



PRESS RELEASE

Bujumbura, Burundi, 30th November 2025 – The International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) today held the official handover ceremony for the Office of the Executive Secretary, with His Excellency Ambassador João Samuel Caholo formally transferring office to His Excellency Dr. Mubita Luwabelwa. The handover takes place shortly after Heads of State renewed their commitments to peace, security, governance, and regional integration, and reflects the strong support of the DRC as current Chair of the Organization.

The ceremony was attended by **His Excellency Floribert Anzuluni Isiloketshi**, Minister of Regional Integration of the DRC and Chairperson of the Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee (RIMC), and **His Excellency Edouard Bizimana**, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Development Cooperation of Burundi, along with Ambassadors of ICGLR Member States accredited to Burundi and representatives of development partners, underscoring the political importance of the transition.

Dr. Mubita Luwabelwa of Zambia, appointed during the [9th ICGLR Summit of Heads of State and Government](#), officially assumes office with more than 25 years of experience in national, regional, and international engagements. His leadership comes at a time when the ICGLR continues to play a central role in regional peace efforts, offering a platform for political dialogue, conflict prevention, judicial cooperation, and the responsible management of natural resources. As highlighted by His Excellency Anzuluni during the Summit, there is no viable alternative to the [ICGLR Pact](#), which remains the most comprehensive response to the structural causes of instability in the Great Lakes Region.

Journalists are invited to follow the Summit proceedings and related updates on the ICGLR online platform and on the digital platform of the DRC Ministry of Regional Integration.

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