accused person is acquitted, order that the sample or samples be destroyed.
- (3) The dangerous sexual offender's databank referred to in subsection (2) shall contain such particulars as may be determined by the competent authority.
- (4) A person making an application for a sample to be taken under subsection (1) shall, in consultation with a medical practitioner, specify the nature of the sample which may include-
 - (a) blood;
 - (b) urine; or
 - (c) other tissue or substance.

12. Powers of the competent Authority

- (1) The competent Authority shall exercise the following powers-
 - (a) designate a senior judicial officer as a person in charge of a designated special court;
 - (b) issue practice directions, guidelines or rules, as the case may be, on any matter relating to the operations of special courts;
 - (c) conduct a regular monitoring and appraisal of the performance of special courts; and
 - (d) issue practice directions, guidelines or rules on the issuance of protective orders, compensations, damages or reparations to the victims or survivors of sexual violence.
- (2) The guidelines shall provide for the management of the coordination and collaboration mechanism established in section 9.

13. Guidelines for investigations

- (1) The investigating Authority shall develop and issue guidelines for effective and gender responsive investigation of sexual offences.



- (2) The investigating authority shall cause the investigating officers of sexual violence offences to be equipped with skills, knowledge, equipment and facilities for carrying out investigations.
- (3) The guidelines shall include a requirement that all officers investigating sexual violence cases shall effectively participate in the coordination and collaboration mechanism established in section 9.

14. Guidelines for prosecution

- (1) The Prosecuting Authority shall develop and issue guidelines for effective and gender responsive of sexual offences.
- (2) The guidelines shall include a requirement that the prosecutors of sexual offences shall participate in the mechanism for coordination and collaboration established in section 9.

15. Prohibitions

- (1) Criminal proceedings relating to sexual offences shall not be subjected to-
 - (a) plea bargaining;
 - (b) mediation; or
 - (c) amnesty.
- (2) Evidence relating to marital or sexual history of the victim or generally the character of the victim as a defense for the accused shall not be admissible in a special court.
- (3) The provisions relating to limitation of time as a bar to instituting criminal proceedings under a statute of limitations shall not apply to sexual offences.

16. Vulnerable witnesses

- (1) A special court, may declare a witness, other than the accused, a vulnerable witness if such witness is -
 - (a) the alleged victim in the proceedings;
 - (b) a child; or
 - (c) a person with mental disabilities.
- (2) The special court may, on its own initiative or on request of the prosecution or any witness other than an accused, declare any such witness, a vulnerable witness if in the court's opinion he or she is likely to be vulnerable on account of -
 - (a) age;
 - (b) intellectual, psychological or physical impairment;
 - (c) trauma;
 - (d) cultural differences;
 - (e) the possibility of intimidation;
 - (f) the relationship of the witness to any party to the proceedings;



- (g) the nature of the subject matter of the evidence; or
- (h) any other factor the court considers relevant.

- (3) The special court may, if it is in doubt as to whether a witness should be declared a vulnerable witness, summon an intermediary to appear before the court and advise the court on the vulnerability of such witness.
- (4) Where a witness has been declared vulnerable, the court shall, direct that such witness be protected by one or more of the following measures -
- (a) allowing such witness to give evidence under the protective cover of a witness protection box, under pseudo names or through audio-video link;
 - (b) directing that the witness shall give evidence through an intermediary;
 - (c) directing that the proceedings may not take place in open court;
 - (d) prohibiting the publication of the identity of the complainant or of the complainant's family, including the publication of information that may lead to the identification of the complainant or the complainant's family; or
 - (e) any other measure which the court deems just and appropriate.

17. Monitoring and reporting

- (1) A person in charge of a special court shall-
- (a) establish a case management system for purposes of tracking the disposal of sexual violence offences; and
 - (b) submit a progress report on the sexual violence cases filed and disposed of in that special court, to the competent Authority, on a monthly basis.
- (2) The competent Authority shall upon receipt of the progress report submit the report to the Ministers responsible for gender and for justice.
- (3) The competent Authority shall issue guidelines to special courts on the format of progress reports.

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**AN UPDATED REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE KAMPALA
DECLARATION
ON SEXUAL AND GENDER BASED VIOLENCE
BY
THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE GREAT LAKES REGION
MEMBER STATES.**

By
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ICGLR-RTF
November, 2019

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CHAPTER 1: BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION.
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BACKGROUND

The International Conference on Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) was created in 2006 under the Pact for Security Stability and Development (Pact) and is composed of 12 Member States – Angola, Burundi, Central Africa Republic, Congo Brazzaville, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia.

Article 26 of the Pact provides for a Conference Secretariat, which is the technical and coordinating body of the ICGLR. The Regional Training Facility of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR-RTF), is a decentralized organ of the ICGLR Secretariat. The ICGLR-RTF trains and sensitizes professionals who handle cases of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV). This mandate is provided for under Article 6(9) of the ICGLR Protocol on the Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children (2006). ICGLR-RTF also conducts research on SGBV for training and sensitization purposes. Prosecutors, the police, medical workers, judicial officers, journalists are some of the many professionals who handle cases of SGBV.

In December 2018, the ICGLR in partnership with the European Union (EU) and the German Federal Ministry of Economic Development and Cooperation (BMZ) launched the Regional Project on Peace and Security in the Great Lakes region. The project, which is co-funded by the EU and the BMZ, has entrusted the GIZ and UN Women with its implementation. One of the main areas of focus of the project is on the prevention and suppression of human rights abuses committed especially in times of or as a result of crisis to which UN Women will further support.

Following a joint planning workshop with the ICGLR partners, in early 2019, it was agreed that UN Women is responsible for activities in Outputs 3.1 and 3.3 namely; “Transcription (Domestication) of the Protocol on the Prevention and Punishment of Sexual Violence Against Women and Children into national laws of the ICGLR member states” and “Raising Awareness among member states about the seriousness and severity of gender based sexual violence and severity of such crimes” respectively. Most of the activities are planned to be implemented through ICGLR, viz. the Regional Training Facility in Uganda.

Under the Regional Project on Peace and Security in the Great Lakes Region, Global Action Plan 2019-2021, there are four major activities which are led by UNWOMEN and will be implemented by ICGLR-RTF, namely:

- (i) Facilitate a platform for prosecutors of the region to discuss practical experience on national prosecution of SGBV as well as judicial cooperation on this matter *in June, 2019*;
- (ii) Support sensitization of Judicial Officers about special courts and develop standards from best practices and judicial procedures for SGBV *in June 2019*;
- (iii) Support strengthening in knowledge and reporting skills of journalists in the Region on SGBV crimes *in September, 2019*; and

- (iv) Support ICGLR to compile updated reports of Member States on the implementation of Kampala Declaration and have the joint report validated by relevant government and civil society institutions *in August, 2019*.

INTRODUCTION

On 15-16 December, 2011, the Heads of State and Government of the¹² Member States of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) gathered in Kampala Uganda 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.*” At the conclusion of this Summit and Special Session on SGBV, the ICGLR Heads of State and Government of the Member State committed to 19 Resolutions, which are contained in a document referred to as the Kampala Declaration on SGBV (2011).

The Kampala Declaration on SGBV (2011) has a Preamble, and four thematic areas on: - Prevention of SGBV; Ending Impunity for SGBV; Providing Support to victims/survivors of SGBV; and a General Resolution.

The Preamble provides the backdrop against which it was made. Under this Preamble, the Heads of State and Government of the Member States of the ICGLR noted that they had considered “the report of the Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee (RIMC), and the Declaration of the First Ladies from the Region in preparation for the 4th Ordinary Summit of the Heads of State and Government from the ICGLR Member States highlighting efforts made by Member States, challenges and gaps on prevention, ending impunity and support to survivors.”

The Preamble takes note of the various manifestations of Sexual and Gender Based violence and that it occurs in peacetime, during conflict and in post conflict settings. It further highlighted the following:

- Concern 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;
- Recognized the severe impact that SGBV poses on security and development of the Great Lakes Region;
- Recalled 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); and was mindful of other international instruments and mechanisms taken into consideration, including:
 - The UN Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) (1979);

¹Member States include Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Burundi, Rwanda, Central Africa Republic, Republic of Congo, 33Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan, South Sudan, Zambia and Angola.

- UN Security Council Resolution 1325(2000), 1820 (2008), 1888(2009) and 1960 (2010) and
- The Africa UNiTE campaign to end Violence against Women and Girls.

The Protocol on the Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children, 2006 (SGBV Protocol, 2006)² in Article 1(5) **defines sexual violence** as: any act which violates the sexual autonomy and bodily integrity of women and children under international criminal law, including, but not limited to:

Rape; Sexual assault;

Grievous bodily harm;

Assault or mutilation of female reproductive organs;

Sexual slavery; Enforced prostitution;

Forced pregnancy;

Enforced sterilization;

Harmful practices, inclusive of all behavior, attitudes and/or practices which negatively affect the fundamental rights of women and children, such as their right to life, health, dignity, education and physical integrity, as defined in the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa;

Sexual exploitation or the coercion of women and children to perform domestic chores or to provide sexual comfort;

Trafficking in, and smuggling of women and children for sexual slavery or exploitation;

Enslavement by the exercise of any or all of the powers attaching to the right of ownership over women and includes the exercise of such power in the course of trafficking in women and children;

Forced abortions or forced pregnancies of women and girl children arising from the unlawful confinement of a woman or girl child forcibly made pregnant, with the intent of affecting the composition of the identity any population or carrying out other grave violations of international law, and as a syndrome of physical, social, and psychological humiliation, pain and suffering and subjugation of women and girls;

Infection of women and children with sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS; and Any other act or form of violence of comparable gravity.

The SGBV Protocol, 2006 in Article 1(5) also provides that Sexual violence also includes gender-based violence that is directed against a woman because she is a woman or that affects women disproportionately. It includes acts that inflict physical, mental or sexual harm or suffering, threats of such

²Available at <https://www.icglr-rtf.org/publication/view/protocol-on-sgbv>.

acts, coercion and other deprivations of liberty, as defined by the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, in General Recommendation 19.

METHODOLOGY

In order to update an ICGLR Report on implementation of the Kampala Declaration of 2017, the following methodology was utilized:

Review of the Report entitled “Monitoring and Evaluation of Progress Towards the Implementation of the Kampala Declaration” compiled in 2017. This report was commissioned by the ICGLR³ in 2017 in order to monitor the progress of the implementation of the Kampala Declaration.

In addition to this, an extensive Literature Review, which took into account what all the ICGLR Member States had done to address Sexual and Gender Violence was undertaken. Questionnaires were also developed in order to gather information on each and every Resolution of the Kampala Declaration; these questionnaires were subsequently circulated with the assistance of ICGLR National Coordinators to Key Informants located in all the ICGLR Member States;

Information that encompassed the Literature Review; and responses to the Questionnaires on implementation of the Kampala Declaration was compiled under the four thematic areas of the Kampala Declaration on SGBV of 2011, which are: Prevention of SGBV; Ending Impunity for SGBV; Providing support to victims/survivors of SGBV; and a General Resolution.

This report and was disseminated at a Validation Meeting held on 5-6 November, 2019, which was held at Munyonyo, Kampala, Uganda and attended by representatives from all ICGLR Member States – mainly from the Ministry of Gender; Civil Society Organizations including the International Association of Women Lawyers (FIDA); Akina Mama wa Afrika; Isis WICCE; and UN Women Representatives. Recommendations from the Validation Meeting were consolidated with research findings to formulate the Draft Report.

The Draft Report was finally shared and validated by Technical Experts from ICGLR Member States in Republic of Congo in a meeting held on 24-27 November, 2019, and subsequently adopted by Ministers of Gender and Justice Meeting held on 28th November, 2019 in Congo Brazzaville. The Report has the following contents:

Chapter 1 presents an Introduction,

Chapter 2 presents A Synopsis of the 2017 Report titled “Monitoring and the Report on Monitoring and Evaluation of Progress Towards the Implementation of the Kampala Declaration”

Chapter 3 presents Key Findings and Observations, Recommendations; and a Conclusion.

³ Monitoring and Evaluation of Progress Towards the Implementation of the Kampala Declaration, Report compiled by Caterina Meloni, 29 May 2017.

CHAPTER 2: SYNOPSIS OF THE 2017 REPORT

The Report of 2017 sought to: provide an overall review of the progress achieved, highlighted successes as well as challenges and proposed a new M&E framework to improve monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the Kampala Declaration by Member States. The report acknowledged progress in the following areas:

- All Member States have strengthened their legal and policy frameworks to support SGBV prevention by drafting new laws, reviewing existing laws to include a wider range of crimes and some states have toughened punishments;
- Most Member States have offered training programs for security, judicial officers and other professionals who handle cases of SGBV;
- All Member States have made strides in providing support to survivors of SGBV in the form of recovery centers which are intended to provide comprehensive medical, legal and psychological care; and lastly
- All Member States have programmes for low -income women in the form of microfinance programmes set up by either governments or NGO's but a few have programs that specifically target SGBV survivors.

Although Members States had demonstrated progress in some areas; the Report also highlighted the following as the key challenges to implementing the Kampala Declaration:

- All Member States identified financial constraints as a key challenge to implementing their plans and strategies;
- All Member States registered low rates of reporting SGBV matters largely due to a lack of confidence in the manner in which police handle SGBV matters. The low convictions and the rapid release of perpetrators generally discourages survivors to report;
- No Member State had developed a comprehensive data base which collects SGBV data at national level. Also, the data provided by the member states in country monitoring reports contains gaps and is often incomplete; and lastly
- The recovery centers in Member States were noted as few and insufficient to cope with the demand. In addition, coordination between law enforcement and health officials was noted as problematic.

The Report recommended the following to the Member States as key priority areas for improvement:

- Strengthen capacity to collect reliable data;
- Continuous review of legal frameworks and policies to be more in line with international standards;
- Regular training of law enforcement and judicial officers;
- Amplify public awareness campaigns on SGBV; and
- Allocation of sufficient financial resources for the implementation of the Kampala Declaration.

CHAPTER 3: KEY FINDINGS, OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

Update on implementation of the Kampala declaration by ICGLR member states.

THEMATIC AREA 1: PREVENTION OF SGBV

Resolution Number 1 of the Kampala Declaration provided that: “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 (2006)⁴.”

This Protocol provides that the objectives of the Protocol Non-Aggression and Mutual Defense (2006) are to:

- 1. Resolve and prevent internal and inter-state armed conflicts, subversive activities and serve as a legal framework for eradicating persistent insecurity of any kind within and between Member States;*
- 2. Eliminate threats to peace, security, stability and sustainable development in the Great Lakes Region through collective security;*
- 3. Ensure respect for the sovereignty and security of States, the inviolability of borders and the territorial integrity of States;*
- 4. Safeguard human and peoples’ rights, gender equity, the rule of law, democracy, and sustainable development in the Great Lakes Region;*
- 5. Ensure that disputes between Member States and, between Member States and armed groups are resolved by peaceful means;*
- 6. Ensure that any Member State is prevented from permitting the use of its territory as a base for aggression or subversion perpetrated against another Member State.*

The ICGLR Protocol on Non-Aggression and Mutual Defense (2006), ‘armed groups’ are defined as;

“any armed groups that do not belong to, or are not officially incorporated into, the defence and security forces of Member States.”

Information on the implementation of Resolution 1 of the Kampala Declaration highlighted the following points:

⁴ Available at <https://www.icglr-rtf.org/publication/view/protocol-on-non-aggression>.

1. ERADICATION OF ARMED GROUPS IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION

Achievements & Progress.

The ICGLR has utilized and continues to utilize the ICGLR Protocol on Non-Aggression and Mutual Defense in an attempt to eradicate existing armed groups in the region; available information on armed groups highlights the following:

- There is evidence that conflicts are still on-going; and efforts have been put in place to eradicate armed groups by most Member States, for example: The Central African Republic of Congo signed an agreement on February 6th 2019 with the armed groups, ‘*The Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation.*’ This agreement provides for the dissolution of armed groups and the cessation of hostilities.
In the case of South Sudan, efforts for eradication of armed groups are in the form of National Dialogue.
In respect to Sudan, it was reported that there is an on-going negotiating of a peace agreement in Addis Ababa by the African Union in respect to the conflict in Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile States.
- Out of twelve Member States, six confirmed the existence of armed groups, namely: Central African Republic, the Republic of Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, South Sudan, Sudan, and Uganda. Progress made on this matter is that in most Member States, peace processes are on-going; and action is being undertaken to eradicate the armed groups from the region.
- Central African Republic reported to have fourteen (14) armed groups namely: UPC, FPRC, RJ, 3R, RJ, MPC, Anti Balaka Aile Mokom, Anti Balaka Aile Ngassona among others.
- Democratic Republic of Congo also confirmed the presence of armed groups which includee - ADF, FDLR, FNL, MAI-MAI and the Mbororo breeders. Efforts and plans to eradicate the negative forces include: A large-scale military operation which is currently being executed to neutralize illegal armed groups in the eastern province of the DRC. In the recent past, there was another military operation in Ituri to neutralize the armed groups that were bringing insecurity this part of the Democratic Republic of Congo. After this operation of neutralization, the Government of the DRC sent a mission to Djugu in Ituri to restore the authority of the State and reconcile ethnic groups. This mission was consolidated by the visit of the Head of State to this part of DRC.

In regard to ADF, and FDLR military operations for their neutralization are in progress and the report submitted by the Government (FARDC) stated that more than one hundred cases

were neutralized. In the case of the Mbororo breeders, the dialogue was initiated by the DRC to disarm them first, register them and find a space for their leaders.

- The Republic of Congo reported that there was an armed group that caused a post-election conflict in the Pool Department. Departmental pacification plan carried out for several months with the support of partners has allowed the disarmament and reintegration of several ex-combatants. The Congo experienced a post-election crisis between 1993 and 1998, which has now stopped completely.
- Uganda experienced any major conflicts and these were caused by the LRA and ADF Conflicts. The LRA conflict stopped in 2007, and ADF 2008; however, these two are still in existence in the Great Lakes Region and thus must be eradicated accordingly.
- Uganda reported the existence of mainly two armed groups, the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA) also known as the Lord’s Resistance Movement which at one time operated in northern Uganda, South Sudan, the Central African Republic and the Democratic Republic of Congo; and Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) which has expanded its operations into neighboring Democratic Republic of Congo.

More detailed information on armed groups secured from Literature reviewed is provided in the Table 1 below:

ARMED GROUPS IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION

Country	Existing Armed Groups in the Great Lakes Region
Central African Republic	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Anti- Balaka. 2. Central African National Liberation Movement. 3. Convention of Patriots for Justice and Peace. 4. Democratic front of the Central African people. 5. Lord’s Resistance Army (<i>with links to Uganda</i>) 6. Movement de resistance Populaire pour la refondation de la centrafrique. 7. Patriotic Convention for Saving the Country. 8. People’s Army for the Restoration of Democracy. 9. Popular Front for Recovery. 10. Seleka. 11. Union of Democratic Forces for Unity.
Democratic Republic of Congo	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Alliance of Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Congo. 2) Alliance of Patriots for a Free and Sovereign Congo. 3) Allied Democratic Forces (<i>with links to Uganda</i>). 4) Armed Forces of the Congolese People. 5) Army for the Liberation of Rwanda. 6) Bana mura.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7) Bundudiakongo. 8) Congolese National Liberation Front. 9) Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda. 10) Forces for Renewal. 11) Interahamwe. 12) Katangese Tigers. 13) Les Mongoles. 14) Lord's Resistance Army. 15) Mai – Mai. 16) Mai – Mai Kata Katanga. 17) March 23 Movement. 18) Movement for the Liberation of the Congo. 19) National Army for the Liberation of Congo. 20) National Congress for the Defence of the People. 21) Nationalist and Integrationist Front. 22) Patriotic Forces for the Liberation of Congo. 23) Patriotic Resistance Front of Ituri. 24) Popular Forces of Burundi. 25) Popular Front for Justice in the Congo. 26) Rally for Congolese Democracy. 27) Rally for Congolese Democracy-Goma. 28) Rasta Militia. 29) Republican Rally for Democracy in Rwanda. 30) Resistance Patriots of Congo. 31) Revolutionary Movement of the Congo. 32) Union of Congolese Patriots.
South Sudan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Anyanya. 2. Anyanya II. 3. Arrow Boys. 4. Azania Liberation Front. 5. Ethiopian Unity Patriots Front. 6. Lord's Resistance Army. 7. National Salvation Front. 8. Nuer White Army. 9. South Sudan Defence forces. 10. South Sudan Democratic Movement. 11. South Sudan Federal Democratic Party. 12. South Sudan Liberation Movement. 13. South Sudan Opposition Alliance. 14. South Sudan Patriotic Army. 15. South Sudan United Front. 16. SPLA-Nasir. 17. Sudan People's Defense Forces/Democratic Front. 18. Sudan People's Liberation Army.

	<p>19. Sudan People’s Liberation Movement.</p> <p>20. Sudan People’s Liberation Movement in Opposition.</p> <p>21. Tiger Faction New Forces.</p>
Sudan	<p>Sudan has 4 major illegal armed groups these include, SPLM North (Sudan Popular Liberation Movement) led by Yasser Armaan, Malik Agaar and Al Hilo, Sudan Revolutionary Front led by Malik Agar; this includes an alliance of Darfur rebels. These are: Two Sudan Liberation Army factions, led by Abdul Wahid al-Nur and MinniMinawi; and Gibril Ibrahim's Justice and Equality Movement (Jem), Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM-MM) led by MinniMinawi.</p>

Challenges

- Limited awareness on the ICGLR Protocol on Non-Aggression and Mutual Defense (2006), which to some extent, was evidenced by non-response by most Member States and reluctance to respond to what was perceived as a security matter and yet its objectives also address human and peoples’ rights, gender equity, the rule of law, democracy, and sustainable development in the Great Lakes Region; and peaceful resolution of disputes.
- Lack of sufficient information on armed groups; there are incomplete reports when information is sought from Member States; and it’s not clear as to whether there is a specific archive from where information can be secured.
- Reluctance to share information on armed forces premised on the fact that this is a sensitive security issue. There is also a gap in respect to information and knowledge sharing; information should be shared on a regular basis in accordance with the Kampala Resolution.
- Member States that have on-going conflict are experiencing great difficulty in implementing the Kampala Declaration. The Central African Republic specifically highlighted this challenge and noted that armed groups areas are still in many parts of the country in spite of the presence law enforcement agencies. It was further reported that in areas that have law enforcement presence, some SGBV crimes have been committed by such agencies.
- And that armed groups do not respect the peace negotiations and agreements which further incapacitates the implementation of the Declaration.

Recommendations

- There is need to systematically increase awareness about the ICGLR Protocol on Non Aggression and Mutual Defense (2006). There is also need to appreciate and strengthen mechanisms for information sharing on a regular basis in conformity with ICGLR Protocols and Resolutions.

- There is also need to maintain an updated inventory of armed groups in the Great Lakes Region, their location; and compile information on action taken to eradicate them in the conformity with the ICGLR Protocol on Non-Aggression and Mutual Defense (2006).
- Systematic and regular information sharing on existence and eradication of existing armed groups in the Great Lakes Region should be encouraged since this is in conformity with the ICGLR Protocol on Non Aggression and Mutual Defense, taking into account security considerations.
- Eradication of armed groups in the whole of the Great Lakes Region should be pursued even when some armed groups no longer exist in certain Member States of the Great Lakes Region. As such, for example, eradication of the armed groups such as the LRA and ADF from Uganda requires further action since some of these armed groups operate across borders and thus still exist in the Great Lakes Region.
- ICGLR needs to carry out a baseline to ascertain the magnitude of existing armed groups in the Great Lakes Region since they keep on mushrooming, and manifest in different forms in order to effectively monitor and inform strategic planning and interventions that can ensure their eradication in conformity with the ICGLR Protocol on Non-Aggression and Mutual Defense.
- It was recommended that the Kampala Declaration should propose realistic timelines to eradicate SGBV and to obtain Peace and Security; and that progress in Member States where there is conflict will differ from those that are not in conflict due lack of law and order, limited resources, and dysfunctional infrastructure, *inter alia*.

2. DOMESTICATION OF PROTOCOLS

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.

Achievements and Progress

- Ten (10) out of 12 Member States reported that they had domesticated the ICGLR Pact on Security, Stability and Development (2006)⁵ which comprises of 10 Protocols including the: Protocol on Non-Aggression and Mutual Defense; Protocol on Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children; and Protocol on Judicial Cooperation. The Member States which confirmed domestication of the ICGLR Pact are:

Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, the Republic of Congo, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia; for example, Uganda reported that it domesticated the ICGLR Pact by **the enactment of the ICGLR Act, 2017**. Information on Sudan and South Sudan on domestication of the ICGLR was not readily available.

- Some Members States have enacted Extradition Treaties with some ICGLR Member States, for example:
Central African Republic has an Extradition Treaty with the Republic of Congo;
Kenya has an Extradition Treaty with Uganda and Tanzania;
The Republic of Congo has extradition treaties with the Central African Republic; and existing laws and policies include the Constitution of the Republic of Congo, and the National Gender Policy.
- Uganda further reported that Extradition Treaties are at Bilateral level, for example, Kenya and Uganda have a reciprocal backing of warrants under the 1964 Extradition Act; Burundi and Uganda have a General Agreement on Cooperation signed in 1986; and Uganda and DRC have initiated the process.
- In respect to laws that address SGBV, it was reported that Zambia has an anti-Gender Based Violence Act, 2011 whereas other Member States such as such Kenya and Uganda have laws that address SGBV in different pieces of legislation such as laws that address - Domestic Violence, Female Genital Mutilation, Sexual Offences, and Trafficking in Persons.
- In the case of Uganda, it was further reported that specific laws that exist on armed forces, extradition of criminals, sexual and gender-based violence, include the following:

⁵ Available at <https://www.icglr-rtf.org/publication/view/the-pact-on-security-stability-and-development-for-the-great-lakes-region-2/>.

Extradition Act of Uganda (1964); The Domestic Violence Act 2010; The Penal Code Act (Cap. 120); The Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act, 2009; The Prohibition of female genital mutilation Act, 2010; The Children (Amendment) Act, 2016

DRC reported that it has domesticated the ICGLR Pact partially; and that domestication is considered an evolutionary process. It further reported that the ICGLR SGBV Protocol (2006) was through incorporation of many elements contained in the protocol. DRC notes that it awaits the development of the ICGLR Model laws on Judicial Cooperation, which will enable it to start discussions and lobbying at the level of each Member State.

DRC further reported that specific laws that domesticate the ICGLR Pact include:

- Law 06/018 of July 20, 2006 amending and supplementing the Decree of January 30, 1940 Congolese Penal Code. Law 06/019 of 20 July 2006 amending and supplementing the Decree of 06 August 1959 bearing Congolese Code of Criminal Procedure.
- Family Code Revision Act, Law on the Implementation of Women's Rights and Parity,
- Mining Code Revision Act,
- SGBV Strategy in the National Police with a 2018-2021 Triennial Plan,
- Child Protection Act,
- Reproductive Health law

Other actions taken by DRC to address SGBV include the development of:

- A Strategy against SGBV in the National Police with a 3 Year plan from 2018-2022;
- Integration of the international protocol on sexual violence committed in conflict zones into specialized training for judicial police officers;
- Gradual establishment of specialized child protection and sexual violence prevention units in the National Police.
- Capacity building of the staff in charge of the fight against sexual violence and the protection of the child.
- Integration of the SGBV module into the police training curriculum.
- Installation of the commission in charge of the follow-up of the implementation of the plan of action of the armed forces of the DRC to fight against sexual violence.
- Appointment of the FARDC SGBV Focal Point and regional and international trainer.

Challenges

- Various ways that countries domesticate the ICGLR Pact poses a challenge because of the legal procedures involved. Different Member States have different requirements for domestication – monism whereby in some cases the ICGLR Pact becomes automatically part of the law; and dualism in other instances, where the Pact becomes part of the law through an Act of Parliament.

- Some ICGLR Members do not have explicit Extradition Treaties with each other, this is a sovereignty matter, however, by virtue of being signatory to the Pact, Member States are legally bound to adhere to the principles of the ICGLR Pact *in accordance with the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (1980)*.
- Implementation of the ICGLR Pact differs, for example, some Member States such as an Anti SGBV law in one piece of legislation whereas other Member States have legislation that addresses SGBV in different pieces of legislation. This contributes to lack of harmonization of a legal framework to address SGBV and thus hampers judicial cooperation, to some extent.
- Most Member States did not make reference to the Model law on Sexual Violence which is provided under the ICGLR SGBV Protocol (2006); adoption of principles enshrined by Member States would promote harmonization of the law extensively.

Recommendations

- All ICGLR Member States should adhere to this Resolution and *fully* domesticate the ICGLR Pact on Security, Stability and Development (2006) (ICGLR Pact) which contains ten Protocols including that on Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children as well as the Protocol on Judicial Cooperation, within a specific time frame.
- Establish a mechanism to ensure that all Member States fully domesticate the ICGLR Pact and systematic verification of implementation of the principles therein. It is imperative that the ICGLR Pact is fully domesticated and implemented in order to eradicate existing armed groups, combat Sexual and Gender Based Violence and foster cooperation in matters of extradition, judicial investigation and prosecution of perpetrators, *inter alia*.
- All ICGLR Member States should adopt a legal framework that fully addresses SGBV; and utilize model laws provided by the ICGLR in order to enhance harmonization of the legal framework and thus enhance judicial investigation and prosecution of perpetrators.
- The fact that the Kampala Declaration is binding on all Member States and that it is hinged on instruments that are legally binding should be emphasized in all communication.
- There is also need for continuous research and review of legal frameworks and policies to ensure that SGBV is addressed by Member States conforming with ICGLR Protocols, ICGLR Model laws, and international standards. Principles dealing with SGBV, such as the definition of rape, should derive from contemporary developments relating to criminalization of sexual violence and the punishment of perpetrators of sexual violence under international criminal law. For example, the

new definition of rape “*the penetration, no matter how slight of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim*” *source?*

- Member States should incorporate principles of the ICGLR Model law on the Sexual Violence in national legislation; and endeavor to the extent possible to review and amend laws that are not in line with the ICGLR Pact.
- In order to ensure uniformity and standardization, Member States should ratify and domesticate 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) and subsequent ones on this subject matter; the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children; the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol); the Convention on the Rights of the Child; and the African Charter on the Rights and welfare of the Child.

3. INCREASE FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR SGBV ERADICATION

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.

Achievements and Progress

- Some Member States reported increase of resources but did not specify the increment nor the period during which it was registered, for example:
Kenya provided updated information on financial support for SGBV for the period 2017-2019. Angola and Burundi also provided some information on increase and utilization of resources.
- In the case of Kenya, financial and technical support was reportedly utilized for - legal reform, the National Gender and Equality Commission, research, governance reforms and on the National Police Service Commission, technical support was also provided in form of training professionals who handle cases of SGBV.
- Uganda reported that Financial and technical support has since 2011 been systematically provided for judicial and security sector reform on human and women’s rights and SGBV eradication since 2011 by the Government and Partners such as UN Women UNOHCHR through several institutions which include: The Judicial Training Institute; Police Academies and Training Colleges; and The ICGLR – Regional Training Facility. Technical support was also provided by UNFPA for piloting of Special Court Sessions on SGBV in the period of

2018-2019. **In 2016 and 2017 the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development budgeted to spend UGX 1.68 billion (\$450,000) on Violence Against Women programs.**

- It was further reported that in fulfillment of the gender capacity gap in the judiciary, the Justice Law and Order Sector (JLOS) in partnership with the Judiciary developed a gender bench book in 2016 for judicial officers to use and refer to in adjudication of cases. The Uganda Gender Bench Book presents judicial officers with local and international best practices, including recommendations from treaty bodies such as the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. It offers guidelines for use by court officials when determining cases where women's rights are involved.
- All ICGLR Member States in partnership with the ICGLR-Regional Training Facility enhanced their capacity to provide technical support for professionals that handle SGBV cases through the ICGLR-RTF. In the period between 2014 -2019, the ICGLR-RTF trained 10 National Trainers in each Member State; and 10 Master Trainers at the regional level totaling to 130 trainers.
- The Republic of Congo reported that apart from the Ministry for the Promotion of Women, which has a national budgeted policy including GBV, there are also release of government funds for the fight against and prevention of SGBV (200,000,000 francs) at the Ministry of Interior and decentralization for the National Police in 2018. And capacity building of 250 commissioners and police officers on SGBV; judicial reform specifically code reform which was funded by Congo and its partners (EU).

Challenges

- Most Member States provided information that financial and technical support for SGBV eradication has increased but did not provide specific information on the increment or the period/dates.
- The '12 months' deadline' which showed a sense of urgency was not met by most Member States.
- Information gathering and sharing, especially on financial support is minimal and this poses a challenge in assessing trends and commitment to end SGBV. Member States need to increase budget allocations to line ministries or institutions to effectively address SGBV, Burundi reported that it had increased for its budget every year.

- Most Member States reported that SGBV initiatives are allocated insufficient resources, as a result, Member States have national gender policies and action plans that they cannot implement due to the financial constraints. As such, Member States need to create innovative ways towards resource mobilization for the implementation of the Kampala Declaration as is the case in Republic of Congo when partnership has established with UN agencies.
- There is also need to advocate for SGBV matters as a national priority and allocation of appropriate resources for implementation of the national frameworks as in the case of Rwanda.

Recommendations

- There is need to track progress on gender sensitive budgeting in order to provide institutional capacity and accountability for protection of women, girls, men and boys against SGBV.
- There is an urgent need to prioritize and increase financial and technical support for all Member States whether they are in peace time, during conflict or post conflict as a political and security strategy.
- Member States are encouraged to share information on financial and technical support for judicial and security sector reform on human and women's rights and SGBV eradication for institutional capacity and accountability.
- A new time line for adherence to this Resolution should be set and respected by Member States.

4. STRENGTHEN INSTITUTIONS AT NATIONAL LEVEL TO ADDRESS SGBV AND ESTABLISH EARLY WARNING MECHANISMS.

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 .

Achievements

Most ICGLR Member States have strengthened National institutions that address SGBV; and Member States such as Kenya, Rwanda and Burundi have established **early warning mechanisms**.

Angola has the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights; Ministry of Social Action, Family and Women's Protection; the Provincial Directorates; and a Network of Civil Society Partners.

Burundi has national levels structures which include the Family and Community Development Centers; the Center of Excellence for Information, training and research on SGBV as well as a hotline for children in difficulty.

The Republic of Congo has strengthened the following National structures:

Since 2011, there has been an increasing trend of activities and financial and technical support funds for the human rights of women and the eradication of SGBV. Congo has implemented a GBV control project for the National Police General Directorate in 2017 to take charge of and prevent GBV. Government funds are allocated to this project for capacity building, 200,000,000 francs CFA.

The Ministry of Planning has released 200,000,000 francs for 2 years to strengthen the capacity of national GBV data management. Drugs and reproductive health medication are free of charge in the victims' care units are made available by the Ministry of Health and the advancement of women and the integration of women in development. Implementation of a toll free number 1444, dedicated to the denunciation of acts of violence by victims and witnesses, by the Ministry for the Promotion of Women and the Integration of Women in Development

Existence of a National Network against SGBV which brings together NGOs and religious denominations involved in the fight against GBV RENALVLISCO. The system of referencing between the national police, networks of NGOs fighting against GBV (legal clinic AFJC, Association of Women Lawyers in Congo, and medical-psychological care centers has been strengthened. Congo has planned in the National Health Development Plan 2018-2022 (PNDS) the development of medical and psychological care units for victims of sexual violence.

The Republic of Congo hosts The Center for Research, Information and Documentation on Women; the Regional Observatory on Violence; and the National Association Network against SGBV.

The Democratic Republic of Congo has the following National structures:

Special units for the fight against SGBV in the Public Prosecutor's office; the Ministry of Social Affairs through the body of social workers; Ministry of Gender, Family and Children; the National Agency for combating Violence Against women and young children; the Office of the Special Representative of the President of the Republic for the fight against SGBV and the recruitment of child soldiers in armed groups.

DRC has early warning mechanisms on SGBV in the form of thematic groups that are operational in different provinces as well as an emergency help line (4733330U 089 7000222).

National level structures that address SGBV in DRC include, the creation of the National Agency for Combatting Violence Against Women and the Young Girl (AVIFEM) and the National Fund for the Promotion of Women and Children; and the Provincial Division of Gender

DRC has an early warning mechanism for SGBV in form of - a Toll free number in the Office of the Personal Representative of the Head of State in charge of the fight against sexual violence and the recruitment of children in times of conflict. This toll-free number has been operational since 2017; it is a listening, assistance and orientation number. Grassroots organizations linked to the early warning mechanisms include: CONAFED, SOFEPADI, CAFED, REFED, COFAS.

Kenya has strengthened the following National Structures:

National Gender and Equality Commission, Kenya National Commission on Human rights, the Ministry of Interior through the National Police Service, Ministry of Health, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Ministry of education, the Teachers' Service Commission, the Judiciary and the Kenya National bureau of statistics.

Kenya has early warning mechanisms for SGBV in the form of a National Conflict and Early Response System. This is a proactive response strategy launched in 2010. This early warning mechanism has Peace Committees at different levels which provide information to the System. Kenya's early warning system is engendered to address the protection needs of women and girls in line with UNSCR 1325. Kenya's early warning mechanisms are also linked to grassroots organizations such as faith-based organizations, community-based organizations and local government-based organizations.

Angola has established an early warning mechanism; since the establishment of the Women's Secretariat of State there is an internal mechanism for collecting information and reporting.

Burundi has community-based networks that support the early warning mechanism. Early Warning Mechanisms are linked to the Ministry of Human Rights, Social Affairs and Gender.

Rwanda has at the National level established an adequate institutional and coordination framework on SGBV. There are two committees on SGBV namely, the National committee on SGBV (which is a political and Strategic committee) and the National Technical Committee on SGBV.

At the decentralized level, it is reported that there is a committee on SGBV and child protection at district and sector level. Local community structures like the Parent Evening Dialogue (PED), and friends of family (Inshuti z'umuryango or Inzu) have been put in place to deal with SGBV.

Additional structures that fight against SGBV are: Isange One Stop centers countrywide, The Gender Monitoring Office, Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion, Rwanda National Police, Ministry of Health, National Women's Council, Inshuti z'umuryango (Inzu) Friends of Families and Community Policing initiatives.

Regarding the establishment of early warning mechanisms, community policing was mentioned as a key strategy to involving communities in crime prevention. Grassroots organizations are also

utilized. Those linked to early warning mechanisms include: Imbuto Foundation, Rwanda Men's Resource Center (RWAMREC), and Haguruka.

In response to how Rwanda fast tracks prosecution of perpetrators, it was stated that prosecution of sexual violence cases is given priority and sometimes cases are adjudicated at the scene of crime

South Sudan has established direct responsible institutions at National level, these structures include: Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs- Directorate of Women and Juveniles (SGBV), Ministry of Interior – Police, Special Protection Units (SPU), Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare- Directorate of SGBV and South Sudan Human Rights Commission.

Regarding early warning mechanisms, South Sudan utilizes grassroots organizations namely: Community Empowerment for Progress Organization (CEPO), Initiative for Peace Communication Association (IPCA), as well as Human Rights Initiatives and Responsive Governance organizations. In response to fast tracking prosecution of SGBV cases, South Sudan has put in place the following initiatives: Mobile courts, and the Ministry Tribunal. Noteworthy is the fact that most cases are still undergoing investigation.

In Sudan, responsible institutions to strengthen National level structures include: The Unit for Combating Violence against Women and Children; (17 States' units in all Sudan), The Family and Child Protection Units (18 State Units in all Sudan). The Special Criminal Court of Darfur; and Child Courts in all Sudan. There are also National level structures that assist in preventing, reporting and documenting SGBV cases namely: The Unit for Combating Violence Against Women and Children and its 17 States' Units and the Family and Child Protection Units.

Sudan has established an early warning mechanism to facilitate reporting and documentation of SGBV cases from the grassroots. Sudan has Combating Violence against Women Unit (CVAW) in collaboration with Humanitarian Aid Commission and Office of Humanitarian Coordination (OCHA). The early warning mechanism Unit was established by a Ministerial Decree in 2005 primarily as the main mechanism for coordinating activities on Combating Violence against Women and Children in Sudan at national level.

Sudan fast tracks prosecution of SGBV cases and makes sure that justice is done swiftly by utilizing the Ministry of Justice circulars addressing GBV/SGBV. Discrepancies found in the Criminal Act 1991, Criminal Procedure or the Evidence Act 1994 contradicted court rules regarding SGBV cases. For example, there was a requirement to report SGBV crimes to the police prior to getting medical treatment but this has been changed by the Ministry of Health circulars, which incorporated World Health Organization Clinical Management procedures for Rape Survivors.

In the case of Uganda, The National Policy on Elimination of Gender Based Violence for Uganda (2016) provides a framework for the implementation of comprehensive GBV prevention measures and provision of multi-sectoral support services for survivors. National Development Plan 1 and 2 have comprehensive frameworks to address Violence against Women.

Uganda has strengthened the following structures at National level: Local Council Courts which were established in 2006 and are key in implementing the Domestic Violence Act, the Child and Family Protection Unit of the Uganda Police Force with 645 police officers to cover 112 districts, and a total of *thirteen* GBV shelters to link victims and survivors to medical, legal, economic and psycho-social services.

In the health sector, SGBV is reported using the Health Management Information System (HMIS) 105 form, which records SGBV under the category of trauma/injury. The MOH prepares an annual GBV training plan, which guides priorities for training, such as districts with high prevalence of SGBV, cadre of staff, and focal persons to be trained.

Uganda Vision 2040, (2013) stipulates a plan to promote equal opportunities and enjoyment of human rights for both men and women, provides for care and protection of vulnerable groups either by age, social class, location, disability, gender or disaster, ensure gender responsive policies, programmes and actions.

The National Referral Pathway for Prevention and Response to Gender Based Violence Cases in Uganda (2013) facilitates primary duty bearers and actors with information on how to respond to GBV cases and to guide the victims/ survivors of GBV on where to seek assistance and what services are available at different referral points.

National Guidelines on Establishment and Management of GBV Shelters in Uganda provides minimum standards and procedure for public and private actors that intend to establish and manage GBV Shelters in the country and principles that actors should adhere to when aiding survivors/victims of GBV.

In 2015, the Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development put in place the National Gender Based Violence Database (NGBVD) to enable actors in Uganda who are responding to Gender Based Violence (GBV) to safely collect, store and generate analyzed reports in real time. The National Gender Based Violence Database (NGBVD) is a tool for Monitoring and Evaluating GBV interventions that involve compiling and monitoring reported GBV incidents. The National Gender Based Violence Database (NGBVD) is an E Government online Management Information System (MIS) accessed through <http://ngbvd.mglsd.go.ug>. The database is designed to collect, store and analyze GBV data in both humanitarian and non-humanitarian settings.

Gender and Equity provisions of the Public Finance Management Act, 2015 obliges Ministries, Departments and Agencies to address gender and equity concerns in the budget. The Ministry of

Finance trains gender and equity budgeting national trainers to support Government institutions to address gender and equality concerns in budgets as required by the Public Finance, Management Act, 2015. In line with this, Currently, the Parliament of Uganda requires the presentation of a Certificate of Gender and Equity Responsiveness before any Bill or motion is handled. This is assessed by the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development in conjunction with the Equal Opportunities Commission.

Zambia has established National level structures to address SGBV, these include: The Zambia Police Victim Support Unit, the Ministry of Gender and the Provincial Gender Task Force.

Regarding early warning mechanisms, work is on-going to establish modalities on how the mechanism should work.

On the issue of fast tracking the prosecution of SGBV cases, Zambia has established Fast Track Courts on SGBV in at least six districts which deal exclusively with SGBV cases. These courts adjudicate cases within 25 days.

Tanzania has strengthened national structures like the Tanzanian Commission of Human Rights and Good Governance to address response to SGBV cases. Its establishment of Gender Desks at police station units has further enhance its efforts to fight SGBV. There is no evidence of any early warning mechanisms in Tanzania.

Challenges

- Insufficient coordination, collaboration and communication among the institutions directed to address SGBV hinders progress of the strategies put in place to eradicate sexual violence.
- No specific guidance on what exactly constitutes early warning mechanisms; and information from Member States on early warning mechanisms was scanty except for Kenya which provided comprehensive mechanisms that could be adopted by other Member States.

Recommendations

- There is need to specify what is referred to as “...structures for prevention, protection and support of women and children against SGBV...”, since its understood differently by Member States.
- There is need to specify what exactly constitutes early warning mechanisms and best practices on this issue should be widely disseminated among the Member States.
- Good practices such as those adopted Kenya, establishment of Early Warning Mechanisms provide models that could provide lessons and be adopted by other Member States.
- Other mechanisms which have been cited as critical in facilitating reporting and documentation of SGBV cases from the grassroots are religious organizations, and cultural

institutions. These existing institutions should be targeted in order to fast track prosecution of those responsible for perpetrating sexual violence to make sure that justice is done swiftly and effectively.

5. INTEGRATE SGBV IN NATIONAL PLANNING FRAMEWORKS AND BUDGET ALLOCATION.

Integrate SGBV in the national planning frameworks and allocate budget lines for prevention, and response to SGBV particularly the ministries of Gender, Health, Defense, Security, Interior, Local Government Justice, Education and Youth.

Achievements and Progress

All Member States have integrated SGBV in National planning frameworks, steady progress has been registered since the Kampala Declaration of 2011, for example -

- Angola has an executive plan to combat domestic violence (2012-2017);
- Central African Republic has the National Strategy 2018-2022;
- The Republic of Congo has the National Gender Policy and Action Plan (2017-2021); It has gender focal points in all government ministries which are responsible for mobilizing funds for their respective ministries to carry out activities such as sharing results of scientific studies on sexual violence , analysis of actions and gender perspectives in Congo and the new forms of violence in Congo.
- South Sudan has the National Action (2015-2020);
- Sudan has a five-year plan that will be renewable;
- DRC is currently revising its national policy to include male engagement and this strategy is to be rolled out by December 2019;
- Rwanda shared that SGBV is incorporated in the Gender concept 2017-2023 and that the Minister of Gender has a plan based on the Kampala Declaration; and
- Uganda has integrated SGBV in the National Development Plans 1 and 2 and NDP 2; budget lines were allocated for prevention, response to SGBV, for example, the JLOS under the SDPIV earmarked 21.5 Billion for the promotion of gender equality and equitable access to justice for the years 2017-2020. The Social Development Sector Plan (SDSP) 2015/16 – 2019/20 was also designed to build resilient and cohesive communities with government’s commitment to address the concerns of the vulnerable and marginalized groups including women and girls affected by SGBV.

Challenges

- Although most Member States confirmed that they have included SGBV in their national planning frameworks, most did not provide specific budget lines allocated particularly to the Ministries of Gender, Health, Defense, Security, Interior, Local Government, Justice, Education and Youth.
- The multi-sectoral dimension of SGBV scatters resources in various programs/initiatives which compromises the effectiveness of interventions.
- In some countries SGBV is accorded low priority and thus not allocated sufficient funds.
- Limited political commitments by governments to implement what is integrated in the national planning frameworks.

Recommendations

- Integration of SGBV in national planning frameworks should be accompanied by provision of sufficient funds.
- Ministries of Gender, Health, Defense, Security, Interior, Local Government, Justice, Education and Youth should be allocated budget lines for SGBV.
- Implementation of the listed strategies by Member States begs the question-to what extent have countries implemented these strategies. There is thus need to go deeper and establish if the countries have put in place what is said on paper.
- Need to execute government plans and strategies in communities and report back with facts, figures and gender disaggregated data.

6. ESTABLISH AND STRENGTHEN GENDER DESKS

To establish Gender desk (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.

Achievements and Progress

All ICGLR Member States have established Gender Desks in different entities and locations, have established Gender Desks at Police Stations, Hospitals, the Director of Public Prosecutions, the Office of the President and relevant line ministries like Ministry of Home Affairs, and Ministry of Gender.

Challenges

- Establishment of Gender Desks was not specific on which institutions should have such desks, for example, the DRC has Gender Focal Points which are established in all administrations but they not allocated specific budgets, advocacy to allocate the budget to the Ministry of Gender is on-going.
- Some Gender Desks are reportedly not resourced, have no clear budget in some Member States such as Kenya and South Sudan;
- The functions of Gender Desks need to be defined and information on this disseminated.
- The target of delivering on this resolution within the prescribed time frame which was in 2012 was not reported on by any Member State which made it difficult to track progress.

Recommendation

- Map establishment of Gender Desks in each Member State in order to ascertain key institutions/locations where they do not exist.
- Specify institutions in which Gender Desks should be housed, which should include Ministries of Gender, health, Defense Security, Interior, Local Government, Justice Education and Youth as provided for in Resolution 5.
- Strengthen Gender Desks by prioritizing their activities such as training and capacity building of personnel, and allocating budgets and adequate Resources; establishment of linkages, networks, referral pathways with other entities
- Define functions for Gender Desks which should include data collection and disaggregation because they are strategically positioned.

THEMATIC AREA 2: ENDING IMPUNITY FOR SGBV.

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 the Summit and Special Session of SGBV (2011);

7. ZERO TOLERANCE ON SGBV CRIMES AND IMPUNITY INCLUDING MEN

Achievements and Progress

Most Member States launched national campaigns for zero tolerance on SGBV and impunity; and also took initiatives to include men which amplified the impact. Notably,

Kenya has sustained these campaigns through the ‘*Kenya Men Engage Alliance Network*’; ‘*He For She*’ whose initiatives engage men and boys in effective ways to reduce gender inequalities.

In Rwanda, the Rwanda Men’s Resource Center Organization (RWAMREC) has also spearheaded a men’s movement to promote positive masculinity.

It was further noted that SGBV campaigns in the Republic of Congo are not only restricted to the 16 days of activism.

Burundi confirmed the presence of a national male engagement strategy to achieve positive masculinity.

In Congo, several awareness campaigns are conducted by the Ministry for the Promotion of Women in collaboration with other ministries (defense, interior, youth, education). The NGOs and religious denominations involved in raising awareness, particularly the Evangelical Church of Congo, which has conducted since 2012 to date, nearly 30 campaigns and sensitization sessions with nearly 10,000 members and trained 210 officials through its project against GBV within the Church. It is also the only civil society organization to have a national policy against GBV. The Association of Women Doctors of Congo and the Association of Women Lawyers of Congo have conducted sensitization on GBV among women parliamentarians (senators and MPs).

In Congo, since November 2012, Zero Tolerance campaigns have been conducted concurrently with the 16 days of activism against GBV.

DRC provided information that the zero-tolerance campaign is to take place on 25th November 2019; and that it had recently been approved by the president who has pledged to include men. Inclusion of men in the campaigns is in form of identifying and working with male champions, positive masculinity, and He for She.

South Sudan confirmed an on-going national campaign composed of three (3) men, one woman to end girl child marriage; South Sudan also confirmed the presence of a One-stop Centre within the national hospital providing comprehensive services to survivors.

Sudan provided information that until 2015, women were being sentenced for being raped. It was further noted that in the past the required rape to first be reported to the police before one could seek medical care, which further complicated matters for women since such a procedure meant that they could be charged with adultery. To aggravate matters, courts required that in order to prove rape, the victim/survivor had to produce two male witnesses and if they were male, two women were equated to one woman. Information received noted that the Kampala Declaration and recent political changes influenced the enactment of a new law which has changed this state of affairs. As such, Judges are now being sensitized on this new law. It was further noted that campaigns for Sudan to sign onto CEDAW were on-going and that there is hope that this can be achieved although some groups are opposed to it and challenges still persist.

Angola reported that that since the signing of the Kampala Declaration in 2011, women have become aware of their rights; and that for the first time in Angola (2019), a woman has been nominated as the president of the Central Bank.

It was further noted that ICGLR Member States combine efforts of Civil Society Organizations in most interventions to eliminate SGBV including the bid to end impunity for SGBV.

Uganda has put in place the National Male Involvement Strategy for The Prevention And Response To Gender Based Violence, which provides a guiding framework to all stakeholders on male involvement in prevention and response to Gender Based Violence.

Challenges

- The aim of launching the national campaigns for zero tolerance simultaneously was to create unprecedented impact whereby the Great Lakes Region would in a unified manner send a resounding message with great impact however, the fact that not all campaigns were launched on the same day by Heads of State and Government may have limited its impact, to some extent.
- Most of the campaigns heavily rely on partners to provide resources for them which presents the challenge of ownership and sustainability.
- The intent for the campaigns to be simultaneous was not properly articulated, a date was not specifically set, nor was the modus operandi defined for sustaining the launching of national campaigns for zero tolerance for SGBV.

- There need for more information and statistics on the impact of male engagement in the campaigns to end SGBV. There is also need to assess the impact of this strategy where all Member States launch national campaigns for zero tolerance on SGBV simultaneously including men.
- Best practices on the subject of launching, sustaining national campaigns and male involvement are few and thus should be shared among Member States. It was further noted that the aim of involving men in campaigns against SGBV includes promotion of positive masculinity which is a relative new concept that targets change of attitude, behavior, there is need to expedite the learning process and to provide with adequate time in order to achieve the desired impact.

Recommendations

- The resolution to launch national campaigns for zero tolerance on SGBV simultaneously should not be discarded, it should be done in a more organized and synchronized manner, where the message is crafted, a specific date is set, Heads of State and Government launch the campaigns and mechanism are instituted or revived for its sustainability.
- National budgets should allocate resources for these campaigns on a sustainable basis;
- Consistent with the signing of the Kampala Declaration, the Heads of State and Government should be the faces/ the Champions and should provide leadership on the campaigns for Zero Tolerance on SGBV Crimes and Impunity.
- Inclusion of men/men engagement and promotion of positive masculinity needs to be systematic and continuous in order to achieve the desired impact; for example, training and media advocacy should be utilized to change messaging of stereotypes based on patriarchy and other customary and religious misinterpretation which perpetuates the messaging that women are inferior human beings and second class citizens.
- Male engagement from the on-set is critical to achieving progress in the eradication of SGBV. It has to be done in a systematic way and the impact of male inclusion should be measured, best practices should be disseminated among the Member States.
- There is need to create a social norm change strategy to work on the false/negative beliefs and stereo types that perpetuate SGBV in order to enhance the implementation of the Declaration.

**8. ESTABLISH AND STRENGTHEN SPECIAL COURTS, SESSIONS AND PROCEDURES
To fast track SGBV cases in line with Article 6 (5) of ICGLR Protocol [2006] on prevention
and suppression of sexual violence against women and children.**

Article 6(5) of ICGLR Protocol (2006) on Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children states that:

“Member States agree that criminal procedures for the prosecution of person accused of crimes of sexual violence shall be sensitive to the emotional state of the victims and survivors of such crimes. Under these procedures, such victims and survivors shall give evidence in camera, or by video links, and they shall neither be compelled nor required to give evidence in open criminal proceedings, nor shall the casting of aspersion on their character and integrity be permitted as part of the defence of any person charged with a crime of sexual violence.”

Achievements and Progress

Some Member States have established special courts, sessions and procedures to fast track prosecution of SGBV cases albeit they have different names. For example: mobile courts, fast track courts, special units and special rooms. Notably, Uganda with the support of UNFPA has operationalized special courts in some parts of the country from 2016 -2019. Zambia, Angola and Burundi have also registered progress in this area.

Some of the Member States that have established special courts have also adopted the special procedures highlighted in Article 6 (5) of the ICGLR SGBV Protocol (2006) and have strengthened the performance of the courts by training professionals who handle SGBV cases. Zambia in particular operates its Fast Track Courts in line with Article 6(5) of the ICGLR Protocol (2006) and does not have many un resolved cases in court. The Fast Track Courts are generally sensitive to the emotional state of the victims and survivors of such crimes and to a large extent, casting of aspiration on the character and integrity of the victim is not permitted as part of the defense of any person charged with a crime of sexual violence.

In the DRC, Special courts are not yet established, however special sessions and procedures have been adopted. Public tribunals and mobile courts are utilized for handling cases of SGBV and the process is always handled with seriousness to speed up the trial, there are free consulting offices and legal clinics supported by UNDP. The law provides for confidentiality, and survivors can testify after psychological treatment in Special court sessions for SGBV; and Special procedures are used in handling for SGBV cases.

DRC has many unsolved SGBV cases in court; in respect to armed forces, in 2013, there were 15,325 cases of SGBV; but after the establishment of the Commission on the fight against SGBV in 2018, 308 were recorded.

Casting of aspersions on the character and integrity of the victims is not permitted in court as part of defense of any person charged with a crime of sexual violence.

The ICGLR-RTF has greatly contributed to the strengthening of the special courts, sessions and procedure by training to professionals who handle cases of SGBV. It has trained 161 professionals and action has already commenced to cascade the training throughout the Member States.

In Congo there exists a referencing system between the judicial police, medical/psychological treatment units, and the NGOs that accompany the victims (AFJC, ASI.-Azur Development).

Challenges

- The Resolution directed concerned ministries to establish and strengthen special courts and procedures to fast SGBV cases in the Police and the Judiciary; lack of clarity on the specific ministries may have caused delay on implementation of this directive. This is maybe why, in some Member States, the Justice Law and Order was utilized to implement this resolution. It is also worth noting that fast tracking of SGBV cases is not confined to the Police and Judiciary; in most contexts, justice is chain linked and involves other sectors such as the Probation and Welfare Officers, the Department of Public Prosecutions, Prisons and Professional Organizations such as Law Societies.
- The additional aspect of adequate financing, facilities and gender sensitive officers comprised of a serious of activities which for example included planning, budgeting and resource allocation for training, space, and other facilities for items like video conferencing, anatomical dolls, review of guidelines and procedures to provide for the sensitivity to victim's survivors. Lack of clarity on model 'special courts, sessions and procedures' may have also hampered implementation. The findings point to different ways this Resolution has been implemented, which includes – fast track courts in South Sudan modeled on the Zambia case, mobile courts in the DRC due to the fragile and expansive context, special court sessions in Uganda which also utilize plea bargaining in order to address case back log. The nomenclature used for special courts, sessions and procedures, notwithstanding, there is need to provide a framework based on what is expected in line with ICGLR SGBV Protocol 2006 Article 6(5) and lessons learned from what is already in practice.
- There are no legal provisions and services in order for special courts, sessions and procedures to operate effectively on issues such as - witness protection laws, legal aid, medical aid, shelters, third part reporting, legislating against stigmatization, confidentiality, extra-territorial jurisdiction, reparation, and protection orders.
- Limited services for survivors such as Legal Aid, Shelters, Medical Services, Psychosocial Counseling;
- Uncoordinated planning, limited resources, and erratic resource allocation.

- The Resolution to establish and strengthen special courts, sessions and procedures in order to fast track SGBV cases was supposed to be implemented within 12 months after the 2011, this did not happen in most Member States namely - Central African Republic, Congo Brazzaville, South Sudan and Sudan.

Recommendations

- It was noted that some Member States have special courts, some have special sessions and some have special procedures for survivors. Over all, progress has been made in ensuring that a victim centered approaches, sensitive to the emotional state of the victim/survivor are adopted in the handling of SGBV matters. There is however, need for uniformity in compliance with Article 6(5) of the ICGLR SGBV Protocol (2006) like in the case of hearing cases in camera and respect for the integrity of the victims;
- There is also need for provision of policies, services for victims/survivors such as counseling and space that is friendly to for example children, facilities such as video links, and enactment of laws for protection of witnesses and victims/survivors, provision of legal aid – in order to create a conducive environment for the operationalization of the Resolution on special courts, sessions and procedures.
- Innovative practices such as providing declaring certain witnesses or victims/survivors vulnerable and thus according them protection measures was noted as being effectively utilized in Kenya. This practice should be adopted by all other Member States.
- There is need for proper planning, prioritization and provision of resources by Member States for fast tracking special court sessions and procedures.
- It's imperative to set time frames that can be adhered to; the urgency to implement this resolution still stands and a new realistic time should be set and adhered to. There should also be a form of accountability for failure to adhere to set time frames such as this.

More information on Resolution 8 which directs ministries to establish special courts, sessions and procedures to fast tract SGBV cases is as follows:

Member State		Special courts, sessions and procedures
1.	Angola	Angola does not have special courts, sessions and procedures to fast track SGBV cases; it however has a Special Room on Crimes Against Domestic Violence, and these Special Rooms have trained Magistrates.
2.	Burundi	Burundi has special chambers for the fight against SGBV; they are found in the High Courts and Courts of Appeal.
3.	Central African Republic (CAR)	CAR does not have special courts, sessions and procedures to fast track SGBV cases. There are ordinary tribunals of common law that judge cases of SGBV on the basis of the CAR Penal Code.
4.	Republic of Congo	Republic of Congo does not have special courts to fast track SGBV cases, sessions and procedures; it has adopted guides at the Police level and SGBV cases are handled in criminal sessions.
5.	Democratic Republic of Congo	DRC has special courts to fast track SGBV cases in the Police and Judiciary in form of “Mobile Courts” (check)
6.	Kenya	Kenya has no special courts to fast SGBV cases but occasionally, there are special court sessions where time is spared to fast track clearance of SGBV cases in certain stations. Special Procedures are also used in SGBV cases such as hearing cases in camera.
7.	Rwanda	Rwanda has no special courts for SGBV but has special court sessions and special procedures for handling SGBV cases. It also currently has a specialized chamber in charge of hearing family and child cases.
8.	South Sudan	In South Sudan, the special courts, sessions and procedures which fast track SGBV cases are called Special Courts on SGBV.
9.	Sudan	Sudan has not established special courts, sessions and procedures however, Circulars were amended to add to fast track SGBV cases in the Police, Prosecution and Judiciary; these Circulars helped in the amendment of laws on SGBV.
10.	Tanzania	Tanzania does not have special courts for SGBV but applies special procedures such as respect for confidentiality in such cases.
11.	Uganda	Uganda does not have special courts for SGBV but has operationalized Special Court Sessions to fast SGBV cases.

12.	Zambia	Zambia established Fast Track Courts on SGBV in 2015, the special courts, sessions and procedures have facilities and trained officers who are gender sensitive.
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Challenges

- The Resolution directed concerned ministries to establish and strengthen special courts and procedures to fast SGBV cases in the Police and the Judiciary...; lack of clarity on the specific ministries may have caused delay on implementation of this directive. This is maybe why, in some Member States, the Justice Law and Order was utilized to implement this resolution. It is also worth noting that fast tracking of SGBV cases is not confined to the Police and Judiciary; in most contexts, justice is chain linked and involves other sectors such as the Probation and Welfare Officers, the Department of Public Prosecutions, Prisons and Professional Organizations such as Law Societies.
- The additional aspect of adequate financing, facilities and gender sensitive officers comprised of a series of activities which for example included planning, budgeting and resource allocation for training, space, and other facilities for items like video conferencing, anatomical dolls, review of guidelines and procedures to provide for the sensitivity to victims/survivors. Lack of clarity on model ‘special courts, sessions and procedures’ may have also hampered implementation. The findings point to different ways this Resolution has been implemented, which includes – fast track courts in South Sudan modelled on the Zambia case, mobile courts in the DRC due to the fragile and expansive context, special court sessions in Uganda which also utilize plea bargaining in order to address case back log. The nomenclature used for special courts, sessions and procedures, notwithstanding, there is need to provide a framework based on what is expected in line with ICGLR SGBV Protocol 2006 Article 6(5) and lessons learned from what is already in practice.
- There are no legal provisions and services in order for special courts, sessions and procedures to operate effectively on issues such as - witness protection laws, legal aid, medical aid, shelters, third part reporting, legislating against stigmatization, confidentiality, extra-territorial jurisdiction, reparation, and protection orders.
- Limited services for survivors such as Legal Aid, Shelters, Medical Services, Psychosocial Counseling;
- Uncoordinated planning, limited resources, and erratic resource allocation.
- The Resolution to establish and strengthen special courts, sessions and procedures in order to fast track SGBV cases was supposed to be implemented within 12 months after the 2011, this did not

happen in most Member States namely, the Central African Republic, Congo Brazzaville, South Sudan and Sudan.

Recommendations

- There is need for uniformity in compliance with Article 6(5) of the ICGLR SGBV Protocol (2006) like in the case of hearing cases in camera and respect for the integrity of the victims;
- There is also need for provision of policies, services and enactment of laws to create a conducive environment for the operationalization of the Resolution on special courts, sessions and procedures.
- There is need for proper planning, prioritization and provision of resources by Member States for fast tracking special court sessions and procedures.
- It's imperative to set time frames that can be adhered to; the urgency to implement this resolution still stands and a new realistic time should be set and adhered to.
- There should also be a form of accountability for failure to adhere to set time frames such as this.

9. ESTABLISH APPROPRIATE MECHANISMS TO INVESTIGATE AND PROSECUTE SEXUAL VIOLENCE CRIMES.

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.

Achievements and Progress

Some Member States have established appropriate mechanisms to prosecute and investigate SGBV crimes. Such mechanisms include - witness protection, collection of forensic evidence, and service Shelters for victims. Zambia, Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda have particularly registered progress in the area. Appropriate mechanisms to investigate and prosecute sexual violence crimes include use of forensic evidence by utilizing the expertise of Governmental Analytical Laboratory services which have capacity to conduct DNA tests and work with the Police and Prosecutors.

In the investigation and prosecution of Sexual Violence crimes, Kenya has a model that provides for the declaration of certain victims/survivors and witnesses as 'vulnerable persons' and thus provides protection to such vulnerable persons in various forms including re-location, and change of facial features.

DRC has also established appropriate mechanisms to prosecute sexual violence crimes, a specific mechanism put in place by the police with the support of SADC, is called operation BASADI. Its mission is to prosecute, search, target, arrest and refer to the competent authority the perpetrators of all these crimes.

Challenges

- The term '*appropriate mechanisms*' to investigate and prosecute Sexual Violence crimes, including crimes that amount to genocide, war crimes or crimes against humanity - needs to be expounded upon for better clarity. And good practices already in use in respect to appropriate mechanisms used in investigating and prosecuting Sexual Violence Crimes need to be shared among the Member States so to establish uniformity and enhance effectiveness and cooperation.
- Varying definitions of Sexual Violence Crimes such as in the case of rape where certain Member States limit and maintain the definition of rape as penetration of the male organ into the female organ.
- Lack of uniformity in sentencing of SGBV crimes, porous borders pose a challenge to investigation and prosecution of cases and may perpetuate impunity.
- Insufficient training and lack of knowledge and skills on how to investigate and prosecute SGBV crimes (crime scene management, handling of evidence, storage of exhibits, and utilization of expert witnesses).
- There is limited information and inadequate dissemination of information on preservation of evidence such as body fluids, hair, stains, clothing, fingerprints - in cases of SGBV which negative successful investigation and prosecution of cases.
- Investigation and prosecution of SGBV crimes requires an effective referral system for successful collection of evidence, data and prosecution.

Recommendations

- There is need to properly articulate what appropriate mechanisms for investigation and prosecution of SGBV crimes, genocide, war crimes or crimes against humanity constitute.
- There is also need for Members State to adopt international definitions like in the case of rape, whereby insertion of any object apart from the male organ is considered as rape.
- Provide training and increase knowledge and skills on how to investigate and prosecute SGBV crimes (crime scene management, handling of evidence, storage of exhibits, and utilization of expert witnesses).
- Provide information and inadequate dissemination of information on preservation of evidence such as body fluids, hair, stains, clothing, fingerprints - in cases of SGBV which negative successful investigation and prosecution of cases.

- Establish an effective referral system for successful collection of evidence, data and prosecution, Investigation and prosecution of SGBV crimes.
- Provide Standard Operating Procedures for cross border cooperation and collaboration in order to effectively utilize appropriate mechanisms to investigate Sexual Violence; and establish avenues for systematic exchange of information and bench marking;
- Establish uniformity in the law, especially on sentencing and reparation for Sexual Violence crimes in order to curb cross border crimes, and enhance successful investigation and prosecution of cases in order to counter impunity which may be perpetuated by criminal crossing borders and hiding in different Member States.
- Foster sharing and exchange of information and exchange visits to enhance capacity, establish uniformity and increase cooperation.

THEMATIC AREA 3: PROVIDING SUPPORT TO VICTIMS/SURVIVORS OF SGBV.

10. FAST TRACK CONTRIBUTION TO ICGLR SPECIAL FUND FOR RECONSTRUCTION FOR VICTIMS/SURVIVORS.

Fast-track the contribution of 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).

Article 6 (8) is under Regional Responses to Sexual Violence and provides that:

“The responsibility of Member States under paragraph (6) of this Article may entail the creation of a special facility under the fund for reconstruction and development, the purpose of which shall be to provide social and legal assistance, medical treatment, counselling, training, rehabilitation and reintegration of the survivors and victims of sexual violence, including those who may not be able to identify the perpetrators of sexual violence.”

Achievements and Progress

Some Member States fast tracked contribution to the ICGLR Special Fund for victims/survivors of SGBV, these include: Zambia, Uganda, Kenya and Burundi. Zambia is particularly noted to have contributed USD \$ **500,000** in 2010 but there was no feedback on projects or any benefit to Zambia on the regional projects; as a result, Zambia has not made any more contributions to the Special Fund. Kenya has also been consistent in contributing to the fund a sum of USD\$ 400,000 per year except for 2019.

Challenges

- The words ‘Fast Track’ to the ICGLR special fund connotes urgency, limited response in remittance and lack of a specific time may have contributed to the lack of commitment and will.
- Limited response by Member State to contribute to the Special Fund has limited the capacity of ICGLR to provide the services for which it was meant to provide under Article 6(8) of the SGBV Protocol 2006 which are: social and legal assistance, medical treatment, counselling, training; rehabilitation and reintegration of survivors.
- Lack of specific mention of how much each country was expected to contribute; frequency; and time frame may have affected Member States’ contribution.
- Several Member States have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the ICGLR-fund with the exception of Uganda and Angola. Member States have made pledges but have not fulfilled

them. Also, the contributions have significantly diminished from USD \$ 500,000USD to USD \$ 50,000. Failure of Member States to fulfil their obligations has significantly affected the progress on implementation.

- Although Member States communicated progress on implementation of the Kampala Declaration. Specific data has not been provided by States and this has made it difficult to measure the progress on the implementation of the Declaration. Absence of an effective mechanism for Member States to report on progress makes it difficult to collect data and share information on Member States.

Recommendations

- There is still need to follow up on this Resolution which obliges Member States to contribute because the purpose for which it intended is still valid. Its purpose was to provide social and legal assistance, medical treatment, counseling, training, rehabilitation and reintegration of the survivors and victims of sexual violence, including those who may not be able to identify the perpetrators of sexual violence.
- There is also specific need to follow up on what was agreed upon in 2017 that each Member State contributes USD 50,000 in 2018 and in 2019, and for the Secretariat to open a separate account with the African Development Bank to manage the Special Fund.”
- In order to expedite compliance, a new time frame needs to be set and adhered to; and mechanisms for operationalized it articulated in order to ensure accountability and the impact for which it was set up.
- It was confirmed that ICGLR has an account at the African Development Bank though details on the available sum are not known, information received was that this account had around \$1.3 billion USD
- With the exception of Uganda, Zambia and Angola, Member States have not fulfilled their mandatory obligations towards the fund.
- There is no prescribed sum of money that the Member States must contribute. Though the contribution by Member States is mandatory, according to information from Zambia, it seems that the contribution was USD \$500,000.
- It was noted that over time, the pledges to the fund have significantly diminished from USD \$ 500,000 USD to USD \$50,000 USD in 2017/2018. No explanation was provided for the reduction from USD \$500,000 to USD \$50,000 when in actual fact cases of SGBV had continued to increase and thus necessitated an increment to the Fund for Construction and Development which is also supposed to be utilized for assistance of victims/survivors of SGBV.

11. FAST TRACK ESTABLISHMENT AND SCALE RECOVERY CENTRES.

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 Sessions on SGBV. Such centres should be user friendly particularly to women, youth, children, persons with disabilities and men.

Achievements and Progress

Most Member States have established Recovery Centers which provide various types of services to victims/survivors of SGBV; provision of services is mainly located at Health Centers.

Where Member States have not established Recovery Centers, the services are provided by Civil Society Organizations with the support of Development Partners.

Recovery Centers are called different names, for example, upgraded health centers in the Republic of Congo, coordinated response centers/One Stop Centers in Zambia, shelters in Uganda, and One Stop Centers (Isange) in Rwanda.

Provision of services as was envisaged under the Kampala Declaration is progressively being standardized in order to capture the comprehensive and user-friendly aspects. The ICGLR has established model Recovery Centres is the One-Stop Centre (Isange of Rwanda); and Gender Violence Recovery Centre at the Nairobi Women’s Hospital (2001).

Increased efforts to ensure that Recovery Centres are user friendly particularly to women, youth, children, persons with disabilities and men were registered, for example, the Dr. Denis Mukwege Foundation, Panzi Hospital located in the Democratic Republic of Congo, has scaled up its operations and is cited as a model Recovery Center in this regard. *More information on Recovery Centres in the Great Lakes Region is provided in the Table 1, below*

Recovery Centers for SGBV Victims/Survivors by ICGLR Member States

Member State		Establishment and Scaling up Recovery Centers Status
1.	Angola	Network of Existing Care Centres managed by Ministry of Social Action, Family and Women’s Promotion (MASFAMU) and INAC, Welcome Center Network; “Integration Centres for Family Counselling and Victim Support (CIAFAV)”
2.	Burundi	Five One Stop Centers with comprehensive services in place
3.	Central African Republic	AFD joined forces with Foundation Pierre Fabre to establish a comprehensive care center for female victims of violence in Bangui, car, at hospital de l’Amitie and The Central African Association of Women Lawyers. This is a four-year program that will help victims of SGBV, provide them with access to comprehensive quality care, using a coordinated and holistic approach at the One – Stop Treatment Center

		<p>in Bangui. The partnership was forged at a Paris Conference on November 28, 2019.</p> <p>In other instances, provision of services is mainly done at Health Centers/Hospitals; and in some cases, by Civil Society Organizations, and Religious Institutions.</p>
4.	Congo Brazzaville	<p>Establishment of the units of care of the victims at the level of the integrated health centers (CSI) of the border cities of the countries in humanitarian emergencies (DRC and CAR):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSI Betou in Likouala, CSI of Bouemba and CSI of Makotipoko in the Plateaux that receive survivors of SGBV refugees or displaced with the support of UNFPA and UNHCR • Establishment of care units in Talangai, Makelekele, Bacongo and CSI Madibou hospitals which received in 2018, about 320 victims of sexual violence for the department of Brazzaville • Setting up a care unit at a Hospital, Cissé in Pointe Noire • Existence of One Stop Centers (psychological and socio-economic support for GBV victims) of Azur development and ASI <p>Implementation of a toll free number 1444, dedicated to the denunciation of facts of violence by victims and witnesses, by the Ministry for the Promotion of Women and the Integration of Women in Development.</p>
5.	Democratic Republic of Congo	<p>DRC has fast tracked the establishment and scaling up of “Recovery Centres” that provide comprehensive services of free medical, psychosocial, forensic, judicial/prosecution services. The example given was Panzi Bukavu Hospital in South Kivu of Dr. MUKWEGE, Nobel Peace Prize winner; Heal Africa in Goma, in Kinshasa; the integrated multisector service center is gradually being set up in the Kintambo Reference Hospital; Mother and child center at the Reference Hospital in Ndjil, Bas Uele, South Ubangi and Tshopo.</p> <p>DRC has Recovery centers for SGBV; and the services offered include medical care, psychosocial care, and legal/judicial care and socio-economic reinsertion. Establishment and scaling up of the said Recovery Centres was in some cases done earlier than 2011, for example Panzi Hospital in Bukavu in South Kivu was established in 1999; and Heal Africa in Goma in North Kivu was established in 2000. Some of the Recovery Centres are user friendly particularly to women, youth, children, persons with disabilities but not for men. These Recovery Centers have been developed to provide a comprehensive package of survivor services in one place. Progress done on Recovery Centers after 2011 includes integration of the services within existing medical structures.</p>

6.	Kenya	<p>Kenya has Recovery Centres in various parts of the country that provide free medical care, Post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), counselling, the emergency pill and as well forensic management evidence. In addition, it has put in place free toll lines to support survivors to get the necessary care.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender Violence Recovery Centre at the Nairobi Women’s Hospital (2001); • Center for Assault and Recovery in Eldoret (CARE situated in Moi Teaching and Referral Centre; • The Coast General Hospital Recovery Centre; • Gender Based Violence Recovery Centre (GBVRC) at Kenyatta National Referral Hospital; • Taita Taveta District Hospital; • Biafra Clinic in Eastleigh Nairobi; • Makueni County Hospital Gender Based Violence recovery Centre (GBVRC).
7.	Rwanda	<p>These Recovery Centres are called ISANGE One-Stop Centers and can be found countrywide.</p>
8.	South Sudan	<p>South Sudan has not fast tracked the establishment and scaling up of Recovery Centers that provide comprehensive services of free medical, psychological, forensic, judicial/prosecution services. It was reported that these services, such as health services are provided at different entities such as hospitals.</p> <p>It was further reported that South Sudan has a national plan to set up ten (10) Recovery Centres of which five have already been put in place.</p>
9.	Sudan	<p>Ahfad Trauma Centre (ATC) provides services to victims/survivors of trauma and disasters, it is a mental health and psychological service unit under the School of Psychology at Ahfad University for Women.</p> <p>Information as to whether Sudan had tracked the establishment and scaling of Recovery Centers for SGBV victims/survivors was not available.</p> <p>Sudan confirmed that some Civil Society Organizations have established Recovery Centers.</p>
11.	Uganda	<p>Existing Recovery Centers also referred to as ‘Shelters’, there are 16 Shelter which provide a range of services including legal, medical and counselling services. They are mainly operated by through Public-Private partnerships, a total of sixteen (16) GBV Shelters have been established in Uganda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ten are run by Action Aid in Amuru, Gulu, Lira, Nebbi, Katakwi, Kween, Kumi, Pallisa, Mubende and Kampala; • Four by MIFUMI in Tororo, Moroto, Mbarara, and Masaka; and • Two are run by Uganda Women’s Network (UWONET) in Kamuli and Namutumba.

		<p>Although some of the shelters are operated in conjunction with the Ministry of Gender, none are directly funded by the government.</p> <p>GBV Shelters are part of the referral system that provide victims and survivors with temporary refuge, lodging and other services and link victims and survivors to medical, legal, economic and psycho-social services.</p>
10.	Tanzania	<p>Services for victims/survivors of SGBV are provided mainly in hospitals and by Non-Government Organizations which provide services such as Legal Aid.</p>
12	Zambia	<p>Zambia also provided information that it has coordinated response centres which provide services to victims/survivors of SGBV. Zambia has established “One-Stop-Centers” in all 11 the main provincial hospitals providing a holistic service to SGBV victims.</p> <p>Establishment and scaling of the Recovery Centers was not within two years after the Summit and Special Session on SGBV of 2011 but it has been progressive from about 2014.</p>

Challenges

- The words ‘*Fast track the establishment and scale up “Recovery Centers” with a specific deadline of ‘within two years of this Summit [on the Kampala Declaration Summit of 2011]’* was according to information received not respected by Member States and yet the intent of this was to communicate urgency and expedite action.
- It is not clear from the information received whether what Member States referred to as Recovery Centers provide comprehensive services of free medical, psychosocial, forensic, judicial/prosecution services; and whether they are user friendly particularly to women, youth, children, person with disabilities and men. There is thus need for a mechanism to ensure that Recovery Centers provide comprehensive and user-friendly services as envisaged under the Kampala Declaration.
- It was further noted that in most Member States the Recovery Centres are operated by Civil Society Organizations and with the support of Development Partners which points to the fact that Member States have not implemented this Resolution. Member States have a duty to establish and scale up Recovery Centres, which duty should not be relegated to Civil Social Organizations, which in most cases have limited resources and may not be able to sustain such services.

Recommendations

- Member States should recommit to this Resolution in order ‘*Fast track the establishment and scaling up “Recovery Centers”*’; and this should be done within a specifically new deadline because the need for such Recovery Centers remains high and urgent.
- There is need to define and expound on what is meant by ‘Recovery Centers so that Member States can implement this Resolution accordingly; it was further recommended that whatever institution is assigned to execute this task of provision of comprehensive and user-friendly services provides the necessary policy framework in order standardize its operations.
- Member States should plan, budget and allocate resources for provision of comprehensive services in Recovery Centres, which according to the Kampala Declaration should be user friendly and include free medical, psychosocial, forensic, judicial/prosecution services.
- Member States should continue to support Civil Society Organizations that operate Recovery Centres in order to ensure quality and sustainability.
- Bench marking and learning from Member States that have established and scaled up Recovery Centres should be done.

12. DIRECT RELEVANT MINISTRIES AND PUBLIC AGENCIES TO ESTABLISH AND STRENGTHEN INCOME GENERATING PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES.

Direct the relevant ministries and public agencies to establish and strengthen income generating programmes and initiatives to support women especially those in cross -border areas, targeting survivors of SGBV.

Achievements and Progress

Most Member States have strengthened and established income generating programs. Such initiatives have largely been incorporated in National planning frameworks/National Gender policies to address SGBV. Member States have utilized responsible line ministries to spearhead these initiatives in collaboration with NGO’s. For example:

- Burundi has an SGBV Emergency Project in the Great Lakes Region funded by the World Bank, the project is called “Tushiriki Wote”.
- South Sudan has set up income generating programs for women with support from the African Development Bank and UN women.

- Uganda has established Uganda Women Entrepreneurship Programme (UWEP) under the Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development, whose aim is to increase participation of women in business development, increase their incomes, livelihood security and overall quality of life. It empowers women – including those in cross border areas and targets survivors of SGBV - in order to improve their income levels and contribution to economic development.

Challenges

- Lack of specific mention of ministries and publish agencies which were responsible for implementing this Resolution creates a challenge of which entity is to be held accountable.
- Most of the income generating programmes and initiatives that support women especially those in cross border areas, targeting survivors of SGBV are not state funded.
- A number of incomes generating programs and initiatives which support women reported that they have insufficient resources and thus may not achieve the desired impact, which encompasses financial literacy, training in livelihood skills and sustaining their businesses.
- It is not clear whether there is an inventory on income generating programmes and initiatives that support especially those in cross- border areas, targeting survivors of SGBV. Mapping of such programmes and initiatives is critical because it would inform subsequent establishment and strengthening of such entities.

Recommendations

- Income generating programmes and initiatives to support women especially those in cross -border areas, targeting survivors of SGBV need to be recorded, planned for, and allocated resources in a sustainable manner by Member States.
- Survivors of SGBV need training in areas such as - financial literacy, laws and regulations on income generation, livelihood skills in order to effectively benefit from the programs/initiatives.
- Income generating programmes and initiatives need to specifically address the target groups in cross areas, survivors of SGBV. They also need to be monitored, documented and reported upon in order to assess their impact, identify best practices and lessons learned - which information can be shared and utilized for programming, scaling up and increased success.

GENERAL RESOLUTION

13. STRENGTHEN THE LEVY MWANAWASA REGIONAL CENTER FOR DEMOCRACY, GOOD GOVERNANCE, HUMAN RIGHTS AND CIVIL EDUCATION IN ORDER TO FULFIL ITS MANDATE.

Achievements and Progress

The Levy Mwanawasa Regional Centre (LMRC) for Democracy, Good Governance, Human Rights and Civic Education is a regional Think Tank of the ICGLR created in December 2006 as a key institution for the promotion of Democracy, Good Governance, Human Rights and Civic Education.

The Zambian Government agreed to host the Regional Centre and on March 24th, 2011, a Host Agreement was signed between ICGLR Secretariat and the Government of Zambia.

The LMRC has five objectives, namely: Research and analysis on governance processes, peace building, conflict prevention and resolution at the Local, National and Regional levels – in order to develop a database on best practices and challenges as well as promote sharing of experiences and best practices between and among ICGLR Member States.

- Capacity Development and Training Programmes in the areas of Democracy, Governance, Human Rights and Civic Education in order to strengthen Public Institutions and Civil Society Organizations and promote Accountable Leadership for an active and effective National and Regional engagement in the promotion of Democracy, Good Governance and Human Rights.
- Monitor, evaluate and advise on the implementation of the ICGLR Protocols and other relevant legal Instruments in order to create a database on the status of ratification, domestication and implementation of the ICGLR Protocols and other relevant Legal Instruments and make appropriate proposals for their ratification, domestication and implementation.
- Facilitate Dialogue between different Actors on Governance Reform Agenda in order to create spaces where various Stakeholders can dialogue on Public Policies and build consensus on important issues.
- Establish and maintain an Information Hub on Democracy, Good Governance, Human Rights and Civic Education -make the Centre the Regional Data Hub and Centre of Reference for the Region.

Achievements

The LMRC is operational and supported by a skeleton staff to execute its mandate, which include: Research; Capacity Development and Training; Monitoring, evaluation and provision of advice; Facilitation of Dialogue, and establishment and maintenance of an Information Hub

It was noted that Zambia paid its remittance via LMRC, which indicates a high level of confidence its operations.

LMRC and other decentralized and affiliated institutions of the Conference Secretariat were encouraged as a matter of policy to proactively mobilize resources from cooperation and development partners by the Regional Inter-Ministerial Meeting (RIMC) of October 2019 - which decision provides an opportunity for LMRC to address the perennial challenge of inadequate resources.

Challenges

- Limited resources, and staffing due to the fact that the mandatory annual contributions of Member States are sometimes not paid on time which interferes with operations of LMRC;
- Member States have not facilitated the Levy Mwanawasa Centre consistently to execute its mandate; and it was further noted only Zambia paid its remittance through the LMRC but this was a one off.

Recommendations

- The rationale for the establishment of LMRC is still valid, as such a mechanism to finance the operations of LMRC in a sustainable should be instituted.
- LMRC should be supported to enhance its administrative and financial autonomy in order to, inter alia, effectively mobilize resources in accordance with the RIMC decisions of October 2019.
- A mechanism for ensuring commitment of Member States to support of LMRC in its operations should be established.

14. THE ICGLR REGIONAL SGBV TRAINING FACILITY

Achievements and Progress

- The ICGLR-Regional Trained Facility (ICGLR-RTF) is established under Article 6(9) of the ICGLR Protocol on SGBV (2006). It was noted that the ICGLR-RTF is indeed in place and functioning in accordance to its mandate.
- The ICGLR-Regional Training Facility was hosted by the Republic of Uganda⁶ and established in 2014 - The ICGLR – RTF is a special regional facility for training and sensitizing judicial

⁶See Article 6 (9) of the Protocol on the Suppression and Prevention of Sexual and Gender Based Violence as well as Resolution 14 of the Kampala Declaration.

officers, police units, social workers, medical officers and other categories of persons who handle cases of SGBV in the region. Other categories of persons trained include - journalists, academicians, Faith Based Organizations.

- As at November 2019, 161 professionals have been trained and these include Master Trainers and National Trainers in all ICGLR Partner States. Training of professionals will continue to be cascaded at the National Level of each of the ICGLR Member States, whereby, two National Trainers are selected out of the 10 previously trained National Trainers to conduct training.
- ICGLR-RTF has strengthened and built formidable partnerships with UN Agencies; Inter-Governmental Organizations, Civil Society Organizations. The Academia and Faith Based Organizations such as the Fellowship of Christian Councils and Churches in the Great Lakes and Horn of Africa (FECCLAHA).
- Acquired its permanent offices in 2017; excelled in resource mobilization to effectively sustain operations; and has established a niche as a Center of Excellence that trains professionals who deal with cases of SGBV

Challenges

- Lack of sustainable financing
- Low Staffing levels and lack of security of tenure
- Limited administrative and financial autonomy

Recommendations

- Provide a mechanism for sustainable financing.
- Increase staffing level and provide security for staff members.
- Enhance administrative and financial autonomy in accordance with the RIMC decision of October, 2019, which resolved that ICGLR institutions should be encouraged and supported to mobilize their own resources.
- There is need to support continuous sensitization of communities; and training of professionals that handle SGBV issues, at the National Level in order for such professionals to be acquainted with new ideas, knowledge, skills, expertise and techniques.

15. PUT IN PLACE NATIONAL AND REGIONAL MEDIA STRATEGY TO EXPOSE ATROCITIES OF SGBV.

Put in place national and regional media strategy for sustainable use of electronic and print media especially radios, newspapers, televisions and traditional/community-based means to expose the atrocities of sexual and gender-based violence, facilitate the sensitization and fight against SGBV.

Achievements and Progress

- All Member States have in place a national media strategy for sustainable use of the media and traditional/community- based means to expose the atrocities of sexual and gender-based violence, facilitate the sensitization and fight against SGBV.
- Member States have different forms of media campaign strategy at the national level, for example, the Republic of Congo reported the use of Facebook, twitter as part of its early warning mechanism. The Republic of Congo also reported that it has a website on reproductive health and SGBV related issues which is being managed by the youth.
- Burundi reported that it has on-going media campaigns that promote the implementation of international and national instrument on SGBV on sports and media shows. It also reported that the Kampala Declaration inspired the Plan of Action for 2016-2021 to address SGBV.
- Additionally, a Regional Communication Strategy on Sexual Violence was validated in May, 2013 by the ICGLR.

Challenges

- Limited information on whether there has been coordination in the development of the media strategy.
- The need to plan and provide for adequate resources to implement the media strategy.
- Need to plan for continuous training of media practitioners and persons who handle SGBV cases on operationalization and sustainable use of the media strategy bearing in mind the new trends of communication such as social media, target group and context.
- Insufficient information on dissemination and implementation of the ICGLR Regional Media Strategy of May 2013 to effectively guide and provide a model for the national strategy.

Recommendations:

- Put in place a mechanism at the national and regional level that feeds messages into the media to expose the atrocities of SGBV, facilitate the sensitization and fight against SGBV.
- Plan and provide adequate resources for the development, review and implementation of media strategies both at the national and regional levels.
- Provide continuous training of media practitioners at the national and regional levels.

- Enhance coordination between media practitioners and other professionals who handle SGBV cases.
- Update, disseminate and implement the ICGLR Regional Media Strategy of May 2013.
- The ICGLR Training and Civic Education Council that was proposed to manage information should be established to effectively manage information and to sensitize the community and professionals who handle cases of SGBV.

16. SECRETARIAT TO STRENGTHEN INTER-LINKAGES BETWEEN REGIONAL INITIATIVES ON NATIONAL RESOURCES (RINR) AND THE REGIONAL INITIATIVE ON SGBV.

Achievements and Progress

- A few achievements and progress have been registered by the Secretariat in strengthening inter-linkages between Regional Initiatives on National Resources (RINR) and the Regional Initiative on SGBV, for example:
- Information received from **Kenya** was to the effect that the Secretariat has promoted dialogue between ICGLR Member States on issues related to illegal exploitation of natural resources and provided them with tools aimed at breaking the link between armed conflict and revenues of natural resources.
- **The Democratic Republic of Congo** noted women are still victims of SGBV in the mining natural resources sector.
- **Sudan** also stated that the Secretariat introduced six tools to curb illegal exploitation of natural resources, these include:
 - Regional certification mechanism;
 - Harmonization of national legislation;
 - Regional data base on mineral flows;
 - Formalization of the artisanal mining sector;
 - Promotion of the extractive industry transparency initiative (EITI) Database, Traceability; and
 - Early Warning Systems/Whistle blowing mechanism.

It was reported by the DRC, that the ICGLR Secretariat Gender Department has encouraged Member States to set up Women's Network or Working Groups for their involvement in the mining sector to monitor the implementation of the above-mentioned six tools of the Regional Initiative on Natural Resources. With this impetus, more and more women in the Great Lakes are becoming members of the Mining Cooperative Administration Committees and even shareholders of certain Mining Cooperatives.

The ICGLR Secretariat encouraged Member States to set up working groups and advocacy, to undertake grassroots action to sensitize and encourage women to participate in mining activities and to convince them to stop believing that the mining activity is the domain of men. The ICGLR Secretariat also organized Regional Workshops where each Member State was requested to present its state of the natural resource sector, progress, challenges and perspectives in respect to interlinkages between Natural Resources and SGBV and how gender has been mainstreamed national policies.

Challenges

- There was limited information on activities undertaken to implement this Resolution, which directed the Secretariat to strengthen inter-linkages between the Regional Initiatives on Natural Resources (RINR) and the Regional Initiative on SGBV.
- Implementation of this Resolution required partnership between Secretariat offices that are responsible for Natural Resources and SGBV; and Member State entities that are responsible for mainstreaming gender in national policies on the natural resources sector. Partnership and synchronizing of action by these various entities which was not reported on is still critical for implementation of this Resolution.
- Sensitization and sharing of information supported by the ICGLR Secretariat was mainly facilitated by Development Partners. The ICGLR should fully embrace, support and sustain this initiative which already has established a ICGLR Women's Network in order to ensure implementation of this Resolution on mainstreaming the gender aspect into national policies on the natural resources sector.

Recommendations

- The Secretariat should develop mechanisms for supporting Member States to mainstream gender aspects into national policies on the natural resources sector in order to strengthen the inter-linkages between the Regional Initiatives on Natural Resources (RINR) and the Regional Initiative on Sexual and Gender Based violence.
- The Secretariat should foster regional exchange and cooperation for sustainable development of the natural resources sector; and support activities such as - exchange visits in order to strengthen inter-linkages between Regional Initiatives on Natural Resources and Regional Initiatives on Sexual and Gender Based Violence.

- Continuous research, knowledge production and dissemination should be undertaken on interlinkages between the Regional Initiatives on Natural Resources (RINR) and the Regional Initiative on Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) in order to inform the Secretariat in planning and designing programs that can effectively strengthen inter-linkages between the Regional Initiatives on Natural Resources and the Regional Initiative on Sexual and Gender Based violence.
- The Secretariat should provide sufficient information and scale up activities to strengthen interlinkages through establishment partnerships and synchronizing of activities by the respective entities responsible for Natural Resources, SGBV and mainstreaming gender into policies at the Secretariat and Member State level.
- In order to strengthen inter-linkages between Regional Initiatives on Natural Resources and Regional Initiative on SGBV, the Secretariat should in partnership with the ICGLR Regional Women's Forum - advocate for measures to promote women's participation in formal and informal decision-making structures and governance processes related to natural resource management in peacebuilding; protect women from resource-related physical violence and other security risks early in the peacebuilding period; remove barriers and create enabling conditions to build women's capacity for productive and sustainable use of natural resources; increase cooperation to pursue women's empowerment and sustainable natural resource management together in support of more effective peacebuilding.

17. DIRECT THE REGIONAL INTER-MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE (RIMC) AT THE NEXT MEETING IN BANGUI, CAR TO DISCUSS UNEMPLOYMENT, MORE ESPECIALLY AMONG YOUTH AND REPORT TO NEXT SUMMIT.

Achievements and Progress

It is reported that the RIMC meeting scheduled to take in the Central African Republic, Bangui was Moved to Kenya, Nairobi, due to insecurity issues that. Information received confirmed that the report on unemployment, more especially among youth was presented and discussed. On actions taken in respect to unemployment, the report highlighted the need to:

- Create a favorable environment for investment, and social economic development;
- Harness infrastructure development in order to fast track opportunities for decent jobs and inclusive growth;
- Ensure youth representation in decision making bodies; and

- Monitor, evaluate and coordinate public policies and interventions.

Challenges

- Unemployment, especially among the youth persists; it fuels and is a major contributing factor to SGBV.
- Response from Member States on the issue of unemployment, especially among the youth - was scanty, which could be attributed to limited access to information.

Recommendations

- Unemployment remains a significant issue that needs to be addressed as it causes the youth to engage in unprofitable activities some of which often include participation in committing SGBV crimes. As such, the ICGLR Secretariat, Member States and in particular the Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee should remain seized with the matter of unemployment, more especially among youth, within the context of infrastructure development and investment; and follow up on implementation of Resolutions made.
- There is also need to increase knowledge production and dissemination of information on unemployment, more especially among the youth within the context of infrastructure development and investment. The ICGLR Regional Youth Forum should be supported to work closely with the Secretariat in order to sustain action on this issue.

18. EMPOWERMENT OF PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS IN THE GREAT LAKES REGIONAL THAT PROVIDE SUPPORT TO VICTIM/SURVIVORS OF SGBV.

Empowerment of Professional and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) such as International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA) and all others in the Great Lakes Region that provide support to victims/survivors of SGBV.

Achievements and Progress

- It was noted that the Kampala Declaration was a land mark achievement which consolidated the fact that Civil Society Organizations are critical partners in the bid to prevent, end impunity and provide support to victims of SGBV; and thus need to be empowered.
- It was further noted that Civil Society Organizations had an input in the development of the Kampala Declaration; and that out of the 19 Resolutions, 13 of those adopted were proposed by Civil Society Organizations.

- Response from most Member State affirmed that Professional and Civil Society Organizations are empowered to provide victim/survivors of SGBV – in form of provision of legal services, security, and certification, for example Kenya and Central African Republic.
- Some Member States provide financial support to Civil Society Organization that provide support to victims/survivors of SGBV – these include Kenya and Rwanda. Information received also noted that Uganda works in partnership with some Civil Society Organizations in order to build capacity of Justice Law and Order Sector actors such as the Police, and in provision of services to victims/survivors of SGBV.
- Information received from some Member State acknowledged the fact that Professional and Civil Society Organization are the only entities which currently provide support to victims/survivors of SGBV in particular in form of legal aid, Shelters, for example in Uganda.
- In the DRC, Professional Civil Society Organization provide support to victims/survivors of SGBV in DRC include: Association of Women Lawyers Congo, Association of Women Magistrates, and Conafed. DRC provides permission to civil society organizations so that they can operate on behalf of the whole of the Republic.
- It was observed that some Civil Society Organizations such as Akina Mama wa Africa, FIDA, International Women Peace Centre have provided support to ensure that the Kampala Declaration is implemented by advocating for its implementation at the regional, national and local levels, disseminating its contents, monitoring and evaluation its implementation, dissemination of findings on research undertaken in meetings and via social media.

Challenges

- The Resolution has the phrase ‘Empowerment of Professional and Civil Society Organizations...’; the word ‘empowerment’ needs to be unpacked in order for it to be effectively implemented, for example what does empowerment entail?
- The other challenge is that the Resolution does not specify who should empower the professional and CSOs.
- There is also need for compilation of an updated inventory of Professional and Civil Society Organizations in the Great Lakes Region that provide support to victim/survivors of SGBV since the Resolution refers to ‘FIDA and all others’. This would address and clearly define the aspect of which ‘Professional Organizations’ and that of ‘all others’ which are mentioned and thus enable focused strategic planning for empowerment to be more impactful and sustainable.
- Friction and tensions exist; and these are based on the perception of Professional and Civil Society Organizations as not allies in the quest to provide support services to SGBV victims/survivors.

- It was also noted that in some contexts, stringent measures for certification and operations of Civil Society is constrained which hampers delivery of support services to SGBV victims/survivors.

Recommendations

- There is need to define what ‘Empowerment’ entails and who is responsible for ensure that its done in order to effectively implement the Resolution. As such, mechanisms to ensure empowerment of Professional and Civil Society Organizations should be sought and pursued through the creation of an enabling environment, sharing of information, resources and collaboration.
- Increase synergies and collaboration with civil society organizations; Member States should work with Civil Society Organizations as partners and allies since both entities are united in the quest to prevent, end impunity and provide support to victims/survivors of SGBV.
- Benchmarking initiatives where empowerment of Professional and Civil Society Organizations has been successful should be documented and shared.
- The Secretariat should maintain an updated inventory of Professional and Civil Society Organizations in the Great Lakes Region that provide support to victims/survivors of SGBV; and foster regional exchange and cooperation in order to empower professional and Civil Society Organizations.
- Information garnered from research undertaken by Civil Society Organizations and reports on activities executed to implement the Kampala Declaration on SGBV of 2011 should be effectively utilized by the Secretariat.
- Member States should to continue collaborating with Civil Society Organizations to ensure coordination and synchronize action and of the implementation of the Kampala Declaration. Most of the implementation thus far has been done by Civil Society Organizations.

19. DIRECT ICGLR SECRETARIAT TO FOLLOW-UP IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ABOVE RESOLUTIONS AND REPORT ON REGULAR BASIS TO RIMC AND SUMMIT.

Direct ICGLR Secretariat to follow – up the implementation of the [Kampala] Resolutions and report on regular basis to RIMC and the Summit.

Achievements and Progress

It was reported that to some extent, the ICGLR Secretariat has followed up the implementation of

the Kampala Declaration Resolution by, for example:

- supporting knowledge production, Follow-up of implementation of Resolutions was done via research - for example, in 2017 a report on ‘Monitoring and Evaluation of Progress Towards the Implementation of the Kampala Declaration’ of 2017.
- Dissemination of information via meetings with stakeholders; some reports were said to have been made to RIMC and the Summit, these were referred to in the report on ‘Monitoring and Evaluation of Progress Towards the Implementation of the Kampala Declaration’ of 2017.
- Implementation of the Kampala Resolution by the ICGLR Secretariat is also evidenced by the production of this report which updates the 2017 Report on the Implementation of the Kampala Declaration.

Challenges

- The 2017 Report on Monitoring and Evaluation of Progress towards implementation of the Kampala Declaration proposed a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework to improve monitoring and reporting.; it’s not clear as to whether this was utilized or if its other recommendations were operationalized.
- It was confirmed that the ICGLR Secretariat has some reports on SGBV, but it was not clear as to whether the ICGLR Secretariat reports on implementation of the Kampala Declaration on *regular basis* to Regional Inter Ministerial Committee (RIMC) and the Summit.
- Most of the time frames which were set for the implementation of some of the Resolutions of the Kampala Declaration have lapsed; and yet the activities were not fully implemented and others need to be addressed in a continuous manner.

Recommendations

- The ICGLR Secretariat should create a mechanism for effective reporting on the implementation of the Kampala Declaration by Member States on a regular basis as a priority. This mechanism should have specific and realistic targets, a monitoring and evaluation framework; and implemented within new specific time frames.
- The ICGLR Secretariat should follow – up the implementation of the Kampala Declaration Resolutions and report on a regular basis to the RIMC and the Summit.
- Revive and secure the critical support of the ICGLR First Ladies’ Forum to provide leadership, visibility and momentum.
- Bearing in mind that all the Resolutions are still valid and need to be urgently implemented due to increased and persistent cases of SGBV in the Great Lakes Region, there is thus need

for the ICGLR Secretariat to expeditiously re-ignite the political will that was exhibited in 2011 and to secure re-commitment of Member States to systematically implement the Kampala Declaration in its totality and set new time frames.

- The political will which was exhibited during the adoption of the Kampala Declaration on SGBV of 2011 by the Heads of State and Government of the Member States of ICGLR was unprecedented and should be expeditiously re-ignited and sustained as a strategy to implement Pact on Security, Stability and Development for the Great Lakes Region on which the Kampala Declaration is premised.

CHAPTER 4: CONCLUSION

It is almost eight years since The Kampala Declaration on Sexual and Gender Based Violence of 2011 was concluded. This Declaration is unique in several ways:

First, it has 19 Resolutions which were agreed upon and signed off on each and every page by Heads of State and Government of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region; and 8 out of the 19 Resolutions were to be implemented within prescribed deadlines – this is evidence of a high-level commitment;

Second it was premised on earlier commitments such as CEDAW, UNSCR 1325, the ICGLR SGBV Protocol of 2006 which is one of the Protocol of the ICGLR Pact on Security, Stability and Development of 2006; and reports of Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee and the ICLR First Ladies;

Third, areas for action are clearly articulated: Prevention of SGBV; Ending Impunity for SGBV; Providing support to victims/survivors of SGBV; and a General Resolution which includes a directive to the ICGLR Secretariat to follow-up the implementation of resolutions and report on a regular basis to IMC and the Summit;

Fourth, the implementation of most of the Resolutions had specific time frames which captures the urgency and resoluteness attached to those particular areas; and the fact that it was also premised on the ICGLR First Ladies Report, which along with that of RIMC were considered by the Summit underlines the seriousness and the high level mobilization that was put into it.

ICGLR Member States have made significant progress in the implementation of the Declaration since its adoption in 2011, in spite of existing challenges albeit at different paces. Specifically, Member States that have on-going conflict have registered slow progress owing to the instability. Whereas progress was noted, Member States are encouraged to go beyond the ticking of the boxes and to go the extra mile to obtain scientific data, both qualitative and quantitative to effectively monitor and measure progress. There is a dire need for a follow-up mechanism for the implementation by Member States as well as sharing of

information, strategic male engagement, data collection and the need to eradicate armed groups in the region.

The Report of 2017 pointed out salient action points which are still valid, these include- Strengthen capacity to collect reliable data; Continuous review of legal frameworks and policies to be more in line with international standards; Regular training of law enforcement and judicial officers; Amplify public awareness campaigns on SGBV; and Allocation of sufficient financial resources for the implementation of the KD.

An update of the 2017 Report systematically points out achievements and progress made, challenges and proposes recommendations on each Resolution. Some of the highlights of this update include the need for – re-commitment to the Resolutions and setting new time frames for implementation; dissemination of information on commitments undertaken; training and capacity building; prioritizing, planning and allocation of resources; enhanced coordination, collaboration, and partnerships; monitoring, documentation and reporting; and strengthening mechanisms to ensure adherence to commitments undertaken and utilizing innovative means to ensure implementation, such as score cards. As such, the findings of both reports, should be expeditiously implemented in order to catalyze action and re-ignite the political will and commitment that was espoused in 2011 when the Kampala Declaration on SGBV was signed. In particular, the cooperation of the ICGLR First Ladies Forum should be secured at the earliest opportunity since the Kampala Declaration of 2011 is premised on its report.

Considering that most of the Resolutions are consistent with the African Union Agenda 2063; the Sustainable Development Goals; and require a multi-sectoral approach, synchronized and focused action has the potential to deliver on the targeted results in record time. *“Actions speak louder than words.”*

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DRAFT

Framework Paper
Mission of the Advisory Board on Women, Peace and Security in the Great Lakes Region to Burundi

Proposed dates: 2 to 4 March 2020 (arrival on 2 March and departure on 5 March 2020)

0. Introduction

As part of its efforts to promote gender equality and women's full and complete participation in political life, the Advisory Board on Women, Peace and Security in the Great Lakes Region organizes solidarity missions with the Great Lakes Member States preparing for elections. In line with the commitments made by the Advisory Board and its advocacy mandate, these missions are in line with the Goma Declaration of July 2016 on Women, Peace and Security, and the decisions taken by the Heads of States and Governments in the region at the Summit held in Brazzaville in October 2017, all aimed at strengthening the role of women in efforts to promote peace, security and development in the Great Lakes region. They also draw on the recommendations of the 11th meeting of the Advisory Board of the Women's Platform for Peace, Security and Cooperation (PSC) Framework for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Region held in Addis Ababa on 11 November 2019. Finally, the solidarity missions reflect the guidelines of the Naivasha workshop on the technical planning of women's organizations, youth organizations and regional forums for 2020.

Resulting from the constant commitment of the various regional (AU and ICGLR) and international (Office of the Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region, UN-Women) institutions alongside governments, these visits provide an opportunity to unite the efforts of these key actors to promote the political participation of women in decision-making bodies and peace processes in the region.

The purpose of these missions was to follow up on previous missions organized in 2018 (Burundi, CAR, DRC, South Sudan) aimed at making a sustained plea for increased participation of women in decision-making bodies, their full involvement in conflict prevention and management mechanisms, and their participation in political processes at both national and regional levels. At the end of these visits, the States made a firm commitment to:

- Strengthen the minimum 30% quota for women by the year 2020, and
- To put in place follow-up mechanisms to Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, given that the year 2020 will mark the 20th anniversary of the said Resolution and the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform.

Discussions during these missions focused on the critical need for women themselves to participate in decision-making and for authorities to integrate women into democratic and peace processes, the prevention and elimination of sexual and gender-based violence, and to achieve women's social and economic empowerment and capacity building at the national level. Particular emphasis had been placed on legislative reforms at the State level in order to comply with the international legal instruments to which countries had subscribed and acceded; with a view to enforcing adequate and appropriate legislation. The outcomes of the solidarity, monitoring and advocacy missions showed a significant improvement in women's participation in decision-making. Nevertheless, much remains to be done. Burundi has joined some countries in the sub-region - Angola, Rwanda, Sudan and Tanzania - which have already reached or surpassed the threshold of 30% of legislative seats reserved for women.

The Office of the United Nations Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region and the Department of Political Affairs of the African Union (AU), in partnership with the International Conference for the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) and the Southern African Community (SADC), organized a regional workshop on "Participation, Representation and Protection of Women in Electoral Processes in the Great Lakes Region" at the AU Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 12 to 13 November 2019.

As part of their efforts to promote women's political participation in electoral processes and to follow up on the recommendations of the above-mentioned workshop, the Advisory Board on Women, Peace and Security proposes to organize, in consultation with the Government of the Republic of Burundi, a mission to organize the elections and, above all, to support women in their full and effective participation in the upcoming elections in accordance with resolutions 1325 (2000) and 2493 (2019).

Already, the Board commends the step taken in the participation of women in political life in Burundi and welcomes the two major advances announced at the time of the promulgation of the June 2018 Constitution, namely the positioning of women on electoral lists (from ¼ to 1/3) and the 30% representation rate in the judiciary.

The upcoming elections in Burundi call for strong support for Burundian women at all levels, from the community base to the central level. This, in order to advocate for greater political participation of women in the ongoing electoral process, their inclusion in electoral observation and in the electoral management bodies (EMBs) and their protection against all forms of electoral and other gender-based violence.

1. Mission composition

The solidarity and advocacy mission to Burundi will take place from 2 to 4 March 2020 and will include:

- A woman leader (Femwise) from the Advisory Board for WPS in the Great Lakes Region,
- Member of the Women's Platform of the ICGLR,
- The Chairman of the ICGLR Civil Society Platform
- The President of the Youth Forum
- 1 representative of the Office of the Special Envoy, the Executive Secretariat of the ICGLR and the AU/Grand Lac
- A UN Women Technical Team
- 1 UN Women Public Information Officer

2. Objectives of the Joint Mission

The mission aims to convey a strong message of support and encouragement so that the electoral processes are peaceful and that they sufficiently integrate women's priorities, specifically reassuring women candidates and encouraging them to participate more fully. They also aim to strengthen women's coalitions and solidarity during electoral processes for their full participation in the 2020 elections.

Specifically, the mission aims to:

- Encourage and strengthen the commitment of political leaders to ensure women's participation (in line with the commitments set out in Security Council resolution 1325 (2000)) in democratic processes, including the electoral process, and to protect them from sexual and gender-based violence, including electoral violence ;
- To uphold the principle of accountability as well as to take measures to promote human rights:
 - Discuss with the Burundian authorities on a better involvement of women in all the processes of organising the 2020 elections;
 - Exchange with political parties and the electoral commission on the importance of putting in place practical measures for the holding of inclusive elections, the implementation of provisions relating to quotas for women in leadership positions as stipulated by the constitution, the appointment of women party leaders, the positioning of women on lists where they are likely to be elected, and support for women's campaigns to reduce the financial costs borne by them;
 - Exchange at the highest level of the country and with the political parties in order to adopt a gender perspective in all measures related to the electoral process.
- Send a message of solidarity to women leaders and their organizations and networks of origin at all levels;
- Strengthen the solidarity of Burundian women leaders at all levels with a view to their participation in the electoral process, the resolution of electoral conflicts and the consolidation of peace;
- Support the Platform of Burundian Women in its advocacy to build the coalition of Burundian Women for the elections.

3. Expected outcomes

The expected outcomes of the mission are:

1. A reaffirmation of the Government's commitment to ensure, through concrete measures, the adequate representation of women (in accordance with the commitments set out in Security Council resolution 1325 (2000)) in all aspects of the electoral process, with concrete and operational measures and mechanisms.
2. A commitment by political parties to include women on electoral lists in useful positions with a view to achieving equal opportunities for women and men to be elected.
3. A commitment to the solidarity of women leaders through their various organizations to form alliances of women for the election.
4. A commitment by all counterparts to support the Platform of Burundian Women in advocating for the realization of the coalition of Burundian Women for the elections.
5. A clear commitment from all partners, with concrete proposals on how to build the capacity of women candidates at the community level and on election-related issues.

4. Conduct of the Mission

The mission will be carried out in 4 phases:

- Preparatory phase (mid-late February)
- Phase of the mission proper (first week of March)
- Reporting phase (end of mission, joint communiqué with the Government of Burundi)
- Restitution phase

4.1. Preparatory phase

It includes prior contacts with the Burundian authorities, the necessary correspondence, the organisation of meetings, the constitution of the delegation, budgeting, the necessary logistics, visas, the preparation of messages to be given according to the interlocutors, the coordination of the preparation of the mission, preparatory meetings, etc.

4.2. Phase of the mission proper

This is the crucial phase of the mission. On the spot, it requires prior contacts with the official authorities of Foreign Affairs, the UN System, security briefings, necessary logistics, confirmation of appointments, hotel and interview room reservations, meetings to adjust programmes and daily evaluation of the mission, drafting of the press release sanctioning the mission, organisation of interviews or press conferences if necessary, with the press, etc.

An on-site support team is required. It will require logistics to facilitate the work of the mission. The team would include people from the UN System (at least 3) and 3 from Foreign Affairs. Logistics would include travel and communications.

4.3. Reporting phase

After the mission, a report with recommendations should be submitted to the various actors interested in the electoral process in Burundi as well as the partners involved in the mission, including the Consultative Council for WPS in the Great Lakes Region, the SG's panel on mediation, civil society organizations, ICGLR, OSESG, AU and UN-Women. The report includes: the organization of the mission, the conduct of the mission and the main findings including commitments and recommendations.

4.4. Restitution Phase

The report will be shared with the various partners interested in the electoral process in Burundi, including the Consultative Council for WPS in the Great Lakes Region, the SG's panel on mediation, civil society organizations, ICGLR, OSESG, the AU and UN-Women. The report includes: the organization of the mission, its conduct and the main findings including commitments and recommendations. It could be the subject of exchanges at the level of the ICGLR, OSESG and AU for possible actions to be undertaken.

5. People to meet

The mission may encounter:

- The Head of State
- The First Lady
- Minister for Foreign Affairs
- Minister of the Interior
- Chairman of the Electoral Commission
- The Ombudsman of the Republic
- Minister in charge of Gender
- The candidate for the CNDD-FDD (governmental) elections
- The President of the CNL Party (government member)
- The candidate for the elections of the UPRONA party (Executive member)
- Other parties with a national base
- Women head of lists or number 2 (to be given by the main parties)
- The President of the FNF
- 10 to 15 women involved in women's dynamics, peace and security (meeting as a team)
- Women leaders at all levels, chosen in a representative manner of other women (100 to 150 women) for a solemn message of the Mission
- Etc.

The agenda for these meetings will be established over the 2 days. It is to be agreed with the protocol of the Republic of Burundi.

The Consultative Council for Women, Peace and Security in the Great Lakes Region led a Solidarity mission with Burundian women

Bujumbura, 02-04 March 2020

The mission, led by Ambassador Liberata Mulamula, former Executive Secretary of ICGLR and current chair of the ICGLR WPS Board, was carried out in partnership with the Office of the Special Envoy of the UN Secretary General to the Great Lakes Region, UN Women, ICGLR, the Regional Women's Forum and COCAFEM-GL. During its stay in Bujumbura, the delegation held a series of meetings with members of Burundi Government, the Ombudsman, the National Women's Forum and Burundian women leaders, the UN Resident Coordinator, the Civil society and media. The Mission, building on 2 previous ones in 2018 and 2019, focused on assessing level of implement, by stakeholders, of commitments made to improve women's effective participation in decision-making, advocating for political spaces to be opened to women as in the new electoral law and on demonstrating solidarity and encouraging women to embrace the opportunities. It also advocated for peaceful elections and security for women.



The delegation received by UN Women country team, The National Women Forum, Women Mediators and the Media at Bujumbura Airport

Ambassador Liberata Mulamula was accompanied by Mrs. Lydia Gachoya, Vice-President of the Regional Women's Forum, Ambassador Eliane Berthe Mokodopo, Gender Adviser, Women and Children at the ICGLR Executive Secretariat, Mrs. Nene Bah, Senior Gender Adviser at the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary General of the United Nations in the Great Lakes Region. UN Women Representative in Burundi, Ms. Jennet Kem, played host throughout the mission.

The objectives of the mission were to encourage political leaders to ensure that women participate in democratic processes including the electoral process and to protect them from sexual and gender-based violence, including electoral violence and to enforce accountability and take action to promote human rights. The mission also aimed to address a message of solidarity to Burundian women leaders

and their organizations; to sisterhood with women leaders at all levels with a view boost their determination to participate meaningfully in the electoral process; Encourage their role in the resolution of electoral conflicts and peacebuilding; and to encourage them to networks, build a coalition with a common agenda and speak one message across their different affiliations.

Curtsy Call on the Minister of Foreign Affairs



From the airport the delegation paid a curtsy call on the Minister of Foreign Affairs. The occasion served to brief the minister of the purpose of the mission, its members, its agenda and duration. The minister expressed gratitude to have Amb. Mulamula back again and pledged government's total support to the mission. Given the tight schedule the minister promised to cluster meetings with key members of government-which also proved collaboration and coordination on women's issues.

Meeting with the Ombudsman



HE Edouard Nduwimana, Burundi Ombudsman receives in audience the Delegation

The mission welcomed the Ombudsman's commitment to the protection of women's rights, and, in this regard, UN Women welcomed his openness to collaborate with the UN/UN Women at all levels, including the community level.

The delegation was pleased that Burundian women leaders have committed themselves to mobilizing women at the hill level to be elected from the current 17% to at least 30% of women in future elected hill councils.

Meeting with members of Burundi Government



First photo on the right, Ambassador Mulamula, Head of the delegation, discussing with the Minister of Foreign affairs. On the left, Ambassador Mulamula, Head of the delegation, discussing with the Minister in charge of Gender issues, with Ms. Jennet Kem, UN Women Country Representative in the background.

Following his commitment during the curtsy visit of the delegation on day one of the mission, the delegation met with four ministries on the 2nd day, hosted by the Minister of Foreign Affairs. These were: Minister of Foreign Affairs; the Minister of Human Rights, Social Affairs and Gender and the Minister of Justice and Keeper of the Seals. The Minister of home affairs was represented.

The discussions mainly revolved around women's political participation to reinforce the equality established by the constitution, women's priorities and their consideration in the constitution of blocked lists and at Community level where minimum quotas of 30% are not provided for; and the support of the high authorities for women to integrate the electoral process by creating conditions favorable to electoral participation by ensuring the protection of the entire process against possible violence and, above all, violence affecting women and prejudicing their effective participation.

All the authorities reaffirmed the need to take quotas into account in order to achieve equality and, consequently, parity. The mission was sensitive to the desire expressed by the Burundian authorities to involve women in efforts to prevent and resolve conflicts.

Both the delegation and the various authorities welcomed the evolution of the electoral context and framework and noted with satisfaction that the way is open for women to take advantage of this opportunity to engage massively in the electoral process. The authorities undertook to help women to participate more by creating favorable conditions.

As a platform for women's leaders, AWLN was discussed with the ministers. Minister of GEWE confirmed he was looking into the subject and committed to working with the women to launch the Burundi Chapter.

Meeting with the United Nations Resident Coordinator



Garry Connille, UN Resident Coordinator in Burundi (on the right) receives the delegation in audience

The RC briefed the delegation on the over all socio-political and socio-economic environment as well as political environment, characterized by historical calm a few months to the election. He explained the UNS' Resilience Framework and the various contingency plans mapping various scenarios and how the UN could support, if need be. Efforts to ensure women's representation were going on with support from the office on ASG Keita, UN Women and the PBF Secretariat.

Meeting with the National Women's Forum



Meeting with women members of the National Women's Forum

The delegation was briefed on achievements and challenges of the Forum and used the opportunity to encourage them to seek to exchange experiences with similar forums in other countries of the region. The Delegation was pleased to exchange with the governor of Karusi, one of the 3 women governors) who joined the meeting with the Forum.

Meeting with Burundian women leaders



The mission listened to women leaders and shared a message of solidarity from the women of the sub-region. It pointed out to the women leaders that the time has come to make their presence felt and to put forward their agenda during the electoral process and that it is necessary to go further and invest in governance mechanisms at all levels, including the regional level. Tips on organizational and personal attributes required at such critical moments were shared, including the need to work together, build self-confidence and be supportive. Present were women from 5 political parties, CSOs, Mediat, Academia, Women mediators, Youths, etc.

The mission further commended Burundian women for coming out in their numbers, across political, religious and other groupings. It was encouraged to keep this mark of unity and to work for peaceful

elections. Their mobilization and solidarity in action would certainly make a difference, was a message from the delegation.

Common views at all meetings

The various meetings highlighted the points of concern to women, namely, the need to strengthen solidarity, have a common message and speak with in voice; the efficiency and effectiveness of elected women and their accountability to women; the importance of taking into account women elected at the grassroots level; the special attention to be paid to women in the private sector; the role of national forums and civil society in prevention, early warning and reporting to combat SGBV; the need for the National Women's Forum to benefit from the experience of other national forums in the region and the Regional Women's Forum; the strategic positioning of women in political parties; the issue of equal rights among children in terms of inheritance; the need to strengthen interventions in the area of women's empowerment; the need to have men committed to the cause of women, etc.

The mission was qualified as very successful. Delegates left Bujumbura on a note of satisfaction at the assurances it received from the Burundian authorities.



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Project Title	Combating SGBV During COVID-19: Media Training Workshop, 30 th November – 3 December 2020
Introduction	<p>As the COVID-19 pandemic rages around the world, women and girls are getting more vulnerable than ever. With the world staying at home due to the pandemic, human rights and freedoms are justifiably curtailed to contain the spread of COVID-19. This has turned out to be a double pandemic for some families as homes become unsafe for them under lockdown. Reports of domestic violence, intimate partner violence, incest, rape and even murder (because of domestic violence) have increased. In Uganda, the Police reported a rise in SGBV cases; an estimated 3280 domestic violence cases in one month between March 30 and April 28, 2020 compared to the monthly average of 1137 domestic violence cases in 2019 (pre COVID). In their mid-year report released in July 2020, Uganda Police stated that defilement cases had increased by 11.5% between January to June compared to the same reporting period in 2019. FIDA Uganda witnessed an increase in reported cases of 622% i.e. from 9 to 56 calls per week since lock down. In Kenya sexual offences constituted 35.8% of the criminal matters before the courts in April 2020. Further, the Kenya National GBV Hotline 1195 received 810 GBV cases in September 2020 which was a 25 percent increase from the 646 cases received in August 2020.</p> <p>The mainstream and social media have remained a major source of information (including disinformation) on incidences of SGBV as cases increase during Covid-19. To effectively prevent SGBV: bring perpetrators of domestic violence to justice, as well as support survivors of SGBV to recover from associated stigma and trauma, media professionals are one of the key stakeholders to inform and sensitise so that they can educate the public about the nature, types, prevalence and impact of SGBV. They need to be equipped with knowledge, sensitivity and skills related to combating SGBV. Their contribution is not only reporting SGBV incidences but holding policy makers and authorities accountable at all levels and influencing perceptions and attitudes to SGBV crimes.</p> <p>Media usually report on societal phenomena on factual basis, and on some issues, reporters are not themselves well equipped with in-depth knowledge. In the case of SGBV, this may include the underlying causes such as gender inequality, unequal power relations, weak laws, weak justice systems and the socioeconomic consequences on victims, families, communities and on the entire nation.</p> <p>The ICGLR Pact on Security Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region (2006) committed the 12 Member States of the ICGLR to prevent, criminalize and punish the crime of sexual violence against women and children. Several more instruments have been signed supplementing the Pact. In brief, the instruments include the Protocol on Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against</p>



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Women and Children (2006), The Goma Declaration (2008), The Kampala Declaration (2011), and the Kinshasa Communique (2012) among others.

A regional training facility of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region- The Regional Training Facility on the Prevention and Suppression of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (ICGR-RTF) was established in 2014 with headquarters in Kampala, Uganda, to train professionals in effective management of Sexual and Gender Based Violence incidences. These professionals include police, judicial officers, psychosocial workers, medical workers, and other individuals such as military officers and media professionals who handle cases of SGBV in their work.

Since its operationalization in 2014, RTF had by end 2019, trained **346** professionals from all the **12** countries of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region on various aspects of SGBV management. These include **8** Master Trainers, **161** National Trainers and **177** trainees from other professionals (police officers, medical officers, psychosocial and judicial officers). The 346 professionals have been trained from the 12 member states as follows Angola (15), Burundi (15), CAR(17), Republic of Congo Brazzaville (18), Democratic Republic of Congo(52), Kenya (25), Rwanda (13), South Sudan(13), Sudan(27), Tanzania(27), Uganda(97) and Zambia(27). Emphasis has been on four categories of professionals, viz. judicial officers (50), psychosocial officers (97), police officers (142) and medical officers (57). Training programs are planned for other professionals including the media and the military.

With regard to the media, the Declaration of Heads of State and Government of the Member States of ICGLR, at their Fourth Ordinary Summit and Session of 15th-16th December 2011 (popularly known as the Kampala Declaration on SGBV) resolved to facilitate media sensitization against SGBV. Under Resolution 15 of Heads of State and Government, it was resolved to ***“put in place a national and regional media strategy for sustainable use of electronic and print media especially radios, newspapers, televisions and traditional community based means to expose the atrocities of sexual and gender based violence to facilitate the sensitization and fight against SGBV”***

In this regard the ICGLR-RTF, with the support of UN WOMEN and funding from the European Union, together with GIZ and Office of the UN Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region is initiating a training of media houses in the Great Lakes with the goal of enhancing the understanding of the media on SGBV and its prevalence and impact in the Great Lakes to lay the foundation for the development of a Regional Action Plan for accountability of SGBV crimes and launch of a Regional Media Campaign against SGBV.



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<p>Context and Justification</p>	<p>The region is politically committed to prevent, criminalize, and punish the crime of SGBV both in conflict and peace times, as per the ICGLR Pact.</p> <p>The ICGLR protocol on Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children (2006) creates the ICGLR-RTF (Art 6(9) to train and sensitize all stakeholders (including journalists) in managing cases of sexual violence. The Protocol defines the crime of sexual violence as sexual assault, sexual slavery, human trafficking, female genital mutilation, rape, defilement/child marriages etc.</p> <p>In addition, the ICGLR Protocol on Management of Information and Communication (Article 3 (2)) commits Member States to promote freedom of media and their role in protecting the objectives and activities of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region and its Instruments including those on SGBV.</p> <p>Under Resolution 15 of the Kampala Declaration, Regional Leaders committed to “put in place national and regional media strategy for sustainable use of electronic and print media especially radios, newspapers, televisions and traditional/community based means to expose the atrocities of sexual and gender based violence, facilitate the sensitization and fight against SGBV.” A draft media strategy was developed by RTF and COCAFEM in 2017.</p> <p>The power and value of the media has become more pronounced during the Covid-19 pandemic. When persons have been advised to stay home as a measure to contain Covid-19, the electronic media has become a social service, bringing information and entertainment to viewers and listeners within the confines of their homes.</p> <p>Many people obtain information about public affairs from the media and without the media -known as the Fourth Estate, some of the anti-social, human rights violations and illegal deeds would go unnoticed and unpunished. As the ICGLR Member States continue the fight against SGBV, they should ensure the buy in and the strong involvement of the media to make sure that the key stakeholders are all at the same level of information and understanding.</p> <p>To fulfill this very critical role, the media needs to be part of the endeavor to maintain a spotlight on violence against women and girls. This media training strives to have them on board in a continuous and effective manner.</p>
<p>Objectives</p>	<p>The overall objective of the training is to equip media professionals in the Great Lakes Region with comprehensive knowledge on SGBV in the Great Lakes region and the skills required for reporting and accountability.</p>



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	<p>Specific objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Equip media professionals with knowledge on SGBV; its nature, prevalence, various forms and impact and the skills and attitude required to effectively report on SGBV to increase quality and frequency of informed media coverage on GBV. (ii) Equip media houses on the content and aspirations of the ICGLR Protocol on the Prevention and Punishment of Sexual Violence Against Women and Children. (iii) Development of a Regional Action Plan on SGBV Accountability in the Great Lakes (iv) Launch of a Regional Media Campaign against SGBV in the Great Lakes
<p>Outputs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 60 Senior journalists including chief editors from at least 24 media houses (television, radio, print and other electronic media) from the 12 ICGLR Member States trained on SGBV; accurate, responsible and survivor centered SGBV reporting. b) Media Action Plan on SGBV Accountability, outlining key outputs for SGBV accountability and the related indicators, baselines, targets, and activities. c) A revived Great Lakes Media Network for SGBV Prevention and Accountability. d) Launch of a Great Lakes Media Campaign Against SGBV
<p>Methodology</p>	<p>Due to the current COVID-19 prevention measures in all ICGLR Member states, this training will be conducted virtually.</p> <p>The training will cover the ICGLR normative frameworks on SGBV prevention and accountability in the Great Lakes, viz. the Protocol on the Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence Against Women and Children, the respective laws on SGBV prevention and protection of women and girls against violence in the 12 countries of the Great Lakes; the concepts, nature/types of GBV in the Great Lakes, its impact on women and the communities and the challenges for addressing it; and the skills and sensitivity required for effective reporting on SGBV.</p> <p>The Protocol on the Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence Against Women and Children and the national frameworks for protection of women from SGBV will be included in a pre-training pack to be given to participants before the training.</p> <p><u>Participants:</u></p> <p>The participants will be chosen from reputable media houses in the 12 countries</p>



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	<p>of the Great Lakes; and will come from print and electronic media, radio, and television. They will be recruited through their respective institutions by the ICGLR RTF in consultation with UN Women Country Offices in the 12 ICGLR member states. There will be 60 participants, with 5 participants from each country</p> <p><u>The Training:</u></p> <p>Training will be virtual. The Training will be facilitated by a media expert and a GBV expert. The ICGLR RTF will provide the materials and sensitization on the ICGLR normative frameworks for SGBV prevention and accountability and the laws on SGBV prevention and protection of women and girls in the 12 member states of the ICGLR. The GBV concepts and Media Strategy components will be covered by the two subject experts, and they will jointly review the draft Media Strategy for validation by the participants during the training.</p> <p>Certificates of Participation issued by ICGLR and UN WOMEN will be issued to participants upon completion of the course. 100% attendance is required for receipt of a certificate.</p> <p><u>Post-Training:</u></p> <p>ICGLR RTF will monitor the implementation of the Action Plan and submit quarterly reports to the main stakeholders of this initiative, viz. UN WOMEN, OSESG-GL, GIZ and the relevant institutions in the member states through the ICGLR Secretariat.</p>
<p>Proposed Date</p>	<p>9th Nov- 11th December 2020</p>
<p>Contact</p>	<p>Victor Mugaruka email; vicmugaruka@gmail.com, +256 701549240 (ICGLR RTF)</p> <p>Annah Macharia; annah.macharia@unwomen.org, +254 720 327751 (UN Women)</p>

Centre Régional de
Formation sur la Prévention
et la Suppression des
Violence Sexuelles Basées
sur le Genre dans la Région
des Grands Lacs



Regional Training Facility on
Prevention and Suppression of
Sexual and Gender Based
Violence in the Great Lakes
Region

DRAFT

THE REGIONAL PROJECT ON PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION

VIRTUAL MEDIA TRAINING REPORT ON COMBATING SGBV DURING COVID-19

9th – 11th DECEMBER 2020 AT ICGLR-RTF OFFICE, KAMPALA

CONSULTANT

HON. DORA CHRISTINE KANABAHITA

DECEMBER , 2020

REPORT ON COMBATING SGBV DURING COVID-19:

MEDIA TRAINING WORKSHOP, 9-11 DECEMBER 2020

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The online media Training workshop on combating SGBV during COVID-19 was held from 9th to 11th December. This meeting was convened by the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region – Regional Training Facility on the Prevention and Suppression of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (ICGLR-RTF) with the support of UN WOMEN and funding from the European Union, together with the GIZ and Office of the Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region (OESG).

The context and justification for the media training was premised on several instruments of the ICGLR, notably the ICGLR Pact on Security Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region (2006) which commits the 12 Member States of the ICGLR to prevent, criminalize and punish the crime of sexual violence against women and children. Other instruments that supplement the Pact include the Protocol on Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children (2006), the Goma Declaration (2008), the Kampala Declaration (2011), and the Kinshasa Communique (2012).

Further justification for the training was premised on the power and value of the media which has become more pronounced during the COVID-19 pandemic as an instrument to effectively address raising cases of SGBV.

Objectives of the Media Training

The overall objective of the training was to equip media professionals in the Great Lakes Region with comprehensive knowledge on SGBV in the Great Lakes Region and skills required for reporting and accountability.

The specific objectives of the training were to:

- Equip media professionals with knowledge on SGBV; its nature, prevalence, various forms and impact and the skills and attitude required to effectively report on SGBV to increase quality and frequency of informed media coverage on SGBV.
- Equip media houses with information on the content and aspirations of the ICGLR Protocol on the Prevention and Punishment of Sexual Violence Against Women and Children.
- Develop a Regional Action Plan on SGBV Accountability in the Great Lakes.
- Launch a Great Lakes Media Campaign Against SGBV.

Output

The envisaged output of the Media Training Workshop included:

- 58 Senior journalists including chief editors from at least 24 media houses (television, radio, print and other electronic media) from 12 ICGLR Member States trained on SGBV; accurate, responsible and survivor centered SGBV reporting.
- Media Action Plan on SGBV Accountability, outlining key outputs for SGBV accountability and the related indicators, baselines, targets, and activities.
- A revived Great Lakes Media Network for SGBV Prevention and Accountability'
- Launch of a Great Lakes Media Campaign Against SGBV.

Methodology utilized in the Media Training

The methodology used in the training was virtual due to the prevailing COVID-19 prevention measures in all ICGLR Member States.

The Media Training Workshop was facilitated by an SGBV Expert and a Media Expert who used training techniques that included - Power Point presentations, lectures, video clips, plenary and group discussions, and brain storming in the chat box.

Topics

The topics covered included: - Introduction to gender and key concepts; Gender stereotypes and their contribution to SGBV; Forms of SGBV; Causes and effects of SGBV; The legal framework on SGBV; Gender and human rights: Reporting with a gender/human rights lens; The survivor centered approach in investigative journalism; Application of the Socio-ecological model in media activism; Media and SGBV: Going beyond the pages of the crime column (documentation and writing of relevant stories); Challenges and opportunities in media reporting on SGBV; Media and SGBV: Editorial role; Media and the Multisectoral approach in managing cases of SGBV; and Deliberations on – a) Media Action Plan on SGBV Accountability, outlining key outputs for SGBV accountability and the related indicators, baselines, targets, and activities; and b) A revived Great Lakes Media Network for SGBV Prevention and Accountability.

Participants

Participants were chosen from reputable media houses in the 12 Member States of the Great Lakes Region, and they were selected from print and electronic media, radio, and television through their respective institutions by the ICGLR-RTF in consultation with the UN WOMEN Country Offices.

The Media Training Workshop was attended by participants from the ICGLR Member States of Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Republic of Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of

Kenya, Republic of Rwanda, Republic of Sudan, Republic of South Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania, Republic of Uganda, and the Republic of Zambia.

2.0 WORKSHOP OPENING SESSION

The Opening Session covered the following:

- Technical orientation, Registration and signing in by the ICGLR IT and Knowledge Production Officer, Ms. Adrine Atwiine.
- Background and Remarks by outgoing Regional Director – Mr. Nathan Mwesigye Byamukama
- Remarks by incoming Regional Director – Ms. Clotilde Niragira
- Remarks by OSESG-GLR – Nene Bah
- Remarks by GIZ – Ms. Soetkin Meertens
- Remarks by UN Women – Ms. Jebbeh Forster

2.1 Technical orientation, Registration and signing in by the ICGLR IT and Knowledge Production Officer, Ms. Adrine Atwiine.

Participants were introduced to the three-day program spanning from 9 – 11 December 2020 as follows:

Day 1 – 9th December 2020 which would cover:

- Opening Session addressed by the ICGLR-RTF, OSESG-GLR, GIZ, UN WOMEN;
- Introduction to gender and key concepts,
- Gender stereotypes and their contribution to SGBV; and
- Gender and power.

Day 2 – 10th December which would cover:

- Forms of SGBV;
- Causes and effects of SGBV;
- The legal Framework on SGBV;
- Gender and human rights: Reporting with a gender/human rights lens;
- The survivor centered approach in investigative journalism;
- Application of the Socio-ecological model in media activism; and Media and SGBV: Going beyond the pages of the crime column (documentation and writing of relevant stories)

Day 3 – 11th December which would cover:

- Challenges and opportunities in media reporting on SGBV;
- Media and SGBV: Editorial role;
- Media and the Multisectoral approach in managing cases of SGBV.
- Deliberations on a) Media Acton Plan on SGBV Accountability, outlining key outputs for SGBV accountability and the related indicators, baselines, targets, and activities; and b) A revived Great Lakes Media Network for SGBV Prevention and Accountability

- Launch of the Great Lakes Media Campaign.

Technical Orientation, Registration and Signing In

Participants were provided with technical orientation which included information on how to sign in, and effectively utilize of virtual participation techniques such as raising their hand when they needed to contribute to the discussion, how to access interpretation services as well as utilizing the chat box in order to express their views, communicate their ideas and needs.

2.2 Background and Remarks by outgoing Regional Director – Mr. Nathan Mwesigye Byamukama

The out-going Regional Director of ICGLR-RTF noted that the ICGLR has 12 Member States and is established by the ICGLR Pact on Security Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region which committed these Member States to prevent, criminalize and punish the crime of sexual violence against women and children.

He further noted that the Pact on Security Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region has 10 Protocols which include the Protocol on Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children (2006) that creates ICGLR-RTF under Article 6(9) with a mandate to train and sensitize all stakeholders including journalists in managing cases of sexual violence.

He informed participants that the ICGLR Protocol on SGBV defines the crime of sexual violence as including - sexual assault, sexual slavery, human trafficking, female genital mutilation, rape, defilement/child marriage and that SGBV occurs in situations of war and peace.

He further informed participants that the ICGLR-RTF had at least 10 Trainers in each of the ICGLR Member States who have the knowledge and deep understanding of SGBV and were mandated to share the knowledge, skills and change attitude of professionals who handle cases of SGBV.

He informed the Workshop that in most ICGLR Member States most of the cases reported were of an SGBV nature including rape, defilement, incest and that these cases have increased drastically during the prevailing COVID-19 period. He also informed the Workshop that the rate of persecution of SGBV cases is still low partly because evidence is not properly collected, or kept which perpetuates impunity because perpetrators are not punished.

He emphasized the need to change attitudes and noted that even educated people still torture their wives and commit other forms of SGBV due to negative social norms. The need to work on change of attitude among law enforcement agents was also emphasized and questions posed to why SGBV persists even when laws and policies that address it are in place in most ICGLR Member States. He highlighted the need to assist victims/survivors to report and noted that they

should be handled in a sensitive manner in order for them to feel empowered rather than disempowered.

He further noted that sometimes media reports blame the victim and that this aggravates the injury already suffered. He expressed hope that the training would enable the media practitioners to acquire knowledge, skills and sensitivity on how to handle cases of SGBV in a manner that empowers the victims and disempowers the perpetrators.

The outgoing Regional Director of ICGLR-RTF expressed appreciation for the support of UNWOMEN during the six years of ICGLR-RTF's existence and recognized the contribution made by GIZ and the Office of the UN Special Envoy for Great Lakes Region for initiating a training of media houses in the Great lakes with the goal of enhancing understanding of the media on SGBV and its prevalence and impact which will lay the foundation for the development of a Regional Action Plan for accountability of SGBV crimes and the launch of a Regional Media Campaign against SGBV.

The incoming Regional Director of ICGLR-RTF, Ms.Clotilde Niragira was introduced and invited to make her Remarks.

2.3 Remarks by the Regional Director of ICGR-RTF – Ms. Clotilde Niragira

In her remarks, Mme. Clotilde Niragira - the Regional Director of ICGLR-RTF, expressed appreciation to the outgoing Regional Director and to all partners and in particular UN WOMEN, GIZ, OSESG who had supported the process of ensuring that the Media Training Workshop on combating is conducted.

She emphasized the need for participants to invest themselves in the three-day training and further noted that it is a great opportunity which should be effectively utilized. She noted that the overall objective of the Workshop was to equip media professionals in the Great Lakes Region with comprehensive knowledge on SGBV in the Great Lakes Region and skills required for reporting and accountability.

The ICGLR-RTF Regional Director particularly highlighted the key role played by the outgoing Regional Director and expressed hope that he and the other Partners would continue to support the ICGLR-RTF in the execution of its work.

She assured the participants of ICGLR-RTF's support and commitment to support the Great Lakes Media Campaign Against SGBV; the implementation of the Media Action Plan on SGBV Accountability; and to revive Great Lakes Media Network for SGBV Prevention and Accountability

2.4 Remarks by UN Women – Ms. Jebbeh Forster

The UNWOMEN representative, Ms. Jebbeh Forster expressed appreciation to all stakeholders and in particular ICGLR-RTF for the support given to ensure that the Media Training Workshop on combating SGBV During COVID-19 takes off.

She noted that one of the missing links in effectively addressing SGBV has been the media and that the Media Training Workshop was therefore considered as very important.

She further noted that SGBV is a manifestation of gender inequality and that it happens both in the public and private space. Ms. Jebbeh informed the participants that men and boys suffer SGBV but women and girls are most affected.

She highlighted the fact that SGBV is a weapon of war mainly because during war the justice system does not work effectively. She reiterated the need to monitor to ensure accountability on SGBV and that the media has a critical role to play.

2.0 INTRODUCTION GENDER AND KEY CONCEPTS; GENDER STEREO TYPES AND THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO SGBV; GENDER AND POWER

2.1 Introduction to gender and key concepts – Gender Expert, Dr. John Kanya

Understanding Gender and its Key Concepts

The presentation focused Gender and its Key concepts which include - Patriarchy, Gender equality, and Gender Equity. It highlighted common mistakes on gender definition, and the right definition of gender as “the socio-cultural construction of roles, behaviors, activities, attributes and opportunities that any society considers appropriate for girls and boys, and women and men.” It was further noted that gender is dynamic and varies from society to society in time and space; and that socio-cultural constructions inform gender relations which are forged through gender roles.

Reflective questions were used to emphasize the fact that gender refers to social roles ascribed by society to men and women. Gender concepts on sex and sex roles were highlighted – sex was defined as the biological differences between males and females; and sex roles as biological/ natural and may not be easily changed. Common Beliefs on Gender and Sex were discussed, and examples provided. It was noted that despite common beliefs on gender and sex, men are not always able to meet the social expectations and women have various roles.

Other key concepts which were explored included Patriarchy, Gender equality, and Gender equity. Stereotypes, which are unfounded fixed generalized beliefs were discussed as contributors to SGBV which was defined as “any act perpetuated against a person’s will and is based on gender norms and

unequal power relations.” It was further noted that no single factor causes SGBV; the factors are interlinked; men and boys can also be victims; and that SGBV affects women disproportionately- it is directed against women and girls, because they are women. Relatedly, Violence Against Women, Sexual harassment and Domestic Violence were defined and key references for more research were provided as follows:

Key References provided were noted as follows:

- <http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/BSP/GENDER/PDF/1.%20Baseline%20Definitions%20of%20key%20gender-related%20concepts.pdf>
- <http://www.ipsnews.net/publications/keygenderconcepts.pdf>
- http://www.ekvilib.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/01_Gender_Concepts.pdf
- ECOSOC (1997); Mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations System. <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/osagi/pdf/ECOSOCAC1997.2.PDF>
- Council of Europe (2011). Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence. Council of Europe Treaty Series No 210.

2.1 Gender stereotypes and their contribution to SGBV

Clarifying Gender Norms, Values and Stereotypes

In order to clarify Gender Norms and Values several exercises were utilized, these included response to statements; sharing ideas on what is expected of boys and what is expected of girls; and the Gender Box was used to capture expectations on how men act and how women act. Discussion on how and why the expectations are generated ensued and questions were posed on what it takes to jump out of the Gender Box and implications of staying or jumping out of the Gender Box.

After discussions, a conclusion was drawn that perceptions on what a man or a woman should act like are gender stereotypes, and that in some instances these are negative norms and values which should not be taken wholesomely. It was further noted that studies have defined norms as - patterns of behaviour that are widespread, are generally tolerated or accepted as proper, are reinforced by responses of others and are quite hard to resist even if they run against what is felt to be right, and that stereotypes are – unfounded generalized beliefs, fixed, over generalized beliefs about a particular group or class of people.

2.2 Gender and Power

It was noted that understanding **power** is fundamental if you are to understand how change happens. Understanding power, is key to understanding how SGBV happens; and that many incidents of SGBV are as a result of unequal power relations. Factors that affect power relations include: Age, Sex, Education level, Financial status, Unemployment/employment, Job Positions, Race, Social Status, Ethnicity, Addiction, and Marital status.

Different dimensions of power were noted as:

- **Visible** – Power over, observable behaviour, attitudes, decision-making mechanisms, winners and losers.
- **Hidden** – Conscious, setting the agenda behind the scenes, biases which exclude some from participation.
- **Invisible** – Unconscious, based on ideology or beliefs: social conditioning - internalized norms. Who decides what is ‘normal’?

Expressions of power include:

- **‘Power over’** is a way of exercising influence over people, often negatively associated with force, repression, coercion, discrimination, abuse and corruption. It perpetuates inequality, injustice and poverty. Information, knowledge and sensitivity can enable ‘Power over’ to be used positively and constructively.
- **‘Power with’** builds collective strength and finds common ground among different interest groups. It is based on mutual support, solidarity and collaboration.
- **‘Power to’** implies the capacity to decide and carry out desired actions. It opens up the possibility of joint action.
- **‘Power within’** has to do with a person’s sense of self-worth, self-knowledge, self-confidence and the conviction of what is legitimate.

In conclusion, it was noted that one needs to understand these power dimensions to understand how power influences SGBV.

3.0 SEXUAL AND GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

3.1 Forms of SGBV

Forms of Sexual and Gender Based Violence were noted as: Physical, Economic, Sexual, Psychological, and Harmful Cultural Practices. **Some questions to assist in re-thinking SGBV were posed as follows:**

Is SGBV in war/conflict worse than other forms of violence?

Is there SGBV in homes, at school, at work, and in emergencies?

Is there a difference in the impact of SGBV on men or women?

Participants were assigned group work and the **following responses on forms of SGBV were noted:**

Sexual forms of SGBV include - Rape; Defilement; indecent assault; Incest; Sexual Harassment; and Un natural offences (sodomy).

Physical forms of SGBV include - Beating/spousal battering, Slapping, Kicking, Cutting, Stubbing, Burning, Shooting, pulling of hair, Twisting of limbs and other body parts.

Economic forms of SGBV include - Failure to provide necessities, stopping spouse/person from working/earning, less pay based on gender, taking away spouse's salary/income; Take away harvest; Denial of right to own property.

Psychological/Emotional forms of SGBV include – Abuse, Ridicule, Name calling, Constant quarreling, cutting off communication/ becoming silent on one another.

Harmful Cultural Practices forms of SGBV include - Female Genital Mutilation; Child/early marriages; Forced Marriages; Grave marriages; Bride Wealth; Prevention of women from eating some foods; Preventing of women from attending public meetings; Preventing of women from going to school; Widow inheritance

Conclusion - SGBV takes different forms; some of these forms are considered as the normal and therefore not recognized by most people. The media needs to highlight all these forms and create public awareness about them and condemn them when they occur using their platforms.

3.2 CAUSES AND EFFECTS OF SGBV

Causes and Effects of SGBV

SGBV is caused by several factors, is fueled by other factors (contributing factors) and has got many devastating effects. Some of these effects are visible while others are invisible, some effects are immediate while others manifest themselves over a long period of time.

Group Work was assigned to address the following:

- **Group 1:** What are the **Root Causes of SGBV** your Community?
- **Group 2:** What are the **Contributing Factors to SGBV** in your community?
- **Group 3:** What are the **Effects of SGBV** to survivors and to the community? (both short and long term)

Responses from the Group Work noted the following:

Root Causes include - negative culture, negative religious practices, ideologies, unequal power relations, and patriarchy.

Contributing factors include – Poverty, Alcohol, Drug abuse, Bride price, Unemployment, Lack of awareness on rights.

Effects of SGBV include - Physical injury, mental impairment, Death, Diseases, Unwanted pregnancies, Poverty, Psychological trauma, Depression, Family breakdown, Divorce, Stigma, and slows economic development.

It was concluded that media practitioners need to understand these dimensions – causes and effects of SGBV, and create awareness about them and all angles must be well covered, including causes which are sometimes considered normal and the invisible effects.

3.3 LEGAL FRAMEWORK THAT ADDRESSES SGBV

The presentation highlighted the international, regional, and national framework that addressed SGBV. Under the International Legal Framework, mention was made of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948; the International Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of 1976, the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women of 1979 (CEDAW), the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children of 2003, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Children of 1989, and the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and their Additional Protocols.

The presentation also highlighted the regional legal framework that comprises – the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, 2005 and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, 1999.

ICGLR Instruments on SGBV:- The Pact on security Stability and development in Great Lakes Region, 2006 which has 10 Protocols and in particular The Protocol on the Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children; the Protocol on Judicial Cooperation; Protocol on Non-Aggression and Mutual Defense; Protocol on Prevention and punishment of the Crime of Genocide, war crimes and crimes against Humanity and all Forms of discrimination; and the Protocol on Management of Information and Communication.

In addition to these ICGLR Protocols, the following instruments were cited: The Goma Declaration (June 2008); The Kampala Summit Declaration on SGBV (Dec .2011); The Kinshasa Communiqué (July 2012); and Regular RIMC/ Special RIMC/Summit decisions on SGBV

Reference was made to Uganda, which has several legal instruments that address SGBV, these include: The Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, 1995 (as amended); the Penal Code (Amendment) Act, 2007; the Prohibition of Female Genital Mutilation Act, 2010; the Domestic Violence Act, 2010; the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons Act, 2009; The Refugees Act , 2006 and the Employment Act, 2006.

It was further noted that ICGLR Member States have signed onto the International and Regional legal framework that addresses SGBV. As such, ICGLR Member States have an obligation to domesticate legal principles that address SGBV and implement them at the national level. It was noted that to-date several ICGLR Member States have enacted national laws that address SGBV, the only challenge that remains is to ensure that the legal framework is implemented effectively.

3.4 GENDER AND HUMAN RIGHTS: *REPORTING WITH A GENDER/HUMAN RIGHTS LENS*

The presentation highlighted the Characteristics of Human Rights, which are inherent, universal, inalienable, indivisible, independent and interrelated. It was further noted that the essential attributes of a human rights based approach identifies rights holders and their entitlements and corresponding duty-bearers and their obligations, and works towards strengthening the capacities of rights-holders to make their claims and of duty-bearers to meet their obligations.

Under the human rights based approach, duty bearers or States have an obligation to respect, refrain from interfering with or curtailing the enjoyment of human rights; protect individuals and groups against human rights abuses; and fulfil – which includes taking positive action to facilitate the enjoyment of basic human rights. Rights Holders on the hand refers to the fact all people are entitled to human rights, which include the right to - life, equality, non -discrimination, privacy, freedom from torture, cruel inhuman and degrading treatment.

Based on these human rights, there are basic principles which must be adhered to while reporting on persons affected by SGBV and these include – the principle of confidentiality; the principle of respect; and the principle of non-discrimination.

The Principle of Confidentiality - means that information about survivors should not be shared with others without the informed consent of the survivor.

The Principle of Respect - means seeing the survivor as the primary actor in the situation. The wishes, rights and dignity of the survivor have to be respected at all times.

The Principle of Non-discrimination – means that all persons have the right to the best possible assistance without discrimination, on the basis of gender, age, disability, race, colour, language, religious or political beliefs, sexual orientation, status or social class...

As such, reporting news must be done with a gender/ human rights lens is based on international human rights standards and principles.

3.5 THE SURVIVOR CENTERED APPROACH IN INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM

The presentation noted that survivors go to service providers because they trust that their needs can be met or that they can be referred to places where their needs can be met. Therefore it is important for us to know how to identify survivor's pressing needs.

It was further noted that survivors may need information about the available options to enable them make informed decisions. Protection measures for survivors/victims who have experienced sexual

violence are critical to stopping the violence and preventing reoccurrence, escalation and threats of violence.

A survivor or victim is a person who, individually or collectively, has suffered harm, including physical or mental injury, emotional suffering, economic loss or substantial impairment of their fundamental rights, through acts or omissions that are in violation of criminal law operative within a Member State.

It was noted that under a Survivor Centered Approach, experiences determine the needs and the needs determine these services required.

It was further noted that most cases of SGBV are not reported because people are fearful of the negative consequences of a disclosure and that depending on the cultural context, being identified as a survivor of sexual violence can lead to social exclusion, isolation, discrimination, loss of dignity, further violence. These risks may also extend to the survivor's family and immediate community.

Categories of survivor needs identified include - Safety needs such as shelter; medical needs which includes medical examination, access to medical services such as emergency contraception and Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP); psychosocial support which must be non-judgmental, holistic, meeting the needs of men, women, girls and boys affected; legal needs such as provision of legal aid; financial needs such money to purchase food and basic materials;

Survivor or Victim support refers to the service, advice and counselling provided to victims of SGBV, by a government, SGBV partner organisation, or individuals dealing with SGBV prevention and response. It also includes the referral of victims to other and partner agencies based on their individual needs.

The survivor centered approach in investigative journalism must be premised three guiding principles that every professional should adhere to while responding to cases of SGBV, these are -Safety, Confidentiality and Respect. Failure to adhere to these principles can spell danger for the survivor /victim and other family members. The three principles ensure that the rights of the survivors are upheld.

3.6 APPLICATION OF THE SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL MODEL IN MEDIA ACTIVISM

Participants were informed that Social-Ecological Theory/Model considers the complex interplay between individual, relationship, community, and institutional/policy factors that play a role in for instance, SGBV and that it was developed by Urie Bronfenbrenners.

Hence, in order to prevent and end SGBV effectively, it is necessary to act across multiple levels of the model at the same time. A multi-component approach aims at simultaneously targeting individual, family, community, institutional and Policy level.

The assumption is that in order to prevent and end SGBV effectively, both men and women need to change values, norms, attitudes and behaviour, which should be supported by change at the community, Societal and policy level. The Model makes one understand the range of factors that put people at risk for violence or protect them from experiencing or perpetrating violence.

Individual Factors cited include – Age, low education, , anger or hostility toward others, isolation ed, unemployment, substance use, history of engagement in violence. Intervention Strategies for individual factors include - home based programs parental guidance on positive behavior attitudes, beliefs and behaviors that ultimately prevent violence; School based Programs that facilitate behavioral emotional social skills, education on SGBV; Community Psychosocial groups to facilitate behavioral change.

Relationship level factors include peers, partners, family members who can influence behavior, and Interventions include Parenting or family-focused prevention program; mentoring and peer programs designed to reduce conflict, foster problem solving skills, and promote healthy relationships.

Community level factors include social relationships at places of study, work, worship; and

Interventions include establishment of policies, and standard operating policies against SGBV.

Society level factors include Social and Cultural norms that make it acceptable for SGBV persist and the consequences are minimal. Interventions at the society level include polices and legislation that **prevents and addresses** SGBV

Media practitioners need to understand these different levels of the Social Ecological Model so as to create different angles of stories based on this model; stories that target the different levels, that is – the individual, relationships, the community and society.

4.0 **Media and SGBV**

4.1 **Media and SGBV: Going beyond the pages of the crime column (documentation and writing of relevant stories) – Media Expert, Baguma Richard**

Noted that there are multiple platforms including media plat forms that have millions of followers. SGBV is repeated on a daily basis in various forms which in some cases are gender incentive such as what was referred to as the ‘New Normal Protocol’ that was stated as follows: ‘Avoid MEN’ and MEN was interpreted to mean M for Mouth; E for Eyes; and N for Nose. It went to state that ‘Instead Follow WOMEN’ and WOMEN was interpreted to mean W for Wash Hands, O for Obey social distancing, M for mask, E for Exercise and eat well, and N for no unnecessary travelling.

4.1 Challenges and Opportunities in Media reporting on SGBV- Media Expert, Baguma Richard

A presentation entitled ‘Balancing the boat’ was shared, it highlighted the need for sensitivity taking into account:

- Culture – norms and practices,
- Religion -faith, denomination and fellowship;
- Power relations – patriarchy, matriarchy. Elders and bosses.
- Prevailing environment – peers, groups
- Complexity – manifestations (everywhere not others turf).

Questions were posed to participants:

- What flexibilities do you have to attack a religious leader and hope to be back and pray after that leader has been called out?
- Would you refuse to kneel to your in-laws, if this their cultural norm?
- What if the boss changes the headline of your story on SGBV?

4.2 Media and SGBV: Editorial Role - Media Expert, Baguma Richard

It was noted that the prevailing environment of COVID-19 leads emotional stories which in turn leads to complexities and that SGBV manifests itself in several forms and thus the need to have the knowledge and skills to articulate the news in a manner that makes the stories memorable and impactful.

The need to push and ensure that the command and control of the media focuses on SGBV lies in the way that gate keepers who include editors are brought on board and provided with convincing information that makes the reports newsworthy.

It was further noted that there is need for sensitization on SGBV to target gatekeepers and those with power in order effectively utilize the media avenue.

The issue of costs and profits was highlighted as central to the debate as to whether news on SGBV would be able to attract and sustain more sales bargaining in mind that salaries have to be paid and shareholders’ interests have to be addressed. The issue is – how can the media report on combating SGBV during COVID-19 in a manner that addresses the diverse interests related to costs, profits of the media companies?

In response, participants were asked to reflect on several issues, including the following:

If they had been handling review on SGBV, what new ideas could they bring in the daily work?

What mechanisms can be put in place to ensure that gender issues are not portrayed as only concerning women but also men?

What mechanisms can journalists apply to effectively sensitize the population on SGBV?

It was noted that balancing the boat on SGBV is quite tricky in profit making business and that in order to make profit certain entities were interested in pushing certain agenda. Examples of where the rich are protected even when they are reported to perpetrate SGBV were shared and the power of owners of the media houses to protect certain interests noted. In order to mitigate these challenges, it was noted that there is need to review, and build a case with new angles in order to sell and sustain the story by investing beyond the news. It was further noted that its critical that coalitions are built on issues of SGBV in order to utilize the strength in numbers systematically in order to address challenges posed by different power centers.

4.3 Media and the Multisectoral approach in managing cases of SGBV

On issue of the media and multisectoral approach in managing cases of SGBV, it was noted that media practitioners need to handle sensitivities that the story would have on different individuals connected to the issue. It was further noted that highlighting issues of SGBV required a thick skin and boldness; and that they require adequate research and bringing on board other stakeholders such as service providers, civil society organizations and the academia.

Participants highlighted the fact that at the national level, SGBV stories were not given the same weight as those on the economy and politics and that most time they just had to utilize certain events such as the 16 days of activism against SGBV in order to secure space in the media.

The idea of strengthening the Network by reviving the Great Lakes Media Network for SGBV Prevention and Accountability was supported because such a Network would strength national media networks, provide an avenue for building capacity, sharing ideas, and experiences on what works and how to mitigate challenges.

4.4 Presentation of outcomes from Breakout rooms:

a) Media Action Plan on SGBV Accountability, outlining key outputs for SGBV accountability and the related indicators, baselines, targets, and activities.

b) A revived Great Lakes Media Network for SGBV Prevention and Accountability.

Deliberations on the Media Action Plan on SGBV accountability and reviving the Great Lakes Media Network for SGBV Prevention and Accountability agreed on four main objectives, which are to:

- Enhance public awareness on SGBV using radio, print, electronic, and social media platforms;
- Develop a Media Training Module on SGBV which would used to train media practitioners in the Great Lakes Region in order to equip them with knowledge, skills and the right attitude when reporting on SGBV cases. .
- Advocate for the development of SGBV Policies for Media Houses with the aim of getting media houses to adopt it – which would in turn facilitate prioritization of SGBV issues in the media

- Revive and Strengthen “*The Great Lakes Region Media Network for SGBV*”, noting that a Draft Media Strategy was developed by ICGLR-RTF and COCAFEM in 2017 and that under Resolution 15 of the Kampala Declaration on SGBV, Heads of State and Government of ICGLR committed to “*put in place national and regional media strategy for sustainable use of electronic and print media especially radios, newspaper, televisions and traditional/community based means to expose the atrocities of sexual and gender based violence, facilitate sensitization and fight against SGBV.*”

Deliberations on the Media Action Plan on SGBV accountability and reviving the Great Lakes Media Network for SGBV Prevention and Accountability also proposed several activities, which included the following:

Enhance public awareness on SGBV through - Social media campaigns on SGBV; Blogging, podcasts, website; Stories in Newspapers and Magazines; Training media colleagues; Radio and TV Features on SGBV

Development of a media Training Module on SGBV.

Advocacy for the development of SGBV Policies for Media Houses which would include activities to - Identify competent experts to develop a draft policy; Convene Stakeholder meetings to discuss the Draft; Sharing of the Draft with Media Houses in the region; Launch the SGBV Media Policy and dissemination to all Media Houses for adoption.

Revival and Strengthening of “*The Great Lakes Region Media Network for SGBV*”-which would include: Draft Constitutive Documents for the Network; Nominations for the Interim Steering Committee from respective ICGLR Member States; Sharing and Approval of the Draft Constitutive Documents for the Network; Formal Registration of the Documents for the Network; Inaugurate and Induct the Steering Committee; Support the Convening of Quarterly Steering Committee Meetings.

Revival and Strengthening of “The Great Lakes Region Media Network for SGBV” would also encompass the following activities - Joint action and collaboration on SGBV at the regional level; Creation of a website, youtube channel where articles on SGBV can be posted on action taken and areas where Governments need to be held accountable like in the areas of enforcement of existing legal and policy framework.

ICGLR- RTF committed to share an Action Plan and Tool for capturing info which will be put in the ICGLR Database. At the Workshop, a sample of the Tool for capturing information on media practitioners was displayed on screen in order to give the participants an idea on the kind of information that was needed. This tool will be disseminated to the participants who will be requested to fill in the

information within a set time frame. RTF committed to share Action Plan and Tool for capturing info which will be put in the ICGLR Database.

Joint action and collaboration on SGBV at the regional level proposals included – the creation of a website, youtube channel where articles on SGBV can be posted on action taken and areas where Governments can be held accountable like in the areas of enforcement of existing legal and policy framework.

RTF also committed to reviving the Network; trained to implement Action to enable participants utilize knowledge, information and skills gained.

5.0 Launch of the Great Lakes Media Campaign – UN Women/Media Expert.

The Great Lakes Media Campaign was launched by ICGLR-RTF Regional Director - Mme. Clotilde Niragira. Ms. Jebbeh expressed appreciation to the ICGLR-RTF and participants and pledged continued support.

6.0 Closing and Wrap up

The meeting was closed by ICGLR-RTF Regional Director - Mme. Clotilde Niragira, who expressed appreciation to the participants and expressed ICGLR-RTF's commitment to support the process of monitoring the Action Plan.

ACTION PLAN FOR THE GREAT LAKES REGION MEDIA NETWORK FOR SGBV: 2021

OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES	TARGETS	OUTPUTS INDICATORS	VERIFICATION MEANS	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBLE PERSON
Obj: 1 Enhance public awareness on SGBV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social media campaigns on SGBV (Blogging, podcasts, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube) 	Women, Men, Youth, Policy makers, Media mangers and practitioners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of social media posts and engagements 	Links, analytics reports	Quarterly	Network members Network steering committee ICGLR-RTF
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stories in Newspapers and Newsletter (hard copy and online) 	Women, Men, Youth, Policy makers, Media mangers and practitioners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of stories published (newspaper and Newsletters) 	Copies of stories and / links	Quarterly	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Magazines on SGBV (biannual) 	Policy makers, Media, legislators, CSOs, Academia, Funders/donors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Published magazine 	Copies of magazines and / links	Biannually	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Radio and TV Features (New, programs, features) on SGBV 	Women, Men, Youth, Policy makers, Media mangers and practitioners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of Radio and TV showed aired 	Copies and / or links of the aired Radio and TV program Website address (URL)	Quarterly	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and update 	Policy makers, Media,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website up 		First	

	network website	legislators, CSOs, Academia, Funders/donors, general public	and running		quarter	
Obj: 2 Develop a Media Training Module and train media practitioners and students on SGBV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a draft media Training Module on SGBV Convene Stakeholders meetings to discuss the Draft Share the draft with media trainers for input and validation Launch the SGBV Media training module and disseminate to media trainers and training institutions. Hold training workshop for media practitioners and media students on 	<p>Media practitioners (reporters, producers editors, anchors etc.), media trainers and training institutions</p> <p>Media practitioners (reporters, producers editors, anchors etc.), media trainers and training institutions</p> <p>Media practitioners (reporters, producers editors, anchors etc.), media trainers and training institutions</p> <p>Media practitioners (reporters, producers editors, anchors etc.), media trainers and training institutions</p> <p>Media Training Institutions (lecturers, students)</p>	<p>Draft of a media training module on SGBV</p> <p>Number of stakeholder meeting(s) held</p> <p>Final training module produced</p> <p>SGBV Media training module launched and disseminated</p> <p>Training workshop held, number of participants trained</p>	<p>Copy / link of a draft of media training module on SGBV</p> <p>Minutes / report of meeting(s)</p> <p>Copy / link of final training module</p> <p>Launch and dissemination report</p> <p>Training report, list of participants</p>	<p>Quarter 1&2</p> <p>Quarter 3&4</p>	<p>ICGLR-TRF</p> <p>Network Steering Committee</p> <p>Network Members</p>

	SGBV		in SGBV			
<p>Obj: 3</p> <p>Advocate for the adoption of SGBV Media Policy by media houses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a draft SGBV media policy • Convene Stakeholders meetings to discuss the Draft • Share the Draft with media managers for input and validation. • Launch the SGBV Media Policy and disseminate to all Media managers for adoption. 	<p>Media Managers and owners</p>	<p>Draft SGBV Media Policy developed and disseminated</p> <p>Number of stakeholder meeting(s) held</p> <p>Final SGBV Media Policy produced</p> <p>SGBV Media policy launched and disseminated to media managers</p>	<p>Copy / link of a draft SGBV media policy</p> <p>Minutes / report of meeting(s)</p> <p>Copy / link of a final SGBV media policy</p> <p>Launch and dissemination report</p>	<p>Quarter 1&2</p> <p>Quarter 3&4</p>	<p>Network Steering Committee, Network Members</p> <p>ICGLR-RTF</p>
<p>Obj: 4</p> <p>Revive and Strengthen “The Great Lakes Region Media Network for SGBV”.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop draft constitutive documents for the media network. • Share the draft constitutive documents with the network members for approval. • Formally register the media network. 	<p>Media network members</p> <p>Network Steering Committee</p>	<p>Draft of constitutive documents developed</p> <p>Final constitutive documents produced</p> <p>Network formally</p>	<p>Copy / link of draft of constitutive documents</p> <p>Copy / link of final constitutive documents</p> <p>Certificate of registration</p>	<p>Quarter 1</p> <p>Quarter 2</p>	<p>Network Steering Committee, Network Members</p> <p>ICGLR</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold an induction seminar for the Steering Committee. • Hold Steering Committee Meetings. 		<p>registered</p> <p>Seminar held for Steering Committee</p> <p>Number of Steering Committee meeting(s) held</p>	<p>Seminar reports, List of participants</p> <p>Minutes / report of meeting(s)</p>	<p>Quarterly</p>	
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**Allocution de clôture de la Formation virtuelle régionale des Journalistes sur la lutte
contre les Violences et Basées sur le Genre pendant la période de COVID-19**

Du 9 au 11 Décembre 2020

Me Clotilde Niragira

Directrice Régionale de ICGLR-RTF

Général du Conseil de Sécurité des Nations Unies dans la Région des Grands Lacs

Madame la Représentante de la GIZ

Madame la Représentante de l'ONU-Femme

Chers participants à cette formation

Distingués invités

Et tout protocole observé

Je tiens vivement à vous féliciter tous pour votre ténacité,

Faire trois jours sur Zoom n'est pas une chose aisée, mais votre attention et pleine participation à cette formation virtuelle, témoigne combien vous tenez à cœur la paix, la sécurité et le développement de notre chère région des Grands Lacs.

Je suis alors convaincu sans ombre de doute, que nous allons gagner le combat contre les Violences Sexuelles et Basées sur le Genre dans notre Région.

J'ai réitéré mes vifs remerciements d'abord à vous chers journalistes qui ont participé à cette formation, Je commence par vous, car vous aviez permis que cet atelier ait lieu,

Ensuite, je remercie nos chers partenaires, l'UE, la GIZ ainsi que ONU FEMME, pour avoir financé cette formation et je crois qu'en continuant à travailler main dans la

main, nous allons parvenir à bâtir la paix, la sécurité et le développement durable dans notre région des Grands Lacs.

Je profite de cette occasion pour vous signifier mon entière disponibilité à travailler et à collaborer avec vous et avec tous les autres partenaires qui portent à cœurs la prévention et la suppression des Violences sexuelles dans notre région des Grands Lacs.

Nous avons organisé cette formation pour les journalistes, dans la vision de tolérance Zéro à la violence sexuelle et basée sur le genre dans notre région.

Vous journalistes, vous portez notre choix car, nous sommes tous conscients que les journalistes occupent une position stratégique dans la société et se sont des catalyseurs très important dans le processus de changement social.

Vous aviez été formés pour être les oreilles, les yeux et la bouche du centre Régional de la CIRGL afin de mieux prévenir et supprimer les VSBG dans notre région.

Votre mission est dès aujourd'hui, de documenter, rapporter et sensibilisé la communauté sur le danger et l'impacte négative des VSBG sur leur vie personnelle et sur la paix, la sécurité et le développement de notre région. N'aménagez aucun effort, pour informer la population en générale et aux filles et femmes en particulier sur leurs droits.

Je suis très contente car vous aviez pu développer un plan d'action, Ceci du fait que nous devons renoncer aux vieilles habitudes de participer aux formations et partir. Cette Région nous appartient. Ce ne sont pas des anges qui viendront la stabiliser et la développer à notre place. C'est notre devoir et notre responsabilité. Nous devons alors nous assumer.

Ainsi donc Le centre vous encourage de mieux vous organiser, de redynamiser et animer le réseau régional des journalistes et travailler en étroite collaboration avec la CIRGL-RTF. Vous n'êtes pas seul dans cette lutte, vous venez de vous ajouter au pool des professionnels affiliés à la CIRGL-RTF, pour qu'elle réalise son mandat.

Son mandat, consiste à former, sensibiliser les policiers, les juges, les magistrats, les officiers de santé, les psychologues, les media et tous les autres acteurs impliqués dans la lutte contre les violences sexuelles, ainsi que de faire de la recherche pour mieux savoir la situation générale du terrain.

La CIRGL-RTF, ainsi que ses partenaires n'aménageront aucun effort pour vous soutenir et vous accompagner dans la mise en œuvre de ce plan. Ce qui reste, c'est votre engagement et votre détermination. Je suis sans doute persuadée de cet engagement que vous aviez manifesté par votre présence à ces assises.

Ensemble, nous sommes plus fort.

Je vous remercie.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and update network website 					
2. Develop a Media Training Module and train media practitioners and students on SGBV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a draft media Training Module on SGBV • Convene Stakeholders meetings to discuss the Draft • Share the draft with media trainers for input and validation • Launch the SGBV Media training module and disseminate to media trainers and training institutions. • Hold training workshop for media practitioners and media 	<p>Media practitioners (reporters, producers editors, anchors etc.), media trainers and training institutions</p> <p>Media practitioners (reporters, producers editors, anchors etc.), media trainers and training institutions</p> <p>Media practitioners (reporters, producers editors, anchors etc.), media trainers and training institutions</p> <p>Media practitioners (reporters, producers editors, anchors etc.), media trainers and training institutions</p> <p>Media Training Institutions (lecturers, students)</p>	<p>Draft of a media training module on SGBV</p> <p>Number of stakeholder meeting(s) held</p> <p>Final training module produced</p> <p>SGBV Media training module launched and disseminated</p> <p>Training workshop held, number of participants trained in SGBV</p>	<p>Copy / link of a draft of media training module on SGBV</p> <p>Minutes / report of meeting(s)</p> <p>Copy / link of final training module</p> <p>Launch and dissemination report</p> <p>Training report, list of participants</p>	<p>Quarter 1&2</p> <p>Quarter 1&2</p> <p>Quarter 3&4</p>	<p>ICGLR-TRF</p> <p>Network Steering Committee</p> <p>Network Members</p>

	students on SGBV					
3. Advocate for the adoption of SGBV Media Policy by media houses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a draft SGBV media policy • Convene Stakeholders meetings to discuss the Draft • Share the Draft with media managers for input and validation. • Launch the SGBV Media Policy and disseminate to all Media managers for adoption. 	Media Managers and owners	<p>Draft SGBV Media Policy developed and disseminated</p> <p>Number of stakeholder meeting(s) held</p> <p>Final SGBV Media Policy produced</p> <p>SGBV Media policy launched and disseminated to media managers</p>	<p>Copy / link of a draft SGBV media policy</p> <p>Minutes / report of meeting(s)</p> <p>Copy / link of a final SGBV media policy</p> <p>Launch and dissemination report</p>	<p>Quarter 1&2</p> <p>Quarter 3&4</p>	<p>Network Steering Committee, Network Members</p> <p>ICGLR-RTF</p>
4. Revive and Strengthen “The Great Lakes Region Media Network for SGBV”.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop draft constitutive documents for the media network. • Share the draft constitutive documents with the network members for approval. • Formally register the media network. • Hold an induction seminar for 	<p>Media network members</p> <p>Network Steering Committee</p>	<p>Draft of constitutive documents developed</p> <p>Final constitutive documents produced</p> <p>Network formally registered</p> <p>Seminar held for Steering Committee</p>	<p>Copy / link of draft of constitutive documents</p> <p>Copy / link of final constitutive documents</p> <p>Certificate of registration</p> <p>Seminar reports List of</p>	<p>Quarter 1</p> <p>Quarter 2</p>	<p>Network Steering Committee, Network Members</p> <p>ICGLR</p>

	the Steering Committee. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hold Steering Committee Meetings.		Number of Steering Committee meeting(s) held	participants Minutes / report of meeting(s)	Quarterly	
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REGIONAL PROJECT ON PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION

Meeting Minutes Joint Extra-ordinary meeting of Steering Committee and Technical Coordination Committee on COVID-19 Response

Date:	15 April 2020	Time:	10 – 11.00 AM	Location:	Virtual Meeting
Present:	Amb. Yasir (DES ICGLR), Amb. Eliane Mokodopo (PO ICGLR) Zdenka Dobiasova (EU), Isabelle Nyankiye (EU) Astrid Karamira (GIZ), Lisa Zschunke (GIZ), Soetkin Meertens (GIZ) Gabor Beszterczey (O-SESG), Xin Xu (O-SESG), Sara Bottin (UNDP), Jebbeh Forster (UN Women), Marten Kivi (UNFPA)				

Meeting Overview:

Agenda Item	Key points discussed	Action Points, Deadline
1. Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is a follow-up from last call (April 07); Astrid has sent around the documents with the proposed changes by GIZ and UN This meeting today is aiming at consolidating the planned budget modifications EU needs to receive the finalized budgets as soon as possible with the adaptations under the different headings to make sure that article 11.3 of the Special Conditions is respected: It is not possible to have a modification of more than 25% within each budget line without a rider. If the changes are below 25% the implementing agencies can go ahead 	
2. Update on measures taken by the ICGLR to manage the COVID-19 crisis period (including policy dialogues and advocacy)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The rotating system with only a small group of staff being in the office at the same time is still in place Preparations started for virtual regional ministers' meeting, a concept note was developed and will be presented soon to the representatives from Republic of 	Updates to be provided by ICGLR to ensure GIZ/UN can align with ICGLR activities and support where appropriate

	<p>Congo (current presidency); meeting to include observer from WHO. The meeting is planned to take place in the first week of May.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Meeting to be preceded by a meeting of health experts 	
<p>3. Scenarios for the implementation of the 2020 Work Plan in view of the COVID-19 crisis and procedures to be followed</p>	<p>UN presents their proposed modifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ UNDP: The budget allocated for travel might need to be moved to other categories; the budget for transfer to counterparts and grants is fully available and will be used for new partnerships; Activities 1.4.5, 1.4.6 and 1.4.7 will be adjusted to reflect the emerging and immediate need by ICGLR Member States to respond to the global Covid-19 pandemic. ▪ UNFPA: General Assemblies will be conducted exclusively in a virtual mode – the related savings will be used for COVID-19 related activities. There is a need for ICGLR’s strong engagement to e-convene the General Assemblies of the Fora, especially for proper selection processes in the member states. UNFPA country offices will support the National Coordinators, but we will have to rely on them. ▪ UN Women: support ICGLR and civil society organization to include gender aspect of COVID-19; activities will be implemented as planned but with a new focus on COVID-19. Travel budget and conference facilities budgets will be converted to procurement of internet modems for partners and beneficiaries to support their access to internet to participate in virtual meetings and workshops. JF proposes convening gender ministers and their experts and rely on their recommendations also for further implementation. <p>GIZ presents proposed modifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is intended to implement 67% of the work plan for 2020 by moving most activities to Q3 and Q4 and using different types of tools to work remotely. ▪ If the pandemic continues to affect the project in Q3 and Q4, this proposal will have to be reconsidered ▪ Regarding the 33% of the budget remaining 10% shall be moved to 2021 and the remaining 23% redirected to the COVID-19 response – this would correspond to roughly 650.000 EUR ▪ The 23% of funds will be redirected as follows from the overall budgets on the three project outcomes: 9% Peace and Security (Outcome 1), 9% Natural Resources (Outcome 2) and 5% Gender (Outcome 3). ▪ With regards of the activities to be funded under the COVID-19 response GIZ would use half of the funds to implement any interventions proposed by the ICGLR Ministerial Meeting later this month, especially those interventions that target community communication, protection and gender issues. It is suggested that the other half is used to support Rwanda’s preparedness and response plan which includes cross-border collaboration and therefore has a regional component to it. 	<p>UN and GIZ to send finalized budgets to EU ASAP</p>

	EU: content wise the general lines seem acceptable, will be confirmed in written after having received the final budgets	
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REGIONAL PROJECT ON PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION - 2021 Consolidated Work Plan

Output (as per the DoA)	Activities	Time Frame				Lead as per EU project	Total Budget (EUR)		Other Key Partners		
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		GIZ	UN			
Outcome 1: The ICGLR Peace and Security Programme is strengthened											
1.1. Support for the implementation of the Action Plan of the ICGLR Peace and Security Program Indicators: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of mediators (male/female) trained at regional and national level and participating in mediation activities (<i>Interpeace</i>) # and type of mediation interventions facilitated through ICGLR's mediation framework (<i>Interpeace</i>) Existence of a regional peace education programme that is gender and trauma sensitive (<i>GFA Consortium</i>) # of peace education experts trained (m/f) in the 4 pilot countries (<i>GFA Consortium</i>) Existence of a Pool of regional PE experts (<i>GFA Consortium</i>) 	Mediation Strategy: Mediation capacities of relevant ICGLR structures strengthened					GIZ			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICGLR P&S Dir. ICGLR Gender Dir. ICGLR Fora Interpeace AU, IGAD, SADEC UNDP 		
	1.1.1. Provide follow-up training/ ToT for selected members ICGLR Pool of Mediators and EJVM (following from phase 1) and assess opportunities for mediation in the GLR	X								77,000	
	1.1.2. Support the development and implementation of gender-responsive mediation activities (at regional, national and local levels depending on assessment)		X	X	X					140,000	
	1.1.3. Build capacities of relevant stakeholders at national/local levels in the pilot initiatives (Rwanda & DRC) to implement mediation activities		X	X	X	75,000					
	Total Mediation Strategy							292,000			
	Peace Education: ICGLR MS develop and implement a regional peace education in four pilot countries (Burundi, DRC, Rwanda, Uganda)						GIZ			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICGLR P&S Dir. ICGLR Fora GFA Aegis Trust Viamo 	
	1.1.4. Development and validation of a regional peace education programme		X			150,000					
	1.1.5. Training of peace education experts in the 4 pilot countries and establishment of a regional pool of peace education Experts				X	X	268,000				
	Total Peace Education							418,000			
	Institutional Strengthening of Peace and Security Directorate						GIZ			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICGLR P&S Directorate RDRC Strategies 	
	1.1.6. Technical assistance, advocacy and coordination to support implementation of mediation & peace education program	X	X	X	X	30,000					
	1.1.7. Support the positioning of ICGLR Peace and Security Directorate in regional and international Fora/organizations	X	X	X	X	10,000					
	1.1.8. Support Impact COVID-19 on reintegration process of ex-combat.		X	X	X	80,000					
1.1.9. Support P&S Dir and EJVM with overall Planning - Capacity-building – Institutional Communication	X	X	X	X	39,656						
Total Institutional Strengthening P&S							159,556				
TOTAL OUTPUT 1.1.							869,656				

1.2. Support for the development and implementation of an EJVM action plan <u>Output Indicators :</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of Monitoring, verification and reporting missions on the humanitarian and security situation within the GLR (EJVM) # of confidence-building initiatives between ICGLR MS (EJVM) 	1.2.1	Support the conduct of long patrol quarterly field missions to monitor the humanitarian and security situation along common borders.	X	X			GIZ	100,000		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICGLR P&S Directorate EJVM O-SESG
	1.2.2	Support the implementation of confidence-building measures between ICGLR Member States	X	X	X	X	GIZ	140,000		
TOTAL OUTPUT 1.2.								240,000		
1.3. Facilitation of a dialogue between ICGLR MS and OSC on P&S	Cf. community-based level of the mediation strategy (1.1.3. and 1.1.4)									
1.4. Creation of a network of regional mediators specialized in the subjects covered by DDR/RR <u>Output Indicators:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of insider mediators (m/f) trained on DDR/RR and members of the regional network # of pilot mediation strategies developed at the local level # of case studies and guidance notes on insider mediation (applied to DDR) 	1.4.1.	Creation of Community of Practice (CoP) of regional mediators specialized in the subjects covered by DDR/RR	X				O-SESG UNDP		6,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICGLR P&S Directorate Clingendael Folke Bernardotte Academy ICGLR MS DDR Commissions
	1.4.2.	Provide capacity development training and facilitate regional dialogue and cross-country engagement between CoP members	X						35,787	
	1.4.3.	Develop guidance informed by case studies from CoP members on linking Insider Mediation and DDR	X	X	X	X			41,176	
	1.4.4.	Initiatives with key regional and national stakeholders (including support prevention, response and recovery from COVID-19)	X	X	X	X			271,000	
	1.4.5.	Discussions, sharing of practices and learning through the CoP.	X						5,400	
	1.4.6.	Monitoring and Evaluation	X	X	X	X				
TOTAL OUTPUT 1.4.									359,363	
1.5. Support for the participation of ICGLR fora in the ICGLR consultative process <u>Output Indicators :</u>	1.5.1	Support for the strengthening of the national level of the Fora, with focus on Youth, Women and Civil Society Fora	X	X			UNFPA		50,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICGLR Executive Secretariat ICGLR Fora ICGLR LMC ICGLR RTF Implementing partners of the Programme
	1.5.2	Support for the strengthening and capacity building of the Fora, including support to General Assemblies of the Youth, Women and Civil Society Fora		X	X				88,000	
	1.5.3	Support for the development/update of regional action plans of the Fora (considering resource mobilization, partnership strategies, M&E and secretariat functionalities)		X	X				140,000	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of consultative processes in which the ICGLR Fora have participated # of Fora initiatives contributing to the strengthening and operationalization of the Fora 	1.5.4 Support for the implementation of regional action plans of the Fora			X	X				40,491	
	TOTAL OUTPUT 1.5.									318,491
TOTAL OUTCOME 1								1,109,656	677,854	

Outcome 2: Control of the exploitation of selected mineral resources (tungsten, tin, tantalum and gold) is enhanced

2.1. Alignment of the national laws of the MS with the ICGLR model law for the fight against the illegal exploitation of natural resources, as provided for in the Protocol on the fight against the illegal exploitation of NR <u>Output Indicators :</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of countries in which national law is in line with the protocol 	2.1.1. Further development of the ICGLR model law for the RINR especially considering current adjustments of the RINR Framework (e.g., Revision of the RCM Manual)	X	X			GIZ	5.000		Respective government institutions of ICGLR Member States
	2.1.2. Technical support to Member States regarding the integration of the ICGLR model law for the RINR into their national legislations	X	X	X	X		20.000		
	2.1.3. Support the integration of ICGLR strategies and guidelines (e.g. ICGLR Gender Guideline, ICGLR Formalization Guideline, ICGLR EITI Guideline) into national policy and regulatory texts	X	X	X	X		70.000		
	TOTAL OUTPUT 2.1								
2.2. Effective implementation of the Regional Certification Mechanism (RCM), third party audit mechanism, and control of natural resources in ICGLR member states. <u>Output Indicators:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of actions for the implementation of the RCM The ICGLR strategy against the illegal exploitation of artisanal gold is integrated into the implementation of the RCM The fight against illicit financial flows is mainstreamed into the implementation of the RINR 	2.2.1. Support the further development of RINR tools by the Technical Unit with a special focus on the tools RCM, Legal harmonization as well as Formalization, while taking into account the economic empowerment of women, land rights and security of tenure	X	X	X	X	GIZ	30.000		Respective government institutions of ICGLR Member States ICGLR Fora OECD RMI PPA EPRM
	2.2.2. Pilot the ICGLR ASMG strategy in selected ICGLR Member States	X	X	X	X		95.000		
	2.2.3. Strengthen ICGLR's capacities towards further increasing efficiency of communication both within and outside the region through professional promotional material (e.g. videos, brochures, banners)	X	X	X	X		41.000		
	2.2.4. Support the ICGLR with the implementation of the ICGLR international positioning strategy including active participation in selected international key processes and conferences						10.000		
	2.2.5. Direct Support to selected ICGLR Member States with the implementation of the RINR in their countries						55.000		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of more countries where the RCM is in place (at least 2 more countries) The industry accepts the RCM as a proof of mineral sourcing in line with the OECD Due Diligence Guidance 																			
											TOTAL OUTPUT 2.2	231.000							
<p>2.3. Coordination of the Governments of the countries of the region, the private sector and civil society (in particular reps of youth and women's fora) in the implementation of the RINR.</p> <p>Output Indicators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of joint statements by state actors, civil society, or the private sector about effective control of natural resources in the GLR (at least 2 for Audit Committee and 2 for Regional Steering Committee) # of (virtual) ministerial meetings held and joint decisions made (at least 1 for Ministers of Mines) 	<p>2.3.1. Support the ICGLR to fulfill its role as the regional steering body to coordinate between key actors in the fight against the illegal exploitation of natural resources both through the existing coordination structures (especially the Regional RINR Committee as well as the ICGLR Audit Committee, both semiannually) as well as ad-hoc meetings</p>								GIZ		170.000								Respective Government institutions of ICGLR Member States ICGLR Fora
											50.000								
											80.000								
											TOTAL OUTPUT 2.3	300.000							
<p>2.4. Strengthening of the capacity of the ICGLR Technical Unit (TU) for the implementation of the RINR.</p> <p>Output Indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of ICGLR MS or international actors requesting services (ex. regional peer exchange, studies, presentations) from ICGLR TU for RINR implementation. 	<p>2.4.1 Support the development and implementation of planning tools of the TU (annual planning, mid-term evaluations, M&E System, etc.)</p>								GIZ		60.000								
											30.000								
											100.000								
											TOTAL OUTPUT 2.4	190.000							
											TOTAL OUTCOME 2	816,000							

Outcome 3: The provisions of the Protocol on Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence Against Women and Children are effectively applied in the Great Lakes Region										
3.1 Domestication of the ICGLR protocol strengthened <u>Output Indicators:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of countries that have adopted and strengthened legislation and or fast track policies/mechanisms to fast track prosecution of SGBV cases 	3.1.1.	Support Member States and civil society to conduct an evaluation of the status, impact and effectiveness of domestication and implementation of the ICGLR Protocol on Prevention and Punishment of Sexual Violence Against Women and Children	X	X				UN Women	35,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICGLR Gender Directorate ICGLR RFT ICGLR Fora OOSG
	3.1.2.	Meeting of ministers of gender to discuss the gendered impact of the pandemic and to come up with concrete recommendations for consideration of member states to address the disproportionate impact.							35,000	
	3.1.3.	Travel (€3,000) + General Operating and direct costs (€ 2,000) + Indirect Support Costs (€ 5,667.20)							10,667.20	
	TOTAL OUTPUT 3.1.									80,667.20
3.2. Consultations, individual and joint actions amongst governments, the private sector and civil society to prevent and actively address gender-based violence <u>Output Indicators:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of regional round-table meetings of key stakeholders on combating SGBV # of joint statements between governments, private sector and civil society on national & regional level on combatting SGBV 	3.2.1.	Conduct 4 ToTs on the integrated model in DRC (Goma, Kinshasa) Zambia and CAR	X				GIZ	127,784.61		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICGLR Gender Directorate ICGLR Fora ICGLR MS O-SESG UNFPA UN Women Panzi/ Mukwege Foundation
	3.2.2.	Support the rolling out of 6 pilot trainings on the integrated model in 5 MS- Uganda Rwanda DRC (Goma, Kinshasa) Zambia and CAR		X				77,804.43		
	3.2.3.	Conduct SGBV stakeholder mapping and convene meetings in the 5 pilot MS	X					16,027.3		
	3.2.4.	Develop an advocacy strategy on the integrated model to be tailored to the context of each of the 5 Pilot MS	X					1,650		
	3.2.5.	Conduct research and develop a lesson learned paper on the significance of the holistic model vs other approaches in 12 ICGLR MS			X			10,000		
	3.2.6.	Organize a Donor Round Table with key stakeholders to share lessons learned from the pilot countries and the paper				X		23,337		
	3.2.7.	Organize a regional sensitization meeting for the parliamentary forum on the protocol on prevention and suppression of SGBV against women and children		X				20,000		
	3.2.8.	Support the convening of meeting to validate the RAP 1325 and ICGLR Regional Gender Policy	X					20,000		
	3.2.9.	Support trainings for SGBV actors in 12 MS on Online facilitation skills and training on the Integrated model		X	X	X		43,219.68		
	TOTAL OUTPUT 3.2.									339,823.02
o Raising awareness MS about	3.2.10.	Support civil society to conduct evidence-based advocacy for fast tracking of SGBV cases	X				UN Women	25,000		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICGLR Gender Directorate ICGLR RTF ICGLR For
	3.2.11.	Support the mobilization of religious and traditional institutions to end violence against women and girls		X	X			95,000		

<p>the seriousness and severity of gender-based sexual violence and the severity of such crimes</p> <p>Output Indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of stakeholders that are sensitized on the provisions of the protocol. # of awareness-raising and training workshops on the prevention and suppression of SGBV and holistic service delivery 	<p>3.2.12. Travel (€3,000) + General Operating and direct costs (€ 2,000) + Indirect Support Costs (€ 5,667.20)</p>	X						10,667.20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> O-SESG-GLR Judicial and prosecutors 	
	TOTAL OUTPUT 3.3								130,667.20	
<p>3.4 Strengthening the institutional capacities of the ICGLR Gender Program and Regional Training Centre for the Prevention and Control of SGBV</p> <p>Output Indicators :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of initiatives by the ICGLR Gender Directorate and the ICGLR RTF to coordinate and implement its mandate 	<p>3.4.1. Institutional Strengthening of ICGLR Gender Directorate Support to the Gender Directorate to coordinate, monitor and report on the implementation of the ICGLR gender-normative framework</p>	X	X	X	X	GIZ	118,769.31		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICGLR Gender Directorate RAP Mechanisms ICGLR Fora National Mechanisms on Women, Peace and Security UN Special Envoy 	
	<p>3.4.2 Capacity-building of experts within ICLGR MS in charge of NAPs in data collection, analysis and reporting</p>		X	X						30,000
	<p>3.4.3 Support positioning and coordination of ICGLR Gender Directorate in regional and international Fora/organizations related to WPS</p>	X	X	X	X					15,000
	<p>3.4.4 Support follow-up and advocacy by Gender Directorate to implement holistic SGBV service delivery / reparations / Special courts etc. in ICGLR Member States</p>	X	X	X	X					15,000
	<p>3.4.5 Support translation, editing and printing of key documents of the Gender Directorate to showcase best practices on gender/ women, peace and security in ICGLR MS and build ICGLR's institutional memory</p>		X							35,399
	<p>3.4.6 Support to the update, validation, editing, translation and printing of the ICGLR Guidelines on Mainstreaming Gender in the Minerals Sector</p>		X							70,000
	<p>3.4.7 Support Gender Dir and RTF with overall Planning - Capacity-building – Institutional Communication</p>									39,656
	Total Institutional Strengthening Gender Directorate							323,824.31		

	Institutional Strengthening of ICGLR Regional Training Facility								
3.4.8	Support positioning of ICGLR RTF in regional and international Fora/organizations related to Women, Peace & Security	x	x	x	x	GIZ	10,000		
3.4.9	Create online database with profiles and contacts of RTF affiliate trainers and other trainees	x					1,440		
3.4.10	Coordination, Monitoring & Evaluation of SGBV training between RTF Master Trainers and Panzi/Mukwege Experts	x	x	x	x		12,605.74	Mukwege Foundation	
3.4.11	Support the production, editing, translation and publish the lessons learned report			x	x		39,616.40		
<i>Total Institutional Strengthening ICGLR RTF</i>							63,662.14		
TOTAL OUTPUT 3.4.							387,486.54		
TOTAL OUTCOME 3							727,309.47	211,334.3	
GRANT TOTAL ACTIVITY BUDGET							2,652,965.47	879,188.4	3,532,153.87

REGIONAL PROJECT ON PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION

MONITORING AND EVALUATION FRAMEWORK (REVISED VERSION APPROVED BY STEERING COMMITTEE (January 2021))

	Intervention logic	Indicators	Baseline (2019)	Target (2021)	Actual Situation December 2020	Sources and means of verification
	Outcome 1: The ICGLR's peace and security program is strengthened.					
Outputs	1.1. Support to the implementation of the ICGLR peace and security program actions plan. (GIZ)	# of mediators (male/female) trained at regional and national level and participating in mediation interventions (<i>Interpeace</i>)	28 (9 men/19 women)	- Training of 60 mediators at national level & 30 at regional level	- Contract with Interpeace signed - Kick-off workshop held with GIZ and ICGLR	- Initial List (2016) of the existing pool of ICGLR mediators - Updated list of ICGLR mediators - Activity Reports
		# and type of mediation interventions facilitated through ICGLR's mediation framework (<i>Interpeace</i>)	The ICGLR mediation framework does not exist yet	- Conflict analysis - Mapping and assessment of mediation practices and approaches used - Summary report on key lessons - Mediation plans in Northern Kivu (DRC) and Rwanda developed and implementation started	Idem	- Peace Agreements - Déclarations - Communiqué - Mediation interventions mapping and assessment reports
		Existence of a regional peace education programme in the GLR that is gender and trauma sensitive (<i>GFA Consortium</i>)	Peace Education programmes and initiatives exist at different levels in the four pilot countries. No PE Programme at the regional level exists.	- A regional programme is validated	- Technical Advisory Committee set-up and first meeting held - 6 national kick-off workshops held in Uganda, Rwanda, DRC, Burundi - 1 virtual regional kick-off workshop held - Framework for the development of the regional PE program available	- Report of the 2016 Great Lakes Peace Education Summit - Reports of Kick-off workshops at national and regional level

		# of peace education experts trained (m/f) in the 4 pilot countries (<i>GFA Consortium</i>)	0 Peace Education experts have been trained on the ICGLR Regional Peace Education Programme	- 80 Peace Education experts trained (50% female)	- Analysis of status and existing PE expertise in the pilot country - Agreement on need for gender parity in selection of PE experts	- Training Reports
		Existence of a Pool of regional PE experts (<i>GFA Consortium</i>)	No Pool of PE Experts exists at the regional level.	- A Pool of PE Experts is established at the regional level.	- Actor mapping completed	- validated ToR of Pool of Regional PE Experts - Minutes of meetings
	1.2. Support for the development and implementation of an EJVM action plan (<i>GIZ/UNDP</i>)	# of Monitoring, Verification and reporting missions on the humanitarian and security situation within the GLR (<i>EJVM</i>)	tbc	tbc	- Verification mission on security situation in CAR - Repatriation mission in Lake Albert in Uganda	- Activity Reports - Déclarations - Communiqué
		# of confidence-building initiatives between ICGLR MS (<i>EJVM</i>)	tbc	tbc	- Meeting with Rwanda and Burundi (CMI) - Several Common border patrols	- Activity Reports - Déclarations - Communiqué
	1.3. Facilitating dialogue among the ICGLR member states on peace and security while ensuring that women are involved.	See 1.1	See 1.1	<i>See 1.1</i>		Reports of ICGLR conferences and talks with member states
	1.4. Creation of a network of regional mediators specialized in the subjects covered by DDR/RR (UNDP)	# of insider mediators (m/f) trained on DDR/RR and members of the regional network	0	30 (2021): 15 men and 15 women	- 57 participants currently undergoing pre-training on DDR (UNITAR) - Design of actual training course completed	Training and workshop reports, online network platform
		# of pilot mediation strategies developed at the local level	0 undertaken	3 mediation strategies developed	0	Monitoring reports, external evaluation report
		# of case studies and guidance notes on insider mediation (applied to DDR)	1 guidance note	5 (2 guidance notes and 3 case studies)	1	Case study and guidance reports available
	1.5. Support for the participation of the ICGLR for a (youth forum, women's forum, civil society	# of Fora initiatives contributing to the strengthening and operationalization of the Fora	3	Target for 2021 = 3 (3 Fora initiatives per year in 2019, 2020 and 2021) TOTAL TARGET = 9	10 Fora initiatives, of which 4 were combined including youth, women and civil society fora. - RWF=6,	Documentation of Fora initiatives (e.g. meeting and mission reports)

	forum, private sector forum) in the ICGLR consultative process (UNFPA)				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - RYF=8, - RCSF=4, - RPSF=4 	
		# of consultative processes in which ICGLR Fora have participated	1 (tbc)	Target for 2021 = 8 (participation in 2 consultative processes per year for each of the 4 Fora) TOTAL TARGET = 24	16 Consultative processes fora participated of which 4 included all the fora. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - RWF=10, - RYF=8, - RCSF=4, - RPSF=2. 	Documentation of Fora participation (face-to face or virtual) in consultative processes
Outcome 2: The control of the exploitation of mineral resource (tungsten, tin, tantalum, gold) is more efficient.						
Outputs	2.1. Alignment of the national laws of ICGLR member states with the model law for combating illegal exploitation of natural resources in the model mining code, as provided for in the Protocol on Combating the Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources.	Number of countries in which national law is in line with the protocol	0	2	Currently only the Ugandan law has been fully aligned with the protocol. However, the Zambian, Burundian and Tanzanian governments have made adaptations to their mining act in order to include the provisions of the Regional Certification Mechanism.	National mining codes/acts of the Member States
	2.2. Effective implementation of the Regional Certification Mechanisms, Third Party Audits Mechanism and control of natural resources in ICGLR member states.	Number of actions for the implementation of the Regional Certification Mechanism.	4	<i>6 per year</i>	- 6 activities (2x Audit Committee Meetings in Kampala and virtually to develop Audit Methodology which is part of RCM implementation; 1x Regional Committee Meeting in Bangui; 1x workshop in Lusaka on RCM integration)	Agendas, reports, outcome documents of workshops and activities conducted
		The ICGLR strategy against the illegal exploitation of artisanal gold is	The ICGLR strategy against the illegal exploitation of artisanal	<i>The ICGLR strategy against the illegal exploitation of artisanal gold is developed</i>	The ICGLR strategy against the illegal exploitation of artisanal gold is developed.	ICGLR strategy against illegal exploitation artisanal gold Report of pilot zone.

		integrated into the implementation of the Regional Certification Mechanism.	gold has not yet been developed.	<i>and piloted in at least 1 pilot zone.</i>	Points of entry for the piloting are currently being identified with a focus on Zambia and Eastern DRC.	
		The fight against illicit financial flows is mainstreamed into the implementation of the RINR.	No actions against illicit financial flows.	<i>2021: The fight against illicit financial flows is integrated into at least 2 ICGLR/RINR processes</i>	Terms for the development of a Regional Guidance on IFF are currently being circulated among MS for approval	Documentation of ICGLR/RINR processes.
		The Regional Certification Mechanism is in place in at least 2 more countries.	RCM in place in 2 countries. (Rwanda, DRC)	<i>RCM in place in 4 countries.</i>	RCM in place in 4 countries, with Uganda on the way there.	Annual reports of the countries concerned
		The industry accepts the Regional Certification Mechanism as a proof of mineral sourcing in line with the OECD Due Diligence Guidance.	RCM is not yet accepted by industry.	<i>The Regional Certification Mechanism is accepted by at least one industry forum.</i>	RCM not yet accepted by an industry forum, but negotiations on partnership and acceptance of audits ongoing with RMI	Public statements from industry fora.
	2.3. Coordination between the governments of the countries of the region, the private sector and civil society in the implementation of the RINR.	A number of joint statements by state actors, civil society, or the private sector about effective control of natural resources in the Great Lakes region.	0	<i>3 per year</i>	3 (Kampala, Bangui, virtually/Bujumbura)	Joint statements by state actors, civil society, or the private sector.
		<i>At least one (virtual) Ministers of Mines meeting held in 2021/2022</i>	0	<i>1</i>	<i>No meeting was planned due to the fact COVID-19 and financial constraints</i>	<i>Reports/communiués of joint decisions made</i>
	2.4. Capacities of the ICGLR Technical Unit for RINR implementation are strengthened.	ICGLR Member States or international actors requesting services (for example, regional peer exchange, studies, presentations) from the ICGLR Technical Unit for RINR implementation	2	<i>4 per year</i>	6 (2x Burundi, Tanzania and Zambia, Chinese International Forum on Mineral Supply Chains and Rwanda's Arican Mining Forum	Technical Unit action plan. Official requests by Member States Annual evaluation of ICGLR Technical Unit. Annual reports of the DGG Program
Outcome 3: The dimension of human rights protection, especially in periods of crisis is strengthened.						
	3.1. Domestication of the ICGLR protocol strengthened (UN WOMEN)	# of countries that have adopted and strengthened legislation and or policies/mechanisms to fast track prosecution of SGBV cases	5	12	- 3 innovative models are in existence for fast tracking GBV cases, viz. Special courts for SGBV cases, special sessions	- Updated & validated report on the status of implementation of the Kampala Declaration - UN Women Reports

					<p>within the regular courts to hear SGBV cases, and special sessions to clear case backlogs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 9 MS have mechanisms to fast-track prosecution of SGBV cases. (Angola, Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia) - 67 journalists from media houses in the 12 member states were trained on accurate, responsible and survivor centered reporting of SGBV cases as well as the protocol on prevention and punishment of SGBV 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Manual Guide for Fast-tracking SGBV + Report on the status of implementation of the Kampala Declaration
Outputs	<p>3.2. Consultations, individual and joint actions amongst governments in the region, the private sector and civil society to prevent and actively address gender-based violence</p> <p><i>(GIZ)</i></p>	<p># of regional round-table meetings of key stakeholders on combating sexual violence.</p>	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 regional sensitization meeting on the protocol on prevention and suppression of SGBV against women and children and adoption of specific on SGBV is convened for the ICGLR Parliamentary Forum - 1 round table for actors engaged in peace initiatives in the GRL to validate the evaluation report on WPS is organised - An advocacy strategy on the integrated model tailored to the context of each of the 5 Pilot MS is developed - A lesson learned paper from the partnerships between PMF and RTF is developed - A donor Round Table with key stakeholders to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High level meeting for ministers of Gender and Justice was held in Brazzaville 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Communiqué Final Gender and Justice Ministers Meeting - RTF Activity reports - Quaterly newsletters

				share lessons learned from the pilot MS is held		
		# of joint statements between governments, private sector and civil society on national and regional level on combatting sexual and genderbased violence.	5	12 - 1 regional sensitization meeting for ICGLR Parliamentarian Forum + 1 round table meeting with all relevant stakeholders - 6 stakeholders meeting in 5 MS MS (CAR, DRC-Goma+Kinshasa), Rwanda, Uganda and Zambia are held	No progress in 2020 -	- Ibid + Meeting reports - Joint communiqués
	3.3. Raising awareness MS about the seriousness and severity of gender-based sexual violence and the severity of such crimes <i>(UN WOMEN/GIZ)</i>	# of stakeholders that are sensitized on the provisions of the protocol (UN Women)	3	8	- 5 out of 8 stakeholders i.e. Civil society, Judicial officers, Prosecutors, guarantors of PCSF and ministers were sensitized on the provisions of the ICGLR protocol. - Comprehensive report on the status of implementation of the Kampala Declaration in the 12 states of the ICGLR validated	- UN women programme reports and RTF-ICGLR reports
		# of awareness-raising and training workshops on the prevention and suppression of SGBV, including holistic service delivery (GIZ)	12	- 4 ToTs for RTF affiliated trainers are conducted using the integrated model in 5 pilot MS (CAR, DRC-Goma+Kinshasa), Rwanda, Uganda and Zambia - 6 pilot trainings using the integrated model are conducted in 5 pilot MS (Uganda, CAR, DRC(Goma and Kinshasa), Rwanda and Zambia - At least 280 SGBV Actors from 12 MS are trained on Online facilitation	- Integrated model on combating SGBV developed - 2 ToT for RTF Affiliated trainings held in Uganda and Rwanda - Tender process launched to digitalise the Integrated Model on combating SGBV	- RTF Activity reports - Quaterly newsletters

				skills and the Integrated model			
	<p>3.4. Strengthening the capacity of the gender program of the ICGLR and the Regional Training Center for the Prevention and Punishment of Sexual and Gender-based Violence. (GIZ)</p>	<p># and type of initiatives by the ICGLR Gender Directorate to coordinate and implement its mandate</p>	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Translation, editing and printing of key documents of the Gender Directorate to showcase best practices on gender/ women, peace and security in ICGLR MS and build ICGLR's institutional memory is done - At least 2 capacity trainings in monitoring, reporting, data collection for Gender directorate are conducted - A regional meeting to validate the RAP 1325 and ICGLR Regional Gender Policy is conducted - ICGLR Gender Directorate participates in at least 2 regional and international Fora/organizations related to WPS - ICGLR Gender Directorate is engaged in at least 2 advocacy missions to implement holistic SGBV service delivery / reparations / Special courts etc. in ICGLR Member States - Guidelines on Gender in the Mining Sector revised and validated 	2 (+1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 11 MS have already elaborated their National Action Plans (NAP) on the UNSC R1325 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional Action Plan on Women, Peace & Security - Zambia National Action Plan - ICGLR Regional Gender Policy - Articles on Gender Directorate activities - Regional meeting reports - Mission reports - KD Roadmap - Periodic Reports - RTF Activity reports - Quaterly newsletters - Contributions to ICGLR website

		<p># and type of initiatives by the ICGLR RTF to coordinate and implement its mandate</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ICGLR RTF participates in at least 2 regional and international Fora/organizations related to SGBV and Women, Peace & Security - An online database with profiles and contacts of RTF affiliate trainers and other trainees is created - 8 Coordination meetings of the Project coordination teams are held - Monitoring & Evaluation of the project activities of RTF Master Trainers and Panzi/Mukwege are conducted - Finance and Communication Associates are recruited at RTF 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Compilation of all the trainers and trainers already done - The process of developing the monitoring, evaluation ,accountability and learning is underway. To be completed by end of December 20. 	<p>-</p>
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