



## **Declaration of the Plenary Assembly of the Forum of Parliaments of the Member States of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (FP-ICGLR) following its Fifth Ordinary Session held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2015**

### **The Plenary Assembly,**

Considering the provisions of Articles 4 and 22, paragraph 1 of the Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region signed in Nairobi on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2006,

Considering the provisions of Articles 2 and 6 of the Inter-parliamentary Agreement Establishing the Forum of Parliaments of the Member States of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (FP-ICGLR) signed in Kigali on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2008,

Having considered and deliberated during its Fifth Ordinary Session held in Nairobi from 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2015, on the items on its agenda, the Plenary Assembly makes the following Declaration.

1. Aware of the Resolutions that were adopted on:
  - a) The political, security and humanitarian situation in Central African Republic;
  - b) The political, security and humanitarian situation in Democratic Republic of the Congo;
  - c) The political, security and humanitarian situation in the Republic of South Sudan;
  - d) The role of Parliaments in the fight against the illegal exploitation of natural resources in the Great Lakes Region and the implementation of related international and regional legal instruments;
  - e) The role of Parliaments in the implementation of the Declaration of the Summit of Heads of State and Government of the ICGLR in the fight against youth unemployment through infrastructure development and promotion of investments” held on 24<sup>th</sup> July 2014, in Nairobi.

2. Various Decisions were taken:

- a) The renewal of the Mandate of Honourable HIGIRO Prosper as Secretary General of the FP-ICGLR, for a period of three years;
  - b) The adoption of the 2014 activity report of the FP-ICGLR;
  - c) The adoption of the 2014 Financial Report of the FP-ICGLR ;
  - d) The adoption of the annual financial contributions of Member States of the FP-ICGLR;
  - e) The adoption of the 2015- 2016 budget of the FP-ICGLR;
  - f) The adoption of the Action Plan 2015 - 2016 of the Forum of Parliaments of the ICGLR;
  - g) The approval of the membership of the Parliament of the Republic of Angola as a full member of the FP-ICGLR;
  - h) The incorporation of Portuguese and Arabic as working languages of the FP-ICGLR and accordingly amended the Inter-Parliamentary Agreement establishing the FP-ICGLR and its Rules and regulations;
3. Demands the governments and parliaments of the Member States of the ICGLR in general and especially those that are expected to hold elections in 2015 to take necessary measures to ensure free, transparent and credible elections, given the impact of elections in the stability and security of Nations ;
  4. Strongly condemns acts of terrorism in the Great Lakes Region in general and in particular those committed by the terrorist group Al Shabaab in the Republic of Kenya as they have caused enormous loss of life and property and expressed deep sympathy to the victims and their families, the people and the Kenyan Government;
  5. Pays tribute to the people and authorities of the Republic of Zambia for the conduct of successful presidential election;
  6. Thanks the Member Parliaments that have paid their financial contributions to the Forum and called upon those that have yet to pay, to fulfill their annual financial contributions and arrears to the FP-ICGLR as soon as possible, in accordance with the decision of the session setting the levels of contributions to enable the Forum to implement its programmes;
  7. Congratulates Member Parliaments of the Forum for their massive, active and constructive participation in the work of this Plenary Assembly;
  8. Presented its sincere thanks to the President of the Republic of Kenya, His Excellency UHURU Kenyatta, the Parliament, the Government and the people of Kenya for the warm and fraternal welcome, material and logistical support

provided towards the organization and hosting of this session and for their hospitality;

9. Thanked the Association of European Parliamentarians Partners with Africa (AWEPA) for the financial assistance in the organization of the Fifth Plenary Assembly;
10. Informed all the stakeholders that the Sixth Ordinary Session of the Plenary Assembly will be held from 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2015 in Luanda, Republic of Angola.

**Done at Nairobi, on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2015**

**The Rt. Hon. Sen. DAVID EKWEE ETHURO, EGH M.P.**

**President of the FP-ICGLR**