



Press Release on the Reopening of Land Borders between Sudan and South Sudan

The Secretariat of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region welcomes the reopening of land borders between these two Member States, namely Sudan and South Sudan, after 11 years of closure due to a border dispute.

The reopening of four border points of passage is an act that marks the renewal of commercial relations as well as the movement of goods, services and people that was interrupted for eleven years. A total of seven crossing points are expected to reopen along the more than 2,000 km border, allowing the free flow of goods, services and people. This decision was taken following talks between South Sudanese President Salva Kiir and Sudanese Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok at the end of 1 August 2021.

The Secretariat of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region encourages the two Member States to do what is necessary to remove many other obstacles that have made cross-border trade between them virtually non-existent.

The Secretariat of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region takes advantage of this happy event to reiterate its request to the other States of the Region that continue to close their borders to reopen them to facilitate cross-border trade and free trade and movement of goods and persons in the sub-region of the Great Lakes.

Bujumbura, 07/10/2021