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		<input type="checkbox"/> Unclassified	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Confidential	<input type="checkbox"/> Strictly Confidential
TO/A: <b>Mr. Jan Eliasson, Deputy Secretary-General</b>				
CC:				
THROUGH/WISE PAR .				
FROM/DE: <b>Mr. Jeffrey Feltman, USG, DPA</b>				
Date: 16 May 2013	Ext: 7-9467	Room No. – No de bureau: S-3522		
FOR ACTION		POUR SUITE A DONNER		
FOR YOUR ATTENTION	XXX	FOR VOTRE ATTENTION		
FOR INFORMATION	XXX	POUR INFORMATION		
FOR APPROVAL / SIGNATURE		POUR APPROBATION / SIGNATURE		
FOR COMMENTS		POUR OBSERVATIONS		
AS REQUESTED		SUITE A VOTRE DEMANDE		
RETURN		RETOURNER		

**DIVISIONS CONSULTED**Amer ☐ Eur ☐ Mewad ☐ APD ☐ Pal Rights ☐ Decol ☐AF1 ☐ AF2 ☐ SCAD ☐ PMD ☐ EAD ☐ CTITF ☐ EO ☐**DEPARTMENTS CONSULTED**EOSG ☐ OIOS ☐ OLA ☐ ODA ☐ DPKO ☐ DFS ☐ OCHA ☐ DESA ☐DGACM ☐ DPI ☐ DSS ☐ DM ☐ UNDP ☐ Other**SUBJECT/MESSAGE:**

Please find attached the suggested introductory remarks of the Secretary-General at the inaugural 11+4 meeting in Addis Ababa on 26 May 2013. This will be updated after his trip to the region, as necessary.

Re-Routed  
To RA for  
action on  
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Remarks DELIVERED

*CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY*

Introductory remarks of  
**SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS**

11+4 REGIONAL OVERSIGHT MEETING  
Addis Ababa, 26 May 2013

*Excellencies,*

*Distinguished Guests,*

*Ladies and Gentlemen,*

I would like to thank the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Dr. Dlamini-Zuma, for co-organizing this first meeting of the 11+4 Regional Oversight Mechanism of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the Democratic Republic of Congo and the region. I also welcome and thank all participants attending this important event.

As we gather here in Addis Ababa to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the African Union, the situation in eastern DRC remains a sad reminder of the tensions, conflicts and humanitarian calamities that have afflicted this part of Africa for as many years. The recurring cycles of violence and devastation that continue unabated must be brought to an end to alleviate the terrible suffering of people who have suffered under unspeakable horrors over the past few decades.

*Excellencies,*

The signing of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for DRC and the region in Addis Ababa in February was a milestone and a beacon of hope for the attainment of a comprehensive peace. My Special Envoy Mary

Robinson has called it a “Framework of Hope”, which can only be reached if all signatory countries uphold their commitments and work together to end the political impasse and pave the way for a renewed momentum to improve human security and economic development in the region. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the leaders in the region who hosted me and the President of the World Bank during our recent visit and reiterated their determination to fulfill the commitments they have made under the PSC Framework. (To update: announceables from the joint visit) Stability and peace in eastern DRC and in the Great Lakes region are interlinked and give renewed hope to the thousands of families who have yearned for a life free from fear and violence for far too long.

*Excellencies,*

My presence here today, is first and foremost, to reassure all of you that the international community stands firmly behind you in your efforts to lift the Great Lakes out of its recent tragic history. The four witnesses to the Framework: the African Union, the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region; the Southern African Development Community; and the United Nations will join hands to facilitate and carry the process forward. The Security Council has endorsed our comprehensive approach, and has strengthened MONUSCO’s political and military role, including through the deployment of a Force Intervention Brigade to deter violence and conflict. President Kabila has also committed to a number of significant reforms in his country. These initiatives will require sustained efforts by all concerned and continued support from the wider international community.

In parallel, a genuine and collaborative political effort must take place at regional level. I’m glad to see that my Special Envoy has begun working closely

with the signatories. As requested by the Security Council, she is spearheading the effort to establish benchmarks on the implementation of regional commitments of the Framework and will monitor progress in close dialogue with Governments of the region and with my Special Representative in the DRC. I hope to hear from you about the concrete steps you are making to implement the regional commitments. The work of this Committee will be crucial for the further implementation for the Framework and for our next meeting on the margins of the 68<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in New York in September.

**Excellencies,**

This is a remarkable moment for the DRC and for the region. While the situation remains volatile, we have an historic opportunity to end the suffering and stabilize the region, a region which holds a great potential for human development. I will count on your full support and continued engagement and look forward to your inputs today as we prepare to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of African cooperation and unity.

I thank you.