



SOLIDARITY MESSAGE FOLLOWING THE TRAGIC LAKE KIVU BOAT ACCIDENT

The Secretariat of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) expresses heartfelt condolences to the Government and people of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) following the devastating boat accident on Lake Kivu on 3rd October 2024. This devastating incident, which has claimed at least 78 lives, has deeply shaken the DRC and, indeed, the entire Great Lakes region.

To the people of DRC: We stand with you in grief and solidarity during this difficult time. Our hearts go out to the families, friends, and communities affected by this tragedy, and we also extend our thoughts to the survivors as they cope with this traumatic experience.

The ICGLR commends the courageous efforts of the Congolese troops and local authorities in their rescue and recovery operations. We call upon all citizens of the Great Lakes region to unite to support those affected, recognising that compassion and solidarity are important in such difficult times.

May our collective strength bring comfort and hope to our brothers and sisters in the DRC. Our thoughts remain with the victims, their families, and all those affected by this tragedy.

Bujumbura, 4th October 2024

**AMBASSADOR JOÃO SAMUEL CAHOLO
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**