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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

Hon. Dora Christine Kanabahita Byamukama  
Human Rights & Gender Consultant

ICGLR-RTF

November, 2019

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



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



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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

<b>AFD</b>	Agence Francaise De Developpement
<b>BMZ</b>	Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development
<b>CAR</b>	Central African Republic
<b>CEDAW</b>	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
<b>CEPO</b>	Community Empowerment for Progress Organisation
<b>COFAS</b>	Conseil Des Organisations Des Femmes Aggissant En Synergie
<b>CVAW</b>	Combatting Violence against Women
<b>DRC</b>	Democratic Republic of Congo
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>EITI</b>	Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative
<b>FARDC</b>	Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of Congo
<b>FIDA</b>	International Federation of Women Lawyers
<b>FECCLAHA</b>	Fellowship of Christian Councils and Churches in the Great Lakes and Horn of Africa
<b>GBV</b>	Gender Based Violence
<b>GBVRC</b>	Gender Based Violence Recovery Centre
<b>GIZ</b>	German Development Corporation
<b>HMIS</b>	Health Management Information System
<b>ICGLR</b>	International Conference of the Great Lakes Region
<b>ICGLR-RTF</b>	International Conference of the Great Lakes Region-Regional Training Facility
<b>IPCA</b>	Initiative for Peace and Communication Association
<b>LMRC</b>	Levy Mwanawasa Regional Centre
<b>NGBVD</b>	National Gender Based Violence Database
<b>RWAMREC</b>	Rwanda Men's Resource centre
<b>RIMC</b>	Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee
<b>RINR</b>	Regional Initiatives on Natural Resources
<b>SDSP</b>	Social Development Sector Plan
<b>SGBV</b>	Sexual and Gender Based Violence
<b>SOFEPAI</b>	Solidarite' Femine Pour la Paix et le Developpement Intergral

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## CHAPTER 1: BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION

### BACKGROUND

The ICGLR was created in 2006 under the Pact for Security Stability and Development and is composed of 12 Member States namely: 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. ICGLR-RTF is a decentralized organ of the ICGLR Secretariat. The ICGLR-RTF trains and sensitizes professionals who handle SGBV cases. 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 and journalists are some of the many professionals who handle cases of SGBV.

In December 2018, ICGLR in partnership with the EU and 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 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.

### INTRODUCTION

On 15-16 December, 2011, the Heads of State and Government of the 12<sup>1</sup> Member States of the ICGLR gathered in Kampala Uganda at the 4<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Summit and Special Session on 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 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 RIMC, and the Declaration of the First Ladies from the Region in preparation for the 4<sup>th</sup> 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.”

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



The Preamble takes note of the various manifestations of SGBV 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 CEDAW (1979);
  - UNSCR 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)<sup>2</sup> 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;

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

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 GBV 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 acts, coercion and other deprivations of liberty, as defined by CEDAW in General Recommendation 19.

## **METHODOLOGY**

In order to update the ICGLR Report on the 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 ICGLR<sup>3</sup> 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 SGBV 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 the 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 was disseminated at a Validation Meeting held on 5-6 November, 2019 at Munyonyo, Kampala, Uganda and attended by representatives from all ICGLR Member States – mainly from the Ministry of Gender; Civil Society Organizations including: 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 the Republic of Congo in a meeting held on 24-27 November, 2019, and subsequently adopted by the Ministers of Gender and Justice Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> 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 Evaluation of Progress Towards the Implementation of the Kampala Declaration”

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

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<sup>3</sup> 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 monitoring and evaluation 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)<sup>4</sup>.”

*This Protocol provides that the objectives of the Protocol on 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 armed groups are resolved by peaceful means; and*
- 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:

### 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:

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

- 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 6<sup>th</sup> 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, five confirmed the existence of armed groups, namely: Central African Republic, the Republic of Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, South Sudan and Sudan. 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 which include: The Union for Democratic Forces of Unity, Patriotic Convention for Saving the Country, Anti Balaka Aile Mokom, and Anti Balaka Aile Ngassona among others.
- Democratic Republic of Congo also confirmed the presence of armed groups some of which include: The March 23 Movement, Les Mongoles, Rasta Militia, 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 to 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.

With regard to the Allied Democratic Forces and the Forces democratiques de liberation du Rwanda, 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. The Departmental pacification plan that was 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 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 the Allied Democratic Forces(ADF) which has expanded its operations into the Democratic Republic of Congo. 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.

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"> <li>1. Anti- Balaka.</li> <li>2. Central African National Liberation Movement.</li> <li>3. Convention of Patriots for Justice and Peace.</li> <li>4. Democratic front of the Central African people.</li> <li>5. Lord's Resistance Army (<i>with links to Uganda</i>).</li> <li>6. Movement de resistance Populaire pour la refondation de la centrafrique.</li> <li>7. Patriotic Convention for Saving the Country.</li> <li>8. People's Army for the Restoration of Democracy.</li> <li>9. Popular Front for Recovery.</li> <li>10. Seleka.</li> <li>11. Union of Democratic Forces for Unity.</li> </ol>
Democratic Republic of Congo	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Alliance of Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Congo.</li> <li>2) Alliance of Patriots for a Free and Sovereign Congo.</li> <li>3) Allied Democratic Forces (<i>with links to Uganda</i>).</li> <li>4) Armed Forces of the Congolese People.</li> <li>5) Army for the Liberation of Rwanda.</li> <li>6) Bana mura.</li> <li>7) Bundudiakongo.</li> <li>8) Congolese National Liberation Front.</li> <li>9) Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda.</li> <li>10) Forces for Renewal.</li> <li>11) Interahamwe.</li> <li>12) Katangese Tigers.</li> <li>13) Les Mongoles.</li> <li>14) Lord's Resistance Army.</li> <li>15) Mai – Mai.</li> </ol>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>16) Mai – Mai Kata Katanga.</li> <li>17) March 23 Movement.</li> <li>18) Movement for the Liberation of the Congo.</li> <li>19) National Army for the Liberation of Congo.</li> <li>20) National Congress for the Defence of the People.</li> <li>21) Nationalist and Integrationist Front.</li> <li>22) Patriotic Forces for the Liberation of Congo.</li> <li>23) Patriotic Resistance Front of Ituri.</li> <li>24) Popular Forces of Burundi.</li> <li>25) Popular Front for Justice in the Congo.</li> <li>26) Rally for Congolese Democracy.</li> <li>27) Rally for Congolese Democracy-Goma.</li> <li>28) Rasta Militia.</li> <li>29) Republican Rally for Democracy in Rwanda.</li> <li>30) Resistance Patriots of Congo.</li> <li>31) Revolutionary Movement of the Congo.</li> <li>32) Union of Congolese Patriots.</li> </ul>
South Sudan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Anyanya.</li> <li>2. Anyanya II.</li> <li>3. Arrow Boys.</li> <li>4. Azania Liberation Front.</li> <li>5. Ethiopian Unity Patriots Front.</li> <li>6. Lord's Resistance Army.</li> <li>7. National Salvation Front.</li> <li>8. Nuer White Army.</li> <li>9. South Sudan Defence forces.</li> <li>10. South Sudan Democratic Movement.</li> <li>11. South Sudan Federal Democratic Party.</li> <li>12. South Sudan Liberation Movement.</li> <li>13. South Sudan Opposition Alliance.</li> <li>14. South Sudan Patriotic Army.</li> <li>15. South Sudan United Front.</li> <li>16. SPLA-Nasir.</li> <li>17. Sudan People's Defense Forces/Democratic Front.</li> <li>18. Sudan People's Liberation Army.</li> <li>19. Sudan People's Liberation Movement.</li> <li>20. Sudan People's Liberation Movement in Opposition.</li> <li>21. Tiger Faction New Forces.</li> </ul>
Sudan	<p>Sudan has 4 major illegal armed groups these include: The Sudan Popular Liberation Movement led by Yasser Armaan, Malik Agaar and Al Hilo, the Sudan Revolutionary Front led by Malik Agar which comprises of 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, and the Sudan Liberation Movement 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 are still in many parts of the country in spite of the presence of law enforcement agencies. It was further reported that in areas that have law enforcement presence, some SGBV crimes have been committed by such agencies.
- Armed groups do not respect the peace negotiations and agreements which further incapacitates the implementation of the Kampala 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 Lord's Resistance Army and the Allied Democratic Forces 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 out of twelve Member States reported that they had domesticated the ICGLR Pact on Security, Stability and Development (2006)<sup>5</sup> 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 adopting the provisions of the Pact in Acts of parliament. Information on Sudan and South Sudan on domestication of the ICGLR Pact 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;

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

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: 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 and the Children's (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 2018-2021;

- 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 have 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) 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 in conformity 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 anybody part or object or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim”<sup>6</sup>

**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.**

domesticate relevant international instruments and mechanisms including the CEDAW (1979) and UNSCR 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.**

<sup>6</sup> Act 8 Penal Code (Amendment) Act 2007, available at <https://ulii.org/ug/legislation/act/2007/8>

## Achievements and Progress

- Four Member States namely: Kenya, Uganda, Angola and Burundi reported increase of resources but did not specify the increment. Only 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 but did not specify the period.
- 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 and UN OHCHR 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 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

- Only four Member States namely: Kenya, Uganda, Burundi and Angola 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. This makes it difficult to monitor progress.
- Since Member States did not share any information regarding the dates that this decision was put in action, it's difficult to assess whether the '12 months' deadline' which showed a sense of urgency was met.
- 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 its budget every year.
- All 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 the Republic of Congo which has established partnerships 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 4<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Summit and Special Session on SGBV 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.

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 and 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, COFAS and REFED, the Network of women for Development in northern DRC.

**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, 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, 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, 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: CEPO, 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 the CVAW Unit in collaboration with Humanitarian Aid Commission and the Office of Humanitarian Coordination. 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 June 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 HMIS 105 form, which records SGBV under the category of trauma/injury. The Ministry of Health 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 NGBVD to enable actors in Uganda who are responding to GBV to safely collect, store and generate analyzed reports in real time. NGBVD is a tool for Monitoring and Evaluating GBV interventions that involve compiling and monitoring reported GBV incidents. The NGBVD is

an E Government Online Management Information System 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 Tack 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 enhanced 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 it’s 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 by 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 d NDP 2; budget lines were allocated for prevention, response to SGBV, for example, the Justice Law and Order Sector, under the sector development plan earmarked 21.5 Billion for the promotion of gender equality and equitable access to justice for the years 2017-

2020. The 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 Desks (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 are 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.**

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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**

9 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**, 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.

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 25<sup>th</sup> 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 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 rape had 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 unto 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 a 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 unresolved 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 aspersions 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 the United Nations Development Programme. 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 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 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. Some of these include: Panzi Foundation, Heal Africa as well as Kyeshero hospital in North Kivu.

### **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 may be 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 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 party reporting, legislating against stigmatization, confidentiality, extra-territorial jurisdiction, reparation, and protection orders.
- Limited services for survivors such as Legal Aid, Shelters, Medical Services and 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 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 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 fast tracking SGBV cases; 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 military operational courts in war zones which handle serious human rights violations (including SGBV cases)
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.

## 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**

Zambia, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi have established appropriate mechanisms to prosecute and investigate SGBV crimes. Such mechanisms include - witness protection, collection of forensic evidence, and service shelters for victims. 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 (women). 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 as 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

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### 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.”*

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 States 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 such as the One-Stop Centre (Isange of Rwanda); and the 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 in Bangui. The partnership was forged at a Paris Conference on November 28, 2019. In other instances, provision of services is mainly done at Health Centers/Hospitals; and in some cases, by Civil Society Organizations, and Religious Institutions.
4.	Congo Brazzaville	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): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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;</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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;</li> <li>• Setting up a care unit at a Hospital, Cissé in Pointe Noire; and the</li> <li>• Existence of One Stop Centers (psychological and socio-economic support for GBV victims) of Azur development and ASI.</li> </ul> <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 <b>fast tracked the establishment and scaling up</b> of “Recovery Centres” that provide comprehensive services of free medical, psychosocial, forensic and judicial/prosecution. 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 legal/judicial care and socio-economic reinsertion.</p> <p>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, counselling, the emergency pill and forensic management of 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"> <li>• Gender Violence Recovery Centre at the Nairobi Women’s Hospital (2001);</li> <li>• Center for Assault and Recovery in Eldoret (CARE situated in Moi Teaching and Referral Centre;</li> <li>• The Coast General Hospital Recovery Centre;</li> <li>• The GBVRC at Kenyatta National Referral Hospital;</li> <li>• Taita Taveta District Hospital;</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biafra Clinic in Eastleigh Nairobi;</li> <li>• Makueni County Hospital GBVRC.</li> </ul>
7.	Rwanda	These Recovery Centres are called ISANGE One-Stop Centers and can be found in countrywide.
8.	South Sudan	It was reported that South Sudan has a national plan to set up ten Recovery Centres of which five have already been put in place. The five are currently providing free medical, psychological, judicial and prosecution services.
9.	Sudan	<p>Ahfad Trauma Centre 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 sixteen Shelters 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 GBV Shelters have been established in Uganda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ten are run by Action Aid in Amuru, Gulu, Lira, Nebbi, Katakwi, Kween, Kumi, Pallisa, Mubende and Kampala;</li> <li>• Four by MIFUMI in Tororo, Moroto, Mbarara, and Masaka; and</li> <li>• Two are run by Uganda Women’s Network in Kamuli and Namutumba.</li> </ul> <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	Services for victims/survivors of SGBV are provided mainly in hospitals and by Non-Government Organizations which provide services such as Legal Aid.
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 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 public 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**

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### **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 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 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011, a Host Agreement was signed between ICGRL 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 of 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 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 LMRC 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 LMRC in its operations should be established.

## 14. THE ICGLR REGIONAL SGBV TRAINING FACILITY

### Achievements and Progress

- The 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-RTF is hosted by the Republic of Uganda<sup>7</sup> and established in 2014 - The ICGLR – RTF is a special regional facility for training and sensitizing judicial 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 and Faith Based organizations.
- As at November 2019, 161 professionals have been trained and these include Master Trainers and National Trainers in all ICGLR Member 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 ten 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 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; and
- Limited administrative and financial autonomy.

### Recommendations

- Provide a mechanism for sustainable financing;
- Increase staffing levels 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; and lastly
- 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.

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<sup>7</sup>See 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.

## **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 SGBV as well as to facilitate the sensitization efforts to fight it.

### **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 and 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 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 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 Region 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 in national policies.

### **Challenges**

- There was limited information on activities undertaken to implement this Resolution, which directed the Secretariat to strengthen inter-linkages between 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 an 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 RINR and the Regional Initiative on SGBV.
- 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 SGBV.

- Continuous research, knowledge production and dissemination should be undertaken on interlinkages between RINR and the Regional Initiative on 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 SGBV.
- 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 place 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 the 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 such as 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 contributed significantly 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 States 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 FIDA – Uganda, Akina Mama wa Africa, 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 Civil Society Organisations.
- 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 ‘Empowerment of Professional and CSOs such as FIDA *and all others* in the Great Lakes Region that provide support to victims/survivors of SGBV’. An updated inventory would address and clearly define ‘Professional Organizations’ and the phrase ‘*all others*’ 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 ensuring that it’s 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 continue collaborating with Civil Society Organizations to ensure coordination and synchronize action 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 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 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 Kampal

## 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 ICGLR 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 RIMC and the ICGLR 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 RIMC 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 Kampala Declaration.

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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