



PRESS RELEASE

8th Ordinary Meeting of ICGLR Ministers in charge of Mines

Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo – 31 July 2025

The International Conference on the Great Lakes Region is pleased to announce that the 8th Ordinary Meeting of Ministers responsible for Mines took place today in Kinshasa. The theme of this year's meeting, "**Consolidating Peace and Security for Sustainable Development in the Great Lakes Region**," underscored the ministers' commitment to promoting stability and prosperity within the region.

The ministers of the Republic of Angola, the Republic of Burundi, the Republic of Congo, the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Republic of Rwanda, the Republic of Sudan, the United Republic of Tanzania and the Republic of Zambia gathered to discuss crucial issues affecting our region. The meeting was opened by H.E. Mr Kizito Kapinga Mulume, Minister of Mines of the DRC, and was honoured by the participation of H.E. Didier Makanzu Mazenga, Minister of Regional Integration of the DRC. It was chaired by Mr Noraldaim Mohamed Ahmed Taha, Minister of Mines of the Republic of Sudan.

Among the main items on the agenda were the review and adoption of the report of the extraordinary meeting of the ICGLR Regional Committee against the Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources, held virtually on 25 July 2025. The ministers assessed progress made under the Regional Initiative on Natural Resources, discussed the establishment of the regional mineral database, and reviewed the implementation of the regional certification mechanism. Particular attention was given to concerns raised by the Republic of Sudan regarding mining areas controlled by RSF rebels.

The ministers stressed the need to accelerate the implementation of the decisions of previous meetings and the need to respect the protocols and tools of the ICGLR in order to maintain institutional integrity and credibility.

In addition, the meeting emphasized the urgent need to make the ICGLR regional database on mineral flows operational. This measure will enhance transparency in natural resource management and ensure better information sharing among Member States.

The ministers expressed their sincere gratitude to the people and government of the DRC, under the leadership of His Excellency Félix Antoine Tshisekedi Tshilombo, President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, for their hospitality and for providing the necessary facilities that contributed to the success of this meeting.

Together, the mining ministers remain committed to ensuring peace, security and sustainable development in the Great Lakes region.