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**General Assembly
Sixty-seventh session
Agenda item 33
Prevention of armed conflict****Security Council
Sixty-seventh year****Identical letters dated 12 October 2012 from the Chargé d'affaires
a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Uganda to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the
Security Council**

On behalf of my Government, in its capacity as Chair of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, I have the honour to inform you of the present stage of deliberations of the International Conference concerning the situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo and, in that connection, am transmitting herewith the declaration adopted at the fourth Extraordinary Summit Meeting of the Heads of State and Government, held on 8 October 2012 in Kampala (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 33, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Arthur S. Kafeero
Chargé d'affaires a.i.



**Annex to the identical letters dated 12 October 2012 from the
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Uganda to the
United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the
President of the Security Council**

**Declaration of the Heads of State and Government of the member
States of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region
on the security situation in eastern Democratic Republic of
the Congo**

**Fourth Extraordinary Summit of the Heads of State
and Government**

Kampala, 8 October 2012

Preamble

We, the Heads of State and Government of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, meeting in Kampala on 8 October 2012, at the invitation of President Yoweri Museveni of the Republic of Uganda and Chair of the International Conference, to discuss the security situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Warmly congratulating the Government and the people of Uganda as they celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of their independence,

Recalling the decisions of our previous Extraordinary Summits, held in Addis Ababa on 15 July 2012, and in Kampala on 7 and 8 August 2012 and again on 8 September 2012, in particular the decisions to establish the Neutral International Force to combat negative forces in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo in line with the mandate derived from the International Conference Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region and its relevant instruments, and the establishment of the Humanitarian Trust Fund,

Reiterating the primary responsibility of the region to find lasting solutions to peace and security challenges in the region,

Taking note of the ongoing lull in the fighting in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo due to the efforts undertaken by the region,

Determined to find a comprehensive and lasting solution to the crisis,

Recalling also our decision, made at the Summit on 8 September to reconvene here in Kampala on 8 October 2012 to receive the progress reports, including that of the Military Assessment Team,

Taking note of the outcome of the high-level meeting on the security situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo convened by the Secretary-General in New York on 27 September 2012,

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

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

Appreciating the considerable diplomatic efforts that the Chair of the Summit, President Yoweri Museveni, has continuously made to ensure that fighting in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo stops completely,

Having expressed appreciation to the African Union and the United Nations for the efforts made so far with a view to finding a solution to the situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular the support extended to the secretariat of the International Conference, the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism and the Military Assessment Team,

Welcoming the communiqué of the 35th meeting of the African Union Peace and Security Council on the security situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo in response to the declaration of the third Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government of the member States of the International Conference, held in Kampala on 8 September 2012,

Having considered and adopted, with amendments, the report of the meeting of the Committee of Ministers of Defence, held on 6 and 7 October 2012,

Having also considered and adopted, with amendments, the report of the fourth Extraordinary Meeting of the Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee on the security situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, held in Kampala on 7 October 2012, including the recommendation to collaborate with the Southern African Development Community,

Noting that the situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo remains unresolved and needs urgent attention,

Noting the need for continuing political and diplomatic efforts to find lasting solutions to the crisis in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Expressing our appreciation to the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO), for the support extended to the Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre,

Commending the work done so far by the Military Assessment Team,

Taking note of the message received from the Secretary-General in support of the regional initiative of the International Conference on the security situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Welcoming the application of the Republic of South Sudan to become a member of the International Conference,

Hereby decide as follows:

I. Diplomatic and political engagement of the Chair of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region

Request the Chair of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region to continue diplomatic and political engagements in order to find a comprehensive solution to the crisis in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo;

II. Neutral International Force

Mandate the Chair of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region to make the necessary consultations with Heads of State and Government from the International Conference, the Southern African Development Community and other African countries to mobilize contributions of the required 4,000 troops for the Neutral International Force, and with the rest of the international community in order to obtain the mandate of the African Union and the United Nations, as well as raise enough logistical and financial resources;

III. Military Assessment Team

1. Direct the Military Assessment Team to complete its report, including the concept of operations of the Neutral International Force within a period of two weeks, and submit it to the meeting of the Committee of Ministers of Defence, to be held in Goma, the Democratic Republic of the Congo on 25 October 2012, through the Chiefs of Defence Staff;

2. Mandate the Chair of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region to ensure implementation of the report on the Military Assessment Team in consultation with the other Heads of State as soon as it is presented to him by the Committee of Ministers of Defence, two weeks after the fourth Extraordinary Summit;

3. Direct the Military Assessment Team to develop standard operating procedures for its own use and submit them to the Chiefs of Defence Staff for approval;

4. Mandate the Committee of Ministers of Defence to supervise the operationalization of the Neutral International Force and to report progress to the Chair of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, who in turn will inform the other Heads of State;

IV. Expanded Joint Verification Mechanism

1. Direct the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism to immediately start field activities;

2. Direct the Executive Secretary to work out a clear and detailed budget for the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism, based on the recommendations of the Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee, within one week and forward it to the Committee of Ministers of Defence;

3. Authorize the Executive Secretary to continue mobilizing resources to facilitate the Joint Verification Mechanism;

V. Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre

1. Instruct the Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre to report to the Regional Coordination Committee and the Chair of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region Chiefs of Defence Staff, who in turn shall report to the Committee of Ministers;

2. Instruct the Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre to share timely intelligence reports with the Military Assessment Team and the Joint Verification Mechanism;

3. Call on all member States that have not yet posted the required number of Staff to the Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre to do so as early as possible;

4. Direct the standardization of the allowances of the Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre experts to the same level as those for the Military Assessment Team and the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism; in this regard, the budget of the Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre shall be reviewed accordingly;

VI. Management of the humanitarian situation

1. Approve the appointment of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to manage the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region Humanitarian Trust Fund;

2. Approve the establishment of an advisory committee to support the Executive Secretary on resource mobilization and accountability. The advisory committee shall be comprised of International Conference on the Great Lakes Region national coordinators from Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda and Rwanda, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the Executive Secretary of the International Conference and a representative of Kenya Commercial Bank, Burundi branch. The advisory committee to meet concurrently with the ordinary sessions of the Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee;

3. Urge the member States that have made pledges to the Humanitarian Trust Fund to urgently disburse the funds and call upon other partners to make pledges to the fund;

4. Direct the Executive Secretary to ensure that urgent actions are undertaken to mitigate against the precarious humanitarian situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo;

Extrabudgetary expenditure of the Conference secretariat

1. The expenditure incurred by the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region secretariat arising out of extraordinary activities undertaken to address the security situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo should be shared by all member States of the International Conference and in this regard, agree to contribute US\$ 75,000 per member State;

2. Strongly urge member States that have not paid up their arrears to do so by 1 November 2012 in order to enable the Executive Secretariat to meet its financial obligations;

3. Direct the Executive Secretary to conduct a needs assessment for capacity-building of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region secretariat within seven days and thereafter member States to send, at their own cost, relevant experts to support the secretariat, within 10 days upon receipt of the needs assessment report;

VIII. Application by the Republic of South Sudan for membership of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region

Direct the Executive Secretary of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region to ensure that the procedural requirements for admitting the Republic of South Sudan are complied with and presented for consideration in the next meeting of the Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee scheduled for late November 2012 in Bangui.

1. *Gen. Candido Vindigen*
H.E. JOSE EDUARDO DOS SANTOS
President of the Republic of Angola

2. *[Signature]*
H.E. PIERRE NKURUNZIZA
President of the Republic of Burundi

for [Signature]
H.E. FRANÇOIS BOZIZE
President of the Central African Republic

4. *[Signature]*
H.E. DENIS SASSOU-NGUESSO
President of the Republic of Congo

5. *[Signature]*
H.E. JOSEPH KABILA KABANGE
President of the Democratic Republic
of Congo

6. *[Signature]*
H.E. MWAI KIBAKI
President of the Republic of Kenya

7. *[Signature]*
H.E. PAUL KAGAME
President of the Republic of Rwanda

8. *[Signature]* 9/10/2012
H.E. OMAR HASSAN AHMED EL
BASHIR
President of the Republic of the Sudan

9. *[Signature]*
H.E. JAKAYA MRISHO KIKWETE
President of the United Republic
of Tanzania

10. *[Signature]*
H.E. YOWERI KAGUTA MUSEVENI
President of the Republic of Uganda

11. *[Signature]*
H.E. MICHAEL CHILUBA SATA
President of the Republic of Zambia