ICGLR 2021 Joint Annual Planning

Beyond crises...Achieving results in a challenging environment

The Conference Secretariat of the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) held its annual planning session November 30th to December 4th, 2020 with over 50 participants in a hybrid format with hubs in Bujumbura and Kigali as well as over 35 participants online from across the world.

The Great Lakes Regions (GLR) is facing the COVID-19 pandemic like the rest of the world. In this region whose 390.29 million people represent 29.11% of Africa's population, the health crisis appears less important than in other parts of the world, but the pandemic's impact is still quite significant.

The security and economic fragility of the GLR has increased with COVID-19. 8/12 Member States (MS) will have negative economic growth in 2020, 3 will continue to have negative growth in 2021. 3/12 MS are indebted at over 98% of GDP and 5 are indebted at over 50% of GDP





In the mining sector, which is key to peace and stability in the GLR, COVID-19 has produced a decrease in production, an increase in illicit mining activities, loss in revenue for states and increased precarity for workers and artisanal miners.

With a 2.6% increase in violent events in 2020 and about 12.6 million forcibly displaced people, the GLR continues to be one of the most conflict-affected regions in the world. The annual planning session for 2021 took place in this context where the work of the ICGLR remains of utmost importance.

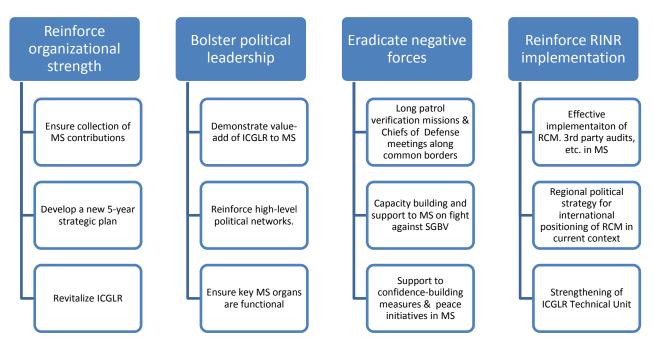
Despite the above context the ICGLR carried out important activities in 2020 at both programmatic and institutional levels.

(EJVM) carried out a verification mission on • 2	Directors were recruited 2 RIMCs were held Head of States Summit was held and resolved: ✓ Eradication negative forces & support to peace initiatives in
 other MS The Regional Training Facility (RTF) on Sexual and Gender-based violence trained over 33 regional officers; 59 police officer, 11 prosecutors/ state attorneys, 11 magistrates, 9 judges in 1 MS with 15 RTF affiliated trainers from 1 MS and 22 from another MS A Regional Peace Education Programme is being developed 	the GLR ✓ Renewed commitment of MS to the ICGLR: revitalization, payment of contributions ✓ New Chair of ICGLR ✓ New Executive Secretary, 3 new implementing partners have begun work

Kigali Hub participants:



With the momentum of technical achievements, new leadership and renewed engagement of MS, the ICGLR and its partners drew the 2021 plan of action with these key focus areas:



ICGLR is counting on the synergy and effective collaboration of its organs, its partners and most importantly the effective engagement of Member States to achieve the above objectives and make strides for peace, security and development in the Great Lakes Region in 2021.