

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE
GREAT LAKES REGION**

**REGIONAL MEETING OF REGIONAL NGOs
FROM THE GREAT LAKES REGION**

New Arusha Hotel, 20th - 24th September 2004

FINAL REPORT

Arusha, 24th September 2004

1. General Information and Background

1.1. Introduction

Since 1994, the idea to hold an International Conference on **Peace, Security and Development** in the Great Lakes Region (GLR) of Central and Eastern Africa was on the agenda of the United Nations (UN) as underscored in UN Resolution No. S/1999/1296 of December 1999, and Organisation of African Unity (OAU) Decision of 1995. [As a result of this, an International Conference of Great Lakes Region \(IC/GLR\) will be held in Dar es Salaam from 19th to 20th November 2004.](#) To ensure that the issues to be deliberated upon in the IC/GLR are all-inclusive, the UN and African Union (AU) urged the governments in the GLR states ensure that all sectors of civil society provide input to the IC/GLR. It is in this perspective that a special Regional Meeting of Regional NGOs from the GLR countries was convened in Arusha from the 20th to 24th September 2004.

1.2. Participation

The delegates to the Regional Meeting of Regional NGOs, represented all sectors of the civil society, from Burundi, DR Congo, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. The meeting was also attended by the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General to the Great Lakes Region (SRSG) Prof. Ibrahima Fall. Representatives of the Acting Special Envoy of the AU to GLR, “Group of Friends of the Great Lakes Region”, Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), International Peace Academy (IPA), Institute for Security Studies (ISS), United Nation’s Economic Commission for Africa (UN-ECA), UNESCO-PEER, African Centre for Conflict Studies, Media, and other international NGOs, also attended the meeting. South Africa sent an observer. The list of delegates is hereto attached as Annex E.

1.3. Objectives

The purpose of the Arusha Meeting was to provide the opportunity for stakeholders to express their views and reflect on strategies to bring lasting peace and stability in the GLR. The discussions were based on four broad thematic areas: Peace and Security, Democracy and Good Governance, Economic Development and Regional Integration, and Humanitarian and Social Issues.

This meeting marked the beginning of a long process of integrating civil society in shaping the destiny of the GLR, and thereby giving this important group of stakeholders the opportunity to make substantive positive contributions to the development of the region and Africa as a whole.

Deliberate efforts were made to ensure broad-based participation of NGOs. Those efforts aimed at attaining maximum inclusiveness regarding representation, attendance and substantive participation in the meeting. Also, they intended to guarantee the focus and to maximize the quality of the outputs of the meetings, while ensuring that such outputs mirror the concerns of the civil society in the GLR countries as accurate as possible.

2. Process

In order to allow the maximum number of stakeholders to express their opinion, the mode of organization of the Regional Meeting of Regional NGOs included a combination of **plenary sessions** and **thematic group sessions**. These were preceded by official declarations (see Annex F).

The plenary discussions served four purposes: **to discuss the national reports, to discuss general issues of concern that do not necessarily fall under one of the pre-agreed thematic areas** (i.e., issues that either cut across themes or do not fall under any of them), **to make initial reflections on major thematic issues of concern**, and **to discuss and adopt the deliberations of the thematic committees**. The thematic deliberations are hereto attached as Annex B, while the deliberations on general issues are attached as Annex C.

The plenary sessions were chaired by Tanzania as the host country. Mr. Joseph W. Butiku, the Executive Director of MNF chaired these sessions. The delegates agreed that the chairpersonship for the thematic group consultations be democratically distributed amongst the participating countries in alphabetical order.

3. Observations and the Way Forward

3.1. Observations

The dialogue at the Arusha Regional Meeting of Regional NGOs proved to be fruitful and positive, with all sides expressing their own positions in a constructive and objective manner, acknowledging the importance of this dialogue to achieve peace, stability and development in the GLR. The delegates identified challenges facing the GLR countries, and made practical suggestions on how to resolve such challenges in the immediate, short, medium and long-term perspectives. These challenges and recommendations are outlined in Annexes A (Final Declaration), B (Thematic Deliberations), C (General Issues), and D (Press Communiqué).

The delegates further agreed that, in order to sustain and give impetus to the initiated dialogue

within the civil society and across stakeholders groups; various platforms should be used to continue exchanging views (within the civil society, as well as among various stakeholder groups). In this regard, the delegates reiterated the need for building bridges among stakeholders groups on the one hand; and partnership between the civil society and the government on the other. They also agreed to build a network or joint organ of NGOs in the GLR. In this regard, the delegates agreed to set-up a mechanism which will facilitate regular meeting of NGOs and other groups of the civil society, in order to monitor progress.

The delegates called upon all the stakeholders, and in particular the political leaders of the GLR states, to approach the challenges facing the region with an open spirit, readiness, and political maturity, in order to reach consensus that will help in defusing the current situation of “**no war no peace**” prevailing in the region. They urged the governments to set the example, and facilitate regular dialogue among stakeholder groups. Besides, they expressed their strong desire for the maintenance (including re-establishment, where necessary) of diplomatic relations among all countries in the GLR.

The delegates reaffirmed their commitment to the development of the GLR. They reiterated the readiness of civil society to contribute to the success of the IC/GLR in general and the building of peace and stability, in order to foster sustainable development of all the GLR states.

3.2. Way Forward

For those who have closely followed the debate on peace, stability and development in the GLR, it is conspicuous that most of the issues deliberated upon at the Arusha Meeting are not really new. Most of the challenges and prospective recommendations have been identified in previous meetings; in particular the Kampala Symposium of 2002 that was organised under the theme “*Reinforcing the Region’s Solidarity and Setting an Agenda for a Culture of Peace, Unity and People Centred Development During the 21st Century*”. As repeatedly pointed out, what has been lacking is effective follow-up and implementation of those recommendations.

Therefore, in order to translate the recommendations of the Regional Meeting of Regional NGOs into reality, it is proposed that a follow-up mechanism be put in place and given substantive authority and necessary resources to pursue the matter.

Annexes to This Report:

Annex A: Final Declaration

Annex B: Thematic Deliberations

Annex C: General Issues

Annex D: Press Communiqué

Annex E: List of Participants

Annex F: Official Declarations at the Meeting

ANNEX A

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE GREAT LAKES REGION

FINAL DECLARATION OF NGOs OF THE GREAT LAKES REGION ON PEACE AND SECURITY, DEMOCRACY AND GOOD GOVERNANCE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REGIONAL INTEGRATION, AND HUMANITARIAN AND SOCIAL ISSUES

We, the NGOs of the core countries of the Great Lakes Region, gathered in Arusha, Tanzania, from the 20th to the 24th September 2004 in the framework of the preparatory process of the International Conference on Peace and Security, Democracy and Good Governance, Economic Development and Regional Integration, Humanitarian and Social Issues of the Great Lakes Region (IC/GLR), under the aegis of the African Union (AU) and the United Nations (UN),

- **Recognizing** that peace, stability and development in the Great Lakes region continues to be hindered by a multitude of challenges;
- **Recognizing further** that armed groups, arms trafficking and small arms proliferation, lack of accountability of leadership, dysfunctional and non-sustainable nation states, cross-border looting of wealth, one-sided intra-regional movements of people and citizenship problems, prevalence of a culture of impunity, weak system of mass education, lack of creative market-consistent strategies to ascertain local ownership of the economy, contribute to the political instability, conflict and persistence of poverty in the region;
- **Concerned** by the increasing human poverty in the Great Lakes Region, the critical humanitarian situation characterized by numerous IDPs, refugees, unemployment, violence against women and neglect of the youth in the region;
- **Convinced** that addressing the root causes of all these major sources of conflict would be a major contribution towards the achievement of the objectives of the dialogue. The proposed solutions include addressing the root causes of conflicts in the Great Lakes Region, DDR (Demilitarization, Demobilization and Re-integration) of ex-combatants, repatriation of refugees, resettlement of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), economic liberation, designing viable economic development programmes (to guide short, medium, and long term development), feasible strategies to build economic infrastructure for development (including rehabilitation of infras-

structure), promote regional integration and thereby observe principles of feasible regional integration;

- **Acknowledging** the importance of dialogue to achieve peace, stability and development in the Great Lakes Region;
- **Having identified** challenges facing the countries of the Great Lakes Region;
- **Making** practical suggestions on how to resolve such challenges in the immediate, short, medium and long-term perspectives;
- **Noting** that most of the regional peace, security and development instruments (treaties, agreements, protocols) are not effectively applied by actors in the region;
- **Conscious** of the need to revisit all peace agreements and assess the status of their implementation with a view of designing effective strategies and procedures for implementation of resolutions and monitoring of the implementation processes;
- **Strongly welcome** the joint UN/AU initiative for an International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (IC/GLR);
- **Mobilize** our own forces and launch an appeal to all critical segments of the civil society of the Great Lakes Region to work together and take our responsibilities for peace-building and regional development in the region;
- **Launch** a special and strong appeal to Heads of States and Governments of the Great Lakes Region for an effective implementation of existing regional peace and development instruments (treaties, agreements, protocols) in order to ensure and consolidate the foundations for regional peace and security and to rejuvenate the process of economic development and regional integration;
- **Affirm** that in order to sustain and give impetus to the initiated dialogue within the civil society and across stakeholders groups, various platforms should be used to continue exchanging views (within the civil society, as well as among various stakeholder groups) and bridges should be build among stakeholders groups on the one hand, and partnership between the civil society and the government on the other;

- **Agree**, that in order to facilitate the process of integration of the civil society in the **dialogue for peace, stability and development**, to build a network or joint organ of NGOs in the Great Lakes Region that will facilitate regular meeting of NGOs and other groups of the civil society, in order to monitor progress;
- **Call on** all the stakeholders, and in particular the political leaders of the countries of the Great Lakes Region, to approach the challenges facing the region with an open spirit, readiness, and political maturity, in order to reach consensus that will help in defusing the current situation of **“no war no peace”** prevailing in the region.
- **Reaffirm** our commitment and **reiterate** our readiness to contribute to the success of the IC/GLR in general and the building of peace, stability and development in the Great Lakes Region, in particular;
- **Extend** our warm thanks to the Mwalimu Nyerere Foundation for its relentless engagement to promote peace, stability and development in the Great Lakes Region, and for co-ordinating and facilitating this historical meeting of the region’ NGOs.
- **Adopt** the report of the Arusha NGO meeting here attached as our contribution to the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region for the attention of the Summit of Heads of State and Government which is scheduled to take place in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, from 19 to 20 November 2004.

Done and Adopted in Arusha, 24th September 2004.

ANNEX B
THEMATIC DELIBERATIONS

Annex B.1: Peace and Security

Annex B.2: Democracy and Good Governance

Annex B.3: Economic Development and Regional Integration

Annex B.4: Humanitarian and Social Issues

ANNEX B.1

PEACE AND SECURITY

1. PREAMBLE

A peaceful region where the sanctity of human life is respected, where there are just laws and people-centred policies, where governance structures are inclusive and where citizens lead harmonious and prosperous lives.

2. IDENTIFIED CHALLENGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

No	Major Challenges		Guiding Principles/Recommended Policy/Actions
1.	Invisibility of Actors in Conflicts - Interests in 'shadow economies'	1.	Expose the Actors of Conflicts 1.1 Understand the Root Causes of conflicts in the GLR: - Clearly identify challenges and prioritise responses accordingly. 1.2. Clearly Define and Identify the Actors in Conflicts in GLR, and Ascertain their Role: - There are strategic actors (usually invisible, and very powerful) and non-strategic actors . - Strategic actors should be made visible, so that their activities can benefit regional economies. - Mercenaries, arms traffickers and other such actors should be exposed and tried. 1.3. Harmonise policies and strategies of those involved in peace negotiations both regionally and internationally 1.4. Analysis of shadow economies and actors. - Institute sanctions, blacklist and prosecute businesses and individuals who profit from conflicts in the region through plunder, human trafficking, abduction, etc. 1.5. Pursue policies and activities that promote reconciliation and unity at national and regional levels. - Sensitise populations to schemes of invisible actors.
2.	Insensitivity of the Political Elite, Governments and Donors to the Welfare of the People: - Political elite in pursuing their own interests, do not value the welfare of the	2.	Institute Measures to Ascertain Sensitivity of Stakeholders to Welfare of the People 2.1. Promote Accountability - Enhance mechanisms to increase accountability across the board. - Include civil society in donor consultative forums where policies affecting the welfare of the people are discussed. - Urge civil society to coordinate and harmonize their activities in monitoring accountability of governments and other actors. - Implement NEPAD African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) and promote greater civil society involvement.

	<p>people.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Failure of politicians to promote pro-poor development initiatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Demilitarise politics - power is concentrated in politics and the military. - Ensure ongoing quality programmes on civic and voter education. - Review national constitutions so that they respond to the imperatives of accountability. - Develop and adopt a regional code of conduct for elections. <p>2.2. Promote development initiatives that address basic needs through cooperatives and income generating activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CSOs to lobby for pro-poor development programmes. - Initiate/sustain universal primary education with special emphasis on the girl-child, child soldiers and the physically and mentally challenged.
3.	<p>The Use of Child Soldiers</p>	<p>3. Comprehensive Policy for DDRR (Demilitarization, Demobilization, Reintegration and Rehabilitation)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reinforce the UN Declaration on Child Soldiers. - Coordinate and harmonize disarmament, demobilisation, reintegration and rehabilitation regional policies and programmes. - Address the educational needs of child soldiers within a long-term perspective that includes peace education, while also taking into account the families and communities that will absorb them. - Faith-based organisations need to have spiritual programmes for reintegration of child soldiers into the community. - Deliberate campaign to identify political elites who conscript child soldiers. - Criminalize governments and movements that conscript child soldiers and deny any such leaders public office. - Outlaw the reintegration of child soldiers into national armies.
4.	<p>Citizenship and the Long-term Status of Naturalised Citizens (including former refugees)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Obscurity surrounding their rights and obligations; not well articulated in legal framework - Relevant legal provisions missing 	<p>4. Promotion of International Principles of Citizenship:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Address the causes of displacement and migration. - Review and reinforce national provisions for citizenship. - Formulate and harmonize comprehensive regional policy on citizenship. - Campaign against blanket naturalisation. - Develop and implement awareness and education programmes prior to naturalisation.

5.	An over sized and politicised Public Sector	5.	Promote the private sector as a way of creating employment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enforce/enact investment laws for both local and foreign investors and entrepreneurs at both regional and national levels. - Enhance transparency in privatisation processes. - Rationalise the size of the public sector and professionalize it. - Rationalise military expenditure including the necessity of investment in weapon and ammunition production in the light of socio-economic development demands
No	Major Challenges		Guiding Principles/Recommended Policy/Actions
6.	Links between Economic Dependency and Democracy:	6.	Strive for high economic growth in all sectors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote policies for good economic governance (e.g. address corruption) - GLR states should strive for economic independence through <i>inter-alia</i> increase intra-regional trade, develop the manufacturing sector, and control the exploitation of natural resources
7.	Culture Impunity: of	7.	Uphold justice, strict adherence to the rule of law and promote a culture of peace: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prosecute and punish all those who commit economic crimes and crimes against humanity. Isolate them diplomatically and ban them from assuming public office - Respect of human rights and the sanctity of life. - Decisively deal with genocide through institutionalised frameworks - Establish Truth and Reconciliation Committees (TRCs) - Safeguard the independence of the judiciary - Promote community media to facilitate reporting of issues of injustice and crime.
8.	Bad governance that leads to tension and conflict:	8.	Transform politics for the benefit of the people: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Put in place mechanisms that ensure that political processes are people-centred - Hold focused fora for political dialogue - Intensify civic education
9.	Under-utilisation of regional human resource potential in policy processes:	9.	Optimally utilise the existing regional human resource capacity for policy making <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote research and analysis in support of policy making - Continuous capacity building of existing leaders - Regional experts to correctly represent the history of our region
10.	Illegal Arms Trafficking:	10.	Implement regional and international instruments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implement the Nairobi Protocol on Small Arms and Light Weapons, which provides for civil society partnership at both national and regional levels. - Implement the land mines convention - Ensure monitoring of implementation progress - Define terrorism and other global threats vis-à-vis our context to avoid controversial laws that breed tension and discontent

11.	<p>Lack of effective and harmonized policies and strategies for conflict management and prevention.</p>	11.	<p>Set-up mechanisms for conflict prevention and management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish a regional authority or commission for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution with an early warning and early response mechanism and a mandate for post-conflict reconstruction, including amnesty. - Enhance and invest in diplomatic processes for conflict prevention. - Recognize and integrate positive traditional conflict prevention and resolution mechanisms to include civil society. - Reinforce the AU mechanisms of dealing with conflict. - Formulate and reinforce a non-aggression pact for the GLR to be linked to international bodies and be given a mandate to address internal conflicts.
12.	<p>War-lordism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Armed militia - Government sponsored militias - Privatisation of security 	12.	<p>Curb War-Lordism</p> <p>12.1 End militarism or violence as a means of resolving conflict.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enforce AU/UN provisions that reject the assumption of power through unconstitutional means - Refrain from providing rear bases for armed militias in the region - Legislate and implement provisions against the sponsorship of armed militias - Reverse the process of privatisation of security and address its root causes - Employ traditional and modern civil society structures in peace education, early warning and response including mediation <p>12.2. DDDR:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Demilitarisation, demobilisation, re-integration and rehabilitation of ex-combatants. - Institute balanced approaches towards disarmament of armed groups in order to deter the perpetuation of fear
13.	<p>Gender-Based Violence and Discrimination Against Vulnerable Groups</p>	13.	<p>Protection of the rights of vulnerable groups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ratify and implement CEDAW - Legislate and implement specific provisions against Gender Based Violence (GBV). - Promote and officially support trauma counselling programmes. - Classify GBV as a crime against humanity.
14.	<p>Demographic Pressures</p>	14.	<p>Regional Integration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote the freedom of movement for the people within the region. - Address the factors that lead to tension ensuing from demographic pressures. - Improve land management systems with a long-term development perspective. - Promote and focus on integrated rural development.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rationalise and harmonise regional organisations to accommodate core countries in a single organisation.
15.	Conflict and its impact on the spread of HIV/AIDS	15.	Mainstream HIV/AIDS in peace and security programmes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitor and manage the correlation between HIV/AIDS and insecurity. - Invest in and expand Anti-Retroviral (ARV) programmes in both rural and urban areas. - Provide free surgical gloves to care workers.
16.	Border Insecurity and related problems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Livestock rustling - Pillage 	16.	Promote intra-regional confidence building measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthen and coordinate cross-borders mechanisms at both civil society and government level. - Coordinate official border monitoring, disarmament and security programmes. - Formulate and implement a non-aggression pact at a regional level. - Improve communication and information sharing with border communities.
17.	Disinformation by the media	17.	Media accountability in peace and security <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthen regional media institutions for correct analysis and reporting of events. - Uphold the freedom of the press and avoid legislation to the contrary. - Develop and/or strengthen community media. - Train both public and private media on reporting regional peace and security issues. - Deal specifically with impunity of the media without sacrificing freedom of press. - Revive the regional civil society early warning network.
18.	Degeneration of values <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of respect for human life - Child molestation - Disrespect for authority 	18.	Promote value systems that respect the sanctity of human life. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organise regional fora to promote cultural values and a culture of peace and tolerance. - Accord traditional mechanisms their rightful role in reconciliation and Conflict Prevention Management and Resolution. - Reintroduce or reinforce moral, ethical and civic education in the school curricula with civil society participation. - Involve faith-based organisations in the promotion of moral values. - Include the philosophy of 'Ubuntu' in the education system. - Critically examine the impact of globalisation and redress negative aspects. - Media should deliberately promote ethical values. - Safeguard the regional cultural heritage and promote cultural tourism.

19.	Ethnicity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Crimes against humanity - Genocide - Politics of exclusion. 	19.	Develop policies that promote Inclusiveness: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sensitise people across the region and promote principles of reconciliation, forgiveness, unity and co-existence. - Promote governance systems that are inclusive and take into account minority concerns. - Promote a culture of tolerance.
20.	Process and implementation of peace agreements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Flawed participation - Lack of political will - Lack of commitment in implementation 	20.	Address the legitimacy of processes and outcomes of peace agreements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emphasize political will. - Facilitate structured regional third party conflict management involving both government and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) - Publicise Agreements to the grassroots so as to create awareness. - Strengthen international community support to implementation of regional peace processes.
21.	Problems emanating from peacekeeping operations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - inadequate training of peace keepers - Gender Based Violence (GBV) - Rape and associated outcomes (HIV AIDS etc.) - Language barrier 	21.	Adapt peacekeeping operations to the regional context: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure appropriate training programmes for peacekeepers. - Strict penalties against perpetrators of GBV. - Increase the participation of women in peacekeeping missions. - Incorporate soldiers from the region in peacekeeping operations.
22.	Lack of transparency of INGO activities and competition with local initiatives:	22.	Utilise regional expertise in partnerships with INGOs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop and implement legislations of INGOs operations within the region that provide for partnership with credible local organisations and not otherwise. - Enhance capacity building for local, national and regional CSOs in this partnership. - Monitor and evaluate the work of NGOs in the region.

ANNEX B.1 (CONCLUDED)

PEACE AND SECURITY

3. FOLLOW-UP MECHANISM FOR CIVIL SOCIETY

The Delegates agreed that:

- (a) An ad-hoc follow-up committee comprising of organisations represented at this regional meeting from the core countries.
- (b) Establish/revitalise a civil society early warning and response network.

ANNEX B.2

DEMOCRACY AND GOOD GOVERNANCE

A. PREAMBLE

Democracy and Governance are key pillars of stability, peace, security, development and prosperity, which our region, countries and people are in a great need of. Although we seriously lack them, it is necessary to insist that democracy and governance are not incompatible principles to African-ness.

By their diversity and particularity, modern conceptions agree that a political system is democratic when it is founded for on four essential elements: **the sovereignty of the people, political pluralism, the separation of powers (Executive, Legislative and Judiciary) and the rule of law**. Most of the specialized institutions base themselves on six indicators for measuring governance. They are: **freedom of expression and the obligation of being accountable for ones responsibilities (voice and accountability), political stability, efficient government, quality of services, administration and products (regulatory quality)**; the rule of law and corruption control, common visions for the Great Lakes Region. The committee subscribed to these indicators as criteria for the promotion of democracy and good governance in our region.

The common vision for the GLR should be a prosperous, democratic, well-governed and integrated region, where every citizen fully enjoys all social, political and nationality rights; a region which prohibits violent conflicts and ideologies; a region which knows how to devise peaceful mechanisms for the management of conflicts and effectively sets them up; a region starting from its cultural diversity, knows how to build up its unity and cohesion and to play a role in continental integration; a region where the interests of the citizen in its total integrity is at the heart of leaders and aspirants to that category.

CHALLENGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON DEMOCRACY AND GOOD GOVERNANCE

/NO.	MAJOR CHALLENGES		RECOMMENDATIONS
1.	<p>Lack of Legitimacy of National Leaders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Leaders who come to power through coup d'etats; not from people's will are remote controlled by external powers and actors - take over the sovereignty of the people - Constitutions drafted without popular participation or amended in the interests of leaders 	1.	<p>Set-up mechanisms to Ascertain Democratic Legitimacy of National Leaders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Civil Society should be involved to ensure that leaders are answerable to the people - Promote concretely the effective sovereignty of the people through regular free and transparent elections at all levels and respect of accountability - Set-up an independent regional mechanism for monitoring elections - De-politicization of armies and the police and fight the proliferation of rebellions - Put to task leaders who manipulate constitutional law. - Harmonization of electoral laws in the region and vertical democratization
2.	<p>External Interference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - External powers impose choice of leaders - External powers impose democratic models - External powers use local political actors as their instruments - There is predominance in the management of internal affairs and exploitation of resources by multinationals and states Civil Society to develop 	2.	<p>Stop Destructive External Interference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Civil Society to develop indigenous capacities for criticism and censure imperialist practices in the region - Popularize international conventions - Set up effective mechanisms for restraining negative international interferences - Adopt policies which govern and monitor the role of NGOs in the African Great Lakes and regulate international NGOs. - Apply international conventions
	<p>Divisionist Ideologies, Xenophobia and Exclusion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ideologies originating from western view of Africa (from a historical context) - Advocacy of politics built on divisions, xenophobia and exclusion - Negative perceptions of what the other is 	4.	<p>Promote National and Regional Unity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Create favourable conditions to conviviality and peaceful co-existence of people of the region - Regional deconstruction campaign of destructive ideologies in the region - De-mining of spirit campaigns - Civil Society to assume its role as a catalyst for peace among communities, inside the states and among themselves. - Promote cultural diversity in the cohesion and the emergency of citizenship

5.	Marginalisation of Communities and Social Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Insufficient substantive participation by women and youth groups - Marginalisation of various community groups 	5.	Mainstreaming of Women, Youth and other Disadvantaged Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Civil Society create women and youth national councils and a regional network - Reinforce the participation of women and youth and other disadvantaged groups with verifiable indicators (50% women by 2015)
6.	Bad Governance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Political Immaturity and Poor Leadership (leaders who invest outside their countries, policies based on the principle of exclusion, absence of vision from leaders) - Transferring poorly performing leaders from one office to another - Leaders motivated by personal interests - Appointments by vote rigging or corruption - Absence of appointment criteria to senior public functions - Civil Society often absent in public participation - Bad governance as a source of conflicts, atrocities - Non-observation of rule of law 	6.	Promote Good Governance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Respect Principles of Good Democratic Governance (Devise Regional Action Plan With Verifiable Indicators, Responsibility of both leaders and people themselves, Sensitization of AGL masses by Civil Society, Each country should have a leadership code of conduct, Leaders' foreign investments should be made known to the people, Use NEPAD check up mechanism as a control instrument and a leadership indicator) - Regional media networking/creation of Regional Media - Civil Society to plead for a legal platform to rule out from leadership of GLR countries people who committed crimes against humanity and/or serious economic crimes - Equitable distribution of/access to national resources - Transparency and equity in the management of public affairs - Improving the quality of services and products and public administration - Set-up mechanisms to ascertain visionary regional leadership
6.	Bad Governance (concluded) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Race for power for self-enrichment - National policies in our region are influenced from outside (example: PRSP) - Priorities of budgetary expenditures which are not adhered to - Political dependence - Centralisation of actual political systems, which 	6.	Promote Good Governance (concluded) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Broad decentralization or federation (where applicable (remission of debts and orientation of funds to programmes for the development of the people of countries concerned) - Promote accountability (anti-corruption laws and institutions in the countries and the regions, create riches and prosperity

	<p>complicates the emergence of sustainable ways out and development; “imported” economic policies applied without adaptation; external debt challenge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of transparency in privatization 		<p>of people from available resources, budgetary expenditure priorities should reflect the needs of the people, reinforce private sector capacities, Civil Society should inquire about debts and their relevance, encourage innovative economic policies)</p>
7.	<p>Institutionalization of Impunity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Political systems which favour tension and development of advocate culture of impunity - Excessive power of the civil service and political elite 	7.	<p>Stop Culture of Impunity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ratification of mechanisms for fighting against impunity - Set-up national and regional mechanisms for eradicating impunity - Reinforce the independence of Judicial system vis à vis the Executive - Redress the powers of the civil service and political elite
8.	<p>Inefficiency of Governments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Governments incapable of proper management of national resources (including planning) - Examples: social, infrastructure, economic, education, health, public expenditure, etc. 	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- involve Civil Society in the planning and management of public affairs - access to education and health services by the people - democratization of the process of preparing national budgets
10.	<p>Institutionalized Corruption</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prevalence of hypocrisy and lies in politics - Entrenched embezzlement of funds and other national resources - Moral corruption through cronyism and trading of favour 	10.	<p>Impugn Corrupt Leaders in all Spheres of Society</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - set up anti-corruption institutions and reinforce repression in corruption - Agree on concrete anti-corruption measures region-wise - Devise professional code of ethics in politics - Involve Civil Society in monitoring adherence to professional code of conduct

3. WAY FORWARD

The GLR’s civil society faces several challenges. These include Civil Society, politicization, external financing which mortgages their programmes and agenda, too general programmes, and intregrence by governments.

In order to facilitate their activities and bolster reputation, the CSO are advised to do the following:

- (a) Engage them in the process of reconciling communities both within and among neighbouring countries.
- (b) Promote sectoral networks in the GLR.
- (c) Strive to be economically more autonomous.
- (d) Specialise on a few activities and do them efficiently
- (e) Build good governance and democratic principles.

ANNEX B.3

FINAL THEMATIC DELIBERATIONS ON “ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REGIONAL INTEGRATION”

1. PREAMBLE

Despite the abundant natural resources that make the GLR potentially the richest region of the world, the region as such, has not been able to take off and remains economically underdeveloped. According to some World Bank indicators, two of the Least Developed Countries (LDC) are found in the GLR. The average GNP per capita in the region is USD 220.00 (2002) and the average annual GDP growth rate is 1.3 (1990-2002). The low level of development is reflected in various socio and economic sectors such as education, health, and economic infrastructures and backward agriculture.

The main objective of regional integration in the GLR should be economic development for peace and stability in the Region, given the impact of conflicts. Development should be people-centred. The region is characterised by a multiplicity of regional economic integration groupings (ECCAS, EAC, CEPGL, COMESA, IGAD, SADC) with multiple membership. Given that situation, the ultimate objective should be to promote a unified single GLR economic space. This could be achieved through the harmonisation of the various trade liberalisation regimes, the rationalisation of sectoral programmes and ultimately that of institutional frameworks.

National development and regional integration are mutually supportive. Leaders of the region should reaffirm their commitment to regional integration and translate commitments into national policies, growth led sound macro-economic framework and related policies should be adopted.

IDENTIFIED CHALLENGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

S/N	Major Challenges	Recommendations
1.	<p>Human Resources Underdevelopment</p> <p>1.1. Poor Education System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poor education infrastructure - High rate illiteracy with regional average of 68.8 low level of school enrolment - Un-adapted curricula 	<p style="text-align: center;">1.</p> <p>Undertake Measures to Develop Humanitarian Resources</p> <p>1.1. Improve Education System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rehabilitate and strengthen educational systems at all levels - Adopt strategies, policies and programmes to ensure education for all - Harmonise school curricula and adapt them to the GLR needs - Promote national languages and Swahili as a lingua franca and French and English as international languages - Promote functional literacy and vocational training
	<p>1.2. Poor Health Care System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poor health infrastructure - Low level of doctors per patients - Declining life expectancy - Persistence of HIV/AIDS pandemic and Malaria and TB - High cost of health care, - Small budget allocated to health and social sectors 	<p>1.2. Improve Health Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rehabilitate and expand health systems (health infrastructures and equipment) including the utilisation of ICTs to access distance capacities, to avoid high cost of treating patients outside the countries and the region - Promote local manufacturing of drugs and make essential drugs available and accessible to the grass root people - Democratisation of health systems so that people can participate in policy and decision making - Make ARV accessible and affordable to all those in need - Create referral health and pharmaceutical units; and establish a regional network of qualified personnel and harmonise regional health programmes - Create regional research and scientific institutions - Support local medical practitioners - Emphasise preventive measures for health services including vaccination and sensitisation of urban and rural population on hygiene and health matters - Establish specific programmes including reproductive health that integrate the gender dimension and take care of pregnant women with HIV/AIDS - Increase budgetary allocation to health and social sectors - Promote health sanitary associations - Review health Codes in view of their regional harmonisation - Assist and support GLIA in its initiatives and efforts in combating HIV/AIDS

	<p>1.3. Poor Water Supply</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poor management of regional water resources 		<p>1.3. Improve Water Supply System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Formulate an integrated approach for the management of water in the GLR with a view to ensuring access to clean water to all the people; to prevent drought and facilitate irrigation systems and avoid water-related conflicts.
2.	<p>Underdevelopment of Key Economic Sectors</p> <p>2.1. Agriculture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Limited and smallness of the market - Low capital investment in agriculture - Weak infrastructure - Countries producing identical products - Food insecurity, - Degradation of agricultural land - Focus on cash crops at the expense of food production - Drought - Land tenure systems biased against women 	2.	<p>Institute Measures to Develop Key Sectors of the Economy</p> <p>2.1. Agriculture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote cross border and regional markets - Create regional agricultural research institutions, reinforce the existing ones and ensure sufficient coordination of their programmes - Vulgarise training methods for peasants - Food Aid Agency that provide food in humanitarian crisis areas should, whenever possible, buy food from within the region - Promote local agricultural products, their local transformation and commercialisation within the region through appropriate marketing strategies - Encourage land reform taking into account the need to promote women ownership of land; - Modernise the agricultural sector through the adoption of appropriate technologies in order to increase productivity - Assist small scale farmers to have access to land and credit facilities - Promote cooperative management to avoid middle men and encourage direct access to market by farmers - Develop irrigation systems in order to avoid over dependence on rain-fed agriculture
	<p>2.2. Physical Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poor physical infrastructure - Weak Transport and communication infrastructures - Over dependence on satellites for communication - Inadequate investment in the field of transport and communication 		<p>2.2. Improve Physical Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improve, upgrade the existing infrastructures, explore and invest in new infrastructures such as rail roads, pipelines, fibre optic network interconnections and water ways - Promote the development and the utilisation of ICT - Support the COMESA sponsored COMTEL project as well as the marine cable EASSY project as complementary network interconnection programmes - Reinforce and improve the existing transport corridors, i.e., the Northern corridor, the Central corridor and to develop the Southern corridor multi-modal links between different parts of the GLR and southern Africa including Zambia
	2.3. Industrialisation Strategy		2.3. Devise Innovative Industrialisation

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poor industrialisation strategy - Low level of industrialisation - De-industrialisation resulting from globalisation - Lack of regional approach of industrialisation 	<p>Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop national and regional policies and programmes of industrialisation - Develop regional approach for industrial specialisation
	<p>2.4. Mining</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mining industry dominated by external investors due to low national and regional investment capacity - Environmental degradation associated with mining activities 	<p>2.4. Devise Strategies for Sustainable Development of the Mining sector</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote national and regional investment capacities - Building negotiation capacities and promoting regional negotiating organs to negotiate contracts with potential investors - Promote a regional mining Code that protect the interests of communities around the mining centres - Promote local mineral processing industries to give an added value to the final products and promote activities of small scale miners through training and facilitation access to appropriate technologies
	<p>2.5. Trade and Tourism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Heavy debt burden - Trade barriers - Lack of basic infrastructures to support the tourism industry - Weak promotion of local based tourism - Instability 	<p>2.5. Devise Feasible Strategies for Promotion of trade and Tourism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Total cancellation of debt - Removal of trade and non tariff barriers - Facilitate the free movement of people including taking steps towards a common regional passport for the region - Sign and ratify all the existing Protocols and call for their implementation - Consider a regional equalisation mechanism to sustain trade liberalisation programmes and strengthen production and trading capacities within the sub-region with special emphases on least developed member-states - Promote mechanisms for conflict prevention and resolution - Promote school and research development centres on tourism - Establish sensitisation and public awareness programmes on tourism and HIV/AIDS - Develop interregional tourism circuits and packages

<p>3.</p>	<p>General Development Issues 3.1. Rural Development Barriers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Youth rural migration towards urban areas - Lack of basic services in rural areas - Persistence rural poverty - Restricted modernisation of the rural economic base 	<p>3. General Development Strategies 3.1. Promote Sustainable Rural Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adopt regional integrated rural development strategies - Promote agro-processing industries in rural areas; - Create capacity through education to encourage youth and adults to remain on their land and develop productive activities - Make the suburbs friendly to attract youth and promote small scale income-generating activities to reverse massive exodus - Provide incentive to investors so that they could invest in the rural areas - Develop rural infrastructure including roads, health and education facilities; water and energy including the utilisation of new and renewable energies - Restore soil fertility through inter alia alternative agricultural approaches and the use of locally available inputs such as the phosphates deposits of Minjingu in Tanzania and Tororo in Uganda - Promote investment in the production of agricultural implements
	<p>3.2. Destruction of Natural heritage and Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pollution - Threat to wildlife - Wars adversely affecting the environment and national parks 	<p>3.2. Protection of natural Heritage and Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote forestry policies and programmes in order to prevent deforestation and to preserve sources of water - Rationalise the management of urban waste to reduce air and water pollution - Rationalise the management of wild life to preserve different existing animal species and the biodiversity at large - Explore new and renewable sources of energy to mitigate deforestation - Protect natural heritage, cross border ecosystems and river basins; and eradicate the water hyacinth - Urge the government to address the soil erosion and loss of fertility by promoting agro-forestry, animal husbandry policies and programmes which will address the issue of soil fertility - Restore eco-systems including national Parks affected by war and refugees activities - Establish a regional early warning and response mechanism for the identification of threats against environment and the protection of the ecosystem

	<p>3.3. Gender-Insensitive Development Strategies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of systematic mainstreaming gender issues - Marginalisation of women and other disadvantaged groups (communities, regions, age groups, etc.) 	<p>3.3. Promote Gender-Sensitive Development Strategies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mainstreaming gender issues - Empowering women and other marginalized groups - Adopt appropriate policies that take into account the gender dimension in their development strategies, plans and budgets, including their economic and legal empowerment - Urge government to implement the pertinent legal instruments existing to combat discrimination against women - Promote policies and programmes that favour reproductive health and fund them accordingly, including assisting pregnant women with HIV/AIDS - Design development programmes that involve all vulnerable groups
	<p>3.4. Inappropriate Policies Framework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Legacy of colonial era - Top down approach in development policies 	<p>3.4. Develop Appropriate Policy Framework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop participatory development policies - Decentralise the economy to empower peasants, make it participatory; bottom up strategies needed - Explore ways to make development projects financially sustainable by mobilising local resources in priority - TCDC approach to foster the development - Review strategies and policies and think of new development alternatives; this should include a viable and sustainable industrialisation strategy at national and regional level - Adopt a regional approach to economic development by promoting the unified GL economic space and planning accordingly - Implement the 1990 African Charter on development and popular participation.
	<p>3.5. Macro-economic Instability and Prevalent Poverty</p>	<p>3.5. Promote Macro-economic Stability and Poverty Alleviation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review and harmonise macro-economic policies so as to ensure effective poverty reduction programmes and wealth creation - Elaborate a shared vision and a regional approach to economic development that is people oriented

<p>4.</p>	<p>Lack of Serious Regional Integration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Multiple membership - African integration restricted to co-operation - Poor economic development - Absence of peace - Lack of political will - Absence of CSO in various RECs 	<p>4.</p> <p>Promote Effective Regional Integration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Keep existing organisations, harmonise and rationalise their sectoral programmes and encourage the integration of members of the GLR into a single greater regional organisation - Promote a common free investment zone; also harmonise fiscal and custom systems - Regional integration focus should be accelerated development growth for the promotion of stability and peace - Sustainable regional economic integration needs to be based on a strong political super structure; - Promote infrastructure development to promote physical integration as a mainstay to regional cooperation; - Consolidate integration initiatives and streamline institutional regional integration arrangements - Improve information dissemination in the GLR - Involve CSOs and the private sector in the integration processes in a formal way and at all stages of policy formulation and programme development - Promote regional integration in the light of social and cultural integration
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ANNEX B.3 (CONCLUDED)

FINAL THEMATIC DELIBERATIONS ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REGIONAL INTEGRATION

3. THE WAY FORWARD

It is recommended that the region's CSOs should be networking of CSO. In that arrangement, the MNF should be empowered to co-ordinate the follow up activities and serve as secretariat of regional NGOs in the framework of the IC/GLR with NGOs active in the sub-region. The arrangement should also involve the establishment of **National Focal Points** through NGOs present at this meeting.

ANNEX B.4

FINAL THEMATIC DELIBERATIONS ON

“HUMANITARIAN AND SOCIAL ISSUES”

No	Major Challenges		Recommendations
1.	<p>Ineffective Mechanisms for Conflicts Prevention and management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Interest of various actors (economic, political and military)- Civil society’s dependency on external resources- Lack of universally accepted concept of democracy	1.	<p>Address political, economic and military root causes of conflict in the GLR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Promote civic awareness and peace education- Protection of minority groups- Promote separation of the three branches of the state (the legislature, judiciary and the executive)- Promote electoral legitimacy, political pluralism, and plurality of interest; freedom of expression, law of electoral majority, political changeover and equal participation of men, women and youth in the exercise of political and economic power- Promote traditional methods of resolving or managing conflicts, i.e., Gachacha in Rwanda, Ubushinganahe in Burundi and National Indaba in Zambia- Establish mechanisms for consultations by political and other actors- Development of early warning systems for prevention, preparedness and rapid response at the national and regional levels- Respect for peace agreements and protocols- Pursuit of harmonized policies and programs in conflict prevention in the region- Pilot test research on the efficacy of traditional mechanisms of conflict management- Civic education at the grassroots

<p>2.</p>	<p>Low Budget Leading to Dilapidated Social Services</p> <p>2.1. Poor Education Standards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Low education budgets - Low education standards - High illiteracy levels - Low enrolment 	<p>2.</p> <p>Undertake Budgetary Measures to Ascertain Improvement of Social services</p> <p>2.1. Improve Education Standards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote education for all by 2015 under the MDG (UN Millennium Development Goals) framework - Promote teacher emergency programs - Integrate peace education in the school curriculum - Increase education budget - Establish pedagogical recovery education systems - Introduce Kiswahili as a core subject - Promotion of Entrepreneurial education aimed at self-reliance - Campaign for equal education for all regardless of class, gender, ethnicity and religion - Civil society to institute education for adults - Engage civil society and private sector in campaigning for the attainment of the MDGs
	<p>2.2. Widespread Malaria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Low health budget - Low education - Lack of research of the disease - Lack of or insufficient preventive medicine 	<p>2.2. Curb Malaria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Institute regional malaria research schemes - Regional States to devote more resources for research and development for local research on malaria - Increased emphasis by states in the WHO Roll Back Malaria Programme for further research, treatment options and preventive measures - Civil Society to ensure that regional states comply with the RBM Programme standards
	<p>2.3 Exclusion of Vulnerable Groups From Social Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Commercialisation of social services - Lack of alternative options for financially-weak groups 	<p>2.3. Integration of Vulnerable Groups into Social services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional States to establish a regional fund for health under the framework of the MDG- 'Health for All by 2015' - Establish and promote policies and programmes as well as laws that protect vulnerable populations

	<p>2.4. Poor Water and Sanitation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Restricted access to safe water - Poor sanitation system 		<p>2.4. Improve Water Supply and Sanitation Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote the efficient use of regional water resources - Establish policies for proper use of water - Regional States to allocate sufficient funds for rural water supply - Ensure access to safe and clean water - Community water and sanitation management - Civil Society to sensitize people on the scarcity and proper use of water to avoid wastage. - Sensitize people on tree planting
	<p>2.5 High Maternal and Infant Mortality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of sufficient care for pregnant women - Lack of prioritisation of treatment of child diseases 		<p>2.5. Lower Maternal and Infant Mortality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthen pre-natal neo-natal and post-natal care for mothers - prioritize prevention and treatment of child diseases - Reduce maternal death and infant mortality - Ensure that medical services are available and accessible for children and mothers - Promote the use of traditional birth attendants - Prevent PMCT
3	<p>Poor Shelter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poverty - Constant shifting due to war, drought and cultures (pastoralism) - Lack of effective land code/law 	3.	<p>Institute Measures for Provision of Adequate Shelter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional States to institute peace in order to allow people to have confidence in building permanent houses - Regional States to desist compulsion in resettlement programmes , ethnic homogenization of areas either through villagization - Minimum standards of shelter - Civil Society to solicit Regional States to 'make peace - Reform of the land code/law - Protect and uphold property rights - Conservation of the environment
4.	<p>Land Use Conflicts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rivalry in use between agriculturalists and 	4.	<p>Institute Measures to Curb Land Use Conflicts</p>

	<p>pastoralists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Un inequitable distribution of land 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Institute land tenure systems and land use as well as farming practices reform to minimize conflict over competing claims - Devise land policies that focus on equitable distribution of land resources - Reform of the land law/code
5.	<p>Food Insecurity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of food security policies - Lack of effective food distribution systems (physical infrastructural, institutional) at national and regional levels 	5.	<p>Promote Regional Food Security</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish food security policy at national and regional level - Improve the value of regional products for increased market competitiveness - Promote integrated rural development - Educate people on food security to include production, accessibility - Remove market distortions that prevent access to food for some people
6.	<p>Lack of Effective International Protection of Refugees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of peace and security in the region - None compliance with international refugee protection mechanisms - Gender based violence (GBV) - Lack of family unit - Scarcity of land leading to communal antagonism - Increased HIV/AIDS, STI prevalence among refugee - Child soldiers 	6.	<p>Promote Effective International Protection of Refugees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Address the root causes for refugees - Address the root causes of instability, i.e. political, economic and military - Domesticating international instruments of refugees into national law - Promotion of refugee protection policies and institutional frameworks at national and regional levels. - Establishment of clear guidelines and policies relating to land tenure, residence, citizenship, settlement and refugee self reliance - Promote durable solutions - Promote the civil character of asylum environment by separating refugees from armed combatants - International community provide for recognition and frameworks for protection of ex-armed combatants - Promote international obligation of burden sharing - Promote a policy of family unit - Pursue national and regional HIV/AIDS intervention programs incorporating refugee - Promote psychosocial counselling programs - Promote protection of women, the elderly and unaccompanied minors - Regional harmonisation of refugee policies - Establishment and harmonization of protocols that prevent the use and recruitment of child soldiers

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advocate for the introduction of new laws, or for amendment or implementation of by regulation of existing legislation - Put in place a legal framework governing refugee protection in the GLR - Promotion of explicit refugee rights including in the post-emergency phase - Develop practical arrangements for separation of refugees and combatants - Provide adequate broad-based support to states contemplating the return and re-integration of refugees - Review best practices and lessons learnt in the protection and assistance of refugees including repatriation
<p>7.</p>	<p>Existence of Internally Displaced Persons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deteriorating situation of IDPs in the region - Lack of binding international instruments on IDPs - Lack of national and regional institutional legal and policy framework for IDPs protection - Lack of authoritative information and data on the IDPs - IDPs as potential refugees - Vulnerability of women, children, the elderly and disabled 	<p>7. Eliminate the Problem of Internally Displaced Persons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Address the root causes of instability and legislate the people-cantered development programmes - Address the root causes to prevent internal displacement - Disseminate the UN guiding principles on IDPs as widely as possible - Interpret the UN guiding principles on IDPs into local languages - Establish institutional, legal and policy frame work for IDP protection at national and regional levels - Strengthen institutional frame work aimed at avoiding IDPs from becoming refugees - Establishment of mechanisms to gather data, trace, monitor and reconcile IDP families - Creation of support mechanisms of vulnerable groups - Domestication of UN guiding principles on IDPs into domestic laws - Undertake comparative studies with a view to the harmonization of IDP policy in the region

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advocate and lobby for the development of a regional IDP policy
8.	<p>HIV/AIDS Pandemic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conflict, social and economic exclusions are escalating the spread of HIV/AIDS and disrupting interventions - HIV/AIDS is viewed as a distant risk as populations are preoccupied with immediate needs 	8.	<p>Address HIV/AIDS Pandemic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mainstream national campaigns against HIV/AIDS pandemic into national development plans - Declare HIV/AIDS a regional disaster in order to mobilize resources to effectively manage the pandemic - Enact laws protecting the property and land rights of families infected and affected with HIV/AIDS - Regional States to enact legislation outlawing discrimination of people living with HIV/AIDS by firms from employment - Regulate Life Insurance barriers imposed by Insurance companies on people living with HIV/AIDS - Regional States to commit a consistent percentage of National budget to health with special provision to HIV/AIDS, malaria and so on possibly from special funds - Integrate sexual and reproductive health education in schools curricula across countries in the region to advance awareness among young children in the region - Enact legislation that provides for stiffer punitive sanctions against convicts of deliberate infection - Promoting Behaviour Change models (Individual and structural (environmental)) - Establish preventive measures budget more than is the practice - Educate people on HIV/AIDS on prevention mechanisms and awareness - Distribute anti-retroviral drugs freely accompanied by proper nutrition - Regional states to enact comprehensive legislation covering all aspects of HIV/AIDS - An agenda for advocacy that recommends for policy, research and programme implementation
9.	<p>Gender Imbalance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Legal gaps permitting gender imbalance - Cultural barriers to gender equity 	9.	<p>Promote Gender Balance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enact laws that promote gender based balance - Mainstream gender in all aspects - Take stock of the OAU Women committee's success or failures - Shed cultures that inhibit gender equity

ANNEX C

PLENARY OBSERVATIONS ON GENERAL (CROSS-CUTTING) ISSUES

N o	Major Challenges		Recommendations	Issue*
1.	Lack of Forum for Co-operation Among Civil Society Actors	1.	Create Joint Organ/Networking of Civil Society <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MNF should provide overall co-ordination. - Individual GLR states should co-ordinate Themes. - Have a plan of action/schedule of activities for civil society. 	Civil Society Joint Forum
2.	Resource Limitations of Civil Society Actors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poor, disorganised, civil society. - Vulnerability of civil society to undue influences (political, economic by donors). - Leverage of political systems, which can unduly influence civil society 	2.	Mobilise Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Find feasible means to finance the activities of the civil society. - Build technical capacity of civil society to substantively contribute to the development of the GLR states 	Capacity of Civil Society
3.	Poor or Paternal Relationship Between Civil Society and Government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some civil society organisations at loggerheads with government. - Some civil society organisations enjoy paternal relationship with government. - In some cases, partnership between government and civil society emerging 	3.	Develop Partnership Between Civil Society and Government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relationship should be based on partnership 	Relationship Between Civil Society and Government
4.	Shifting Definition of Civil Society NGOs, CBOs, Civil Society?	4.	Agree on Common Definition of Civil Society	Concept of Civil Society
5.	Lack of Common/Shared Vision in GLR	5.	Develop a Common/Shared Vision in the GLR	Shared Vision

ANNEX D

TO THE FINAL REPORT OF THE ARUSHA REGIONAL MEETING OF REGIONAL NGOs

JOINT PRESS COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE DELEGATES AT THE REGIONAL MEETING OF REGIONAL NGOs ON PEACE AND SECURITY, DEMOCRACY AND GOOD GOVERNANCE, ECONOMIC AND REGIONAL INTEGRATION, AND HUMANITARIAN AND SOCIAL ISSUES IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION OF CENTRAL AND EAST AFRICA

Arusha 24 September 2004: Delegates to the first meeting of Regional Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) within the context of the International Conference on the Great Lakes region (IC/GLR) rose from their five-day meeting here today with a number of recommendations that will be put forward to the heads of state summit in November this year for endorsement.

Participants to this conference were drawn from the seven core countries (Burundi, D.R. Congo, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.) Representatives from other local as well as international NGOs in the region also participated in the deliberations.

The Arusha conference was coordinated by the Mwalimu Nyerere Foundation, which was established in 1996 to advocate for peace, unity and people centred development.

During their five-day deliberations, the participants held in-depth discussions, from the civil society perspective, on the four themes of the IC/GLR process. These themes are peace and security, democracy and governance, economic development and regional integration and humanitarian and social issues. The discussions were held both in plenary and thematic workshop sessions.

The participants critically examined the major challenges within the four themes of the IC/GLR and came up with concrete recommendations, which they believe will remedy most of the problems in the Great Lakes region. These issues range from Disarmament, Demobilisation and reintegration (DDR), child soldiers, citizenship, economic liberalisation and conflict prevention mechanism, through weak and dysfunctional institutions, poor governance system that tolerates impunity, on to looting of domestic economic resources and refugees and internally displaced persons. They also looked at the issue of inter-ethnic relationships among others.

All through their discussions the delegates to the conference carefully and successfully worked towards a consensus on all the issues treated and came up with a clear vision for the region in the short, medium and long terms.

They described their deliberations as frank, constructive, positive and devoid of rhetoric and they expressed satisfaction that at least their views would be included in the final document that will crown the IC/GLR. This is the peace, security, stability and development pact for the Great Lakes region that will be signed at the second summit of the heads of state of the region when they meet in Kenya next year.

This week's meeting is the second of three specialised meetings to be held within the IC/GLR process. The first of the three was the youth meeting in Kampala last week and the third would be the women's meeting to be held in Kigali from 7 to 9 October.

The meeting was sponsored by the Group of Friends of the Great Lakes Region, a body grouping 26 countries and international organizations and co-chaired by Canada and the Netherlands.

The International Conference for peace, security, democracy and development in the Great Lakes Region was proposed by the United Nations Secretary General, Mr. Kofi Annan and is being co-sponsored by the African Union. Its main objective is to find a lasting solution to the multiple and endemic problems facing the region.

Done and Adopted in Arusha, 24th September 2004

ANNEX E

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS TO THE ARUSHA REGIONAL MEETING OF REGIONAL NGOS ON PEACE AND SECURITY, DEMOCRACY AND GOOD GOVERNANCE, ECONOMIC AND REGIONAL INTEGRATION, AND HUMANITARIAN AND SOCIAL ISSUES IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION OF CENTRAL AND EAST AFRICA

1. Chairperson	Mr. Joseph W. Butiku Executive Director Mwalimu Nyerere Foundation P.O. Box 71000, Dar es Salaam Tel: +255 22 2118354, Fax: +255 22 2119216 Email: mnf-tanzania@raha.com
2. Guest of Honour	Shekh Dr. Mohamed Rukara Secretary General World Muslim Council, East and Central Africa P.O. Box 78008 Dar es Salaam, Tanzania Tel: 0748 8806161 Email: chambarantama@yahoo.com
3. AU Representative	Christophe Maganga Political Affairs Officer Special Envoy of AU/GLR, Burundi
4. AU Representative	Bertin Ory, Political Advisor African Mission/AU, Burundi Email bertin_ory@yahoo.com
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ANNEX : F