

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

01
xx September 2012

Excellency,

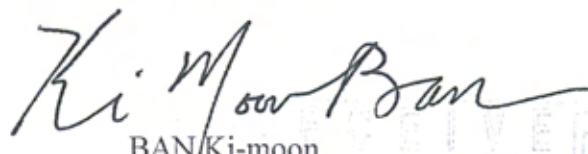
The Great Lakes region is presently confronted with a renewed crisis that requires immediate attention. The security situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has significantly deteriorated due to the activities of armed groups, and is of deep concern. The humanitarian consequences for the civilian population are grave. Since April 2012, over 220,000 people have been displaced within North Kivu province, and an additional 57,000 have sought refuge in Rwanda and Uganda. The security and humanitarian situation threatens stability in the wider Great Lakes region.

The situation is being addressed by the international community, notably the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, which has met several times at the level of Heads of State and Government to discuss eastern DRC.

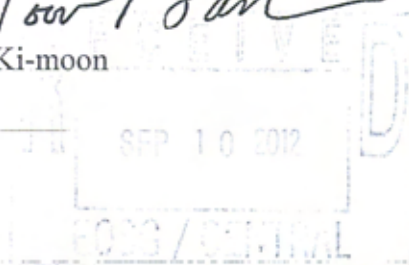
With a view to building on these efforts, I will chair a high-level meeting on the situation in eastern DRC from 9 a.m. to noon on 27 September 2012 in the margins of the sixty-seventh session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York. The meeting will be an opportunity for key stakeholders to focus on international and regional efforts aimed at finding a peaceful and sustainable resolution to the situation in eastern DRC.

I am attaching a draft agenda as well as the list of invitees for your information and look forward to your personal participation in this very important event.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.


BAN/Ki-moon

His/Her Excellency
Mr./Ms.
Title
City



12-07966

PK 6/05/001

POL/03/008

SCH/08/002



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

xx September 2012

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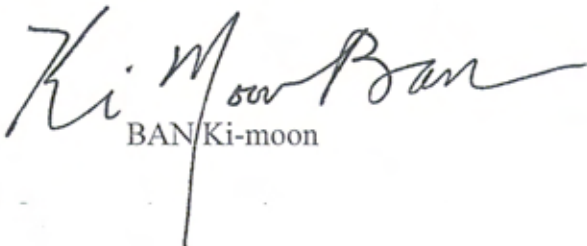
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BAN/Ki-moon

His/Her Excellency
Mr./Ms.
Title
City

LE SECRÉTAIRE GÉNÉRAL

Le xxx septembre 2012

Monsieur (Madame) le (la) Président(e),

La région des Grands Lacs connaît, à l'heure actuelle, une résurgence de crise qui requiert votre attention immédiate. La situation sécuritaire à l'est de la République démocratique du Congo (RDC) qui s'est considérablement dégradée du fait des activités de groupes armés, est très préoccupante. Les conséquences pour les populations civiles sont graves sur le plan humanitaire. Depuis avril 2012, plus de 220.000 personnes ont été déplacées au Nord Kivu, et plus de 57.000 personnes ont cherché refuge au Rwanda et en Ouganda. La situation sécuritaire et humanitaire est une menace pour la stabilité de l'ensemble de la région des Grands Lacs.


La communauté internationale se penche actuellement sur la situation à l'est de la RDC. Ainsi, la Conférence Internationale sur la Région des Grands Lacs s'est réunie, à plusieurs reprises, au niveau des Chefs d'Etat et de Gouvernement pour en discuter.

Dans l'optique de poursuivre ces efforts, je présiderai, le 27 septembre 2012, de 9 heures à 12 heures, à New York, une réunion de haut niveau sur la situation à l'est de la RDC, en marge du Débat Général de la 67^{ème} session de l'Assemblée Générale des Nations unies. L'objet de cette réunion sera de permettre aux principales parties prenantes de se pencher sur les efforts internationaux et régionaux en cours afin de trouver une issue pacifique et durable à la situation à l'est de la RDC.

Je vous prie de trouver, ci-joint, pour information, un projet d'ordre du jour de la réunion, ainsi que la liste des invités.

J'espère pouvoir compter sur votre participation personnelle à cet événement auquel j'attache une très grande importance.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur (Madame) le (la) Président(e), les assurances de ma très haute considération.


BAN/Ki-moon

Son Excellence
Monsieur/Madame
Titre
Ville



LE SECRÉTAIRE GÉNÉRAL

Le xxx septembre 2012

Monsieur (Madame) le (la) Premier Ministre /Ministre/l' Ambassadeur,

La région des Grands Lacs connaît, à l'heure actuelle, une résurgence de crise qui requiert votre attention immédiate. La situation sécuritaire à l'est de la République démocratique du Congo (RDC) qui s'est considérablement dégradée du fait des activités de groupes armés, est très préoccupante. Les conséquences pour les populations civiles sont graves sur le plan humanitaire. Depuis avril 2012, plus de 220.000 personnes ont été déplacées au Nord Kivu, et plus de 57.000 personnes ont cherché refuge au Rwanda et en Ouganda. La situation sécuritaire et humanitaire est une menace pour la stabilité de l'ensemble de la région des Grands Lacs.

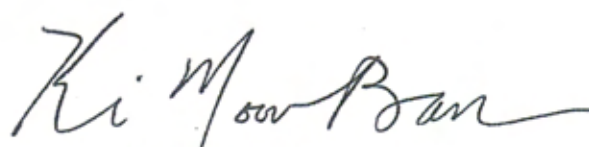
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J'espère pouvoir compter sur votre participation personnelle à cet événement auquel j'attache une très grande importance.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur (Madame) le (la) Premier Ministre / Ministre/l' Ambassadeur, les assurances de ma très haute considération.


BAN Ki-moon

Son Excellence
Monsieur/Madame
Titre
Ville

UNITED NATIONS



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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

REFERENCE:

XX September 2012

Excellency,

The Secretary-General would be grateful if you could kindly forward the enclosed letter to His/Her Excellency (NAME AND TITLE).

A copy of the letter is attached for your information.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Susana Malcorra
Chef de Cabinet

His/Her Excellency
NAME
Permanent Representative of COUNTRY
to the United Nations
New York

UNITED NATIONS



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CABLE ADDRESS — ADRESSE TELEGRAPHIQUE : UNATIONS NEWYORK

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

REFERENCE:

Le ... septembre 2012

Monsieur l'Ambassadeur,

Le Secrétaire général vous serait reconnaissant de bien vouloir faire transmettre la lettre ci-jointe à son Excellence Monsieur/Madame, titre

Une copie de cette lettre est jointe pour votre information.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur/Madame l'Ambassadeur, les assurances de ma très haute considération.

La Directrice du Cabinet

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink.

Susana Malcorra

Son Excellence
Monsieur/Madame
Représentant permanent de
auprès de l'Organisation des Nations Unies
New York

High-Level Meeting on the situation in Eastern DRC
New York, 27 September 2012
List of participants

1. Angola
2. Burundi
3. Belgium
4. Central African Republic
5. China
6. Democratic Republic of the Congo
7. France
8. India
9. Kenya
10. Netherlands
11. Pakistan
12. Republic of Congo
13. Republic of Sudan
14. Russian Federation
15. Rwanda
16. South Africa
17. Tanzania
18. Uganda
19. United Kingdom
20. United States
21. Zambia
22. African Union
23. European Union
24. International Conference on the Great Lakes Region Secretariat
25. Southern African Development Community (SADC)



Concept Note
High-Level Meeting on the situation in eastern DRC
27 September 2012

Background

On 15 July, the leaders of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) met to discuss the situation in eastern DRC and decided to: i) establish an “international neutral force” to eradicate the M23 and other negative forces and secure the border zone in eastern DRC; ii) enlarge the Joint Verification Mechanism (JVM) between the DRC and Rwanda to also include other ICGLR Member States; and iii) revive the team of Special Envoys appointed in 2009 under the auspices of the United Nations (UN) and the African Union (AU). On 7 - 8 August, another ICGLR Summit was held in Kampala to review the situation in eastern DRC. Discussions are ongoing among ICGLR members, including at the ministerial level, on the modalities to operationalise the 15 July decisions of the ICGLR.

Goals

Building on the decisions taken by the ICGLR, a high-level event in the margins of the General Assembly debate, chaired by the Secretary-General, would provide a platform for further dialogue aimed at reinforcing regional efforts in finding a peaceful resolution to the crisis. The meeting would aim to address four topics: (1) modalities to achieve a permanent cessation of hostilities by all armed groups, including the M23; (2) confidence-building measures between the DRC and Rwanda; 3) dialogue to address the fundamental issues at local and regional levels; and, 4) possible roles for third parties in implementing the ICGLR decisions, including the establishment of an “international neutral force” and the revival of the AU-UN Special Envoys mechanism.

A communiqué (or declaration) would be issued following the meeting. A formal press conference after the meeting is currently not envisaged.

Key Messages

The Secretary-General would put forward key messages that may be incorporated into a final communiqué, which would be discussed and further elaborated with participants in preparatory meetings. The key messages could include, but are not limited to:

Cessation of hostilities

- Express concern about the security situation in eastern DRC and the humanitarian impact of the crisis.
- Call for a permanent cessation of hostilities by all armed groups in eastern DRC, particularly by the M23, and for any support to them to cease immediately.
- Call on Heads of State and Government with influence to support sustainable peace and security in eastern DRC.

Confidence-building

- Stress the importance of good neighbourly relations between the DRC and Rwanda for peace and stability not only in the two countries but in the region as a whole, including by establishing a schedule of regular meetings between the Heads of State.
- Stress the important role of the ICGLR in building confidence among its members, including between the DRC and Rwanda.
- Urge all ICGLR members to redouble their efforts to implement the ICGLR Pact on Security, Stability and Development ("the Pact"), particularly those provisions that can help build confidence.

Dialogue at local and regional levels

- Encourage dialogue on fundamental issues (including the exploitation of natural resources and regional economic development) and the resolution of differences within the framework of the Pact.
- Stress the urgent need for the Government of the DRC to extend its authority throughout its territory and ensure the protection of its population, and encourage donors to support it in this regard.

Possible role for third parties

- Explore further options for third party engagement, including AU-UN mediation efforts and the deployment of a neutral international force.
- Urge international partners to redouble their efforts to support the implementation of the Pact, as a means of building confidence and promoting peace and stability in the region.
- Indicate that the United Nations stands ready to continue to support peace and stability in the region, including confidence-building and dialogue efforts.

Format

The meeting would have an opening session with introductory remarks, followed by a session to address the specific topics. A final session would provide an opportunity for the participants to agree on the text of a final communiqué.

Participants

- The Secretary-General (Chair)
- USGs DPKO, DPA, OCHA and OHCHR
- MONUSCO SRSG Meece
- Security Council members:
P5 (China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States),
India, Pakistan and South Africa (also as MONUSCO troop-contributing countries)
- ICGLR Member States: Angola, Burundi, the Central African Republic, the DRC, Kenya, the Republic of Congo, Sudan, Rwanda, Tanzania,

Uganda, and Zambia, and possibly potential future ICGLR member South Sudan

- Government of Belgium (Member of the International Contact Group)
- Government of the Netherlands (Member of the International Contact Group)
- Chairperson of the African Union
- High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy of the European Union
- Executive Secretary of the ICGLR

High-Level Meeting on the situation in Eastern DRC

New York, 27 September 2012

9:00-12:00

Location: North Lawn Building

Agenda

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| 9:00-9:15 | Opening remarks by the Secretary-General of the United Nations |
| 9:15-11:30 | Statements by Participants |
| 11:30-12:00 | Closing remarks and adoption of communiqué |

High-Level Meeting on the situation in Eastern DRC
New York, 27 September 2012
List of participants

1. Angola
2. Burundi
3. Belgium
4. Central African Republic
5. China
6. Democratic Republic of the Congo
7. France
8. Germany
9. India
10. Kenya
11. Netherlands
12. Pakistan
13. Republic of Congo
14. Republic of Sudan
15. Russian Federation
16. Rwanda
17. South Africa
18. Tanzania
19. Uganda
20. United Kingdom
21. United States
22. Zambia
23. African Union
24. European Union
25. International Conference on the Great Lakes Region Secretariat
26. Southern African Development Community (SADC)

High-Level Meeting on the situation in eastern DRC

New York, 27 September 2012

List of Participants

- 1. Angola**

His Excellency
Mr. José Eduardo dos Santos
President of the Republic of Angola and
President of the Popular Movement for the
Liberation of Angola (MPLA)
Luanda
- 2. Belgium**

Son Excellence
Monsieur Elio di Rupo
Premier Ministre du Royaume de Belgique
Bruxelles
- 3. Burundi**

Son Excellence
Monsieur Pierre Nkurunziza
Président de la République du Burundi
Bujumbura
- 4. Central African Republic**

Son Excellence
Monsieur François Bozizé
Président de la République Centrafricaine et le
Général d'Armée
Bangui
- 5. China**

His Excellency
Mr. Hu Jintao

President of the People's Republic of China
Beijing

**6. Democratic Republic of
Congo**

Son Excellence
Monsieur Joseph Kabila
Président de la République démocratique du
Congo
Kinshasa

7. France

Son Excellence
Monsieur François Hollande
Président de la République française
Paris

8. Germany

Her Excellency
Mrs. Angela Merkel
Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany
Berlin

9. India

His Excellency
Mr. Pranab Mukherjee
President of the Republic of India
New Delhi

10. Kenya

His Excellency
Mr. Mwai Kibaki
President of the Republic of Kenya
Nairobi

11. The Netherlands

His Excellency
Mr. Mark Rutte

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| | <p>Prime Minister and Minister for General
Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
The Hague</p> |
| <p>12. Pakistan</p> | <p>His Excellency
Mr. Asif Ali Zardari
President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan
Islamabad</p> |
| <p>13. Republic of Congo</p> | <p>Son Excellence
Monsieur Denis Sassou Nguesso
Présidence de la République du Congo
Brazzaville</p> |
| <p>14. Republic of Sudan</p> | <p>His Excellency
Mr. Omer Al-Bashir
President of the Republic of Sudan
Khartoum</p> |
| <p>15. Russian Federation</p> | <p>His Excellency
Mr. Vladimir Putin
President of the Russian Federation
Moscow</p> |
| <p>16. Rwanda</p> | <p>Son Excellence
Monsieur Paul Kagame
Président de la République du Rwanda
Kigali</p> |
| <p>17. South Africa</p> | <p>His Excellency
Mr. Jacob Zuma</p> |

President of the Republic of South Africa
Pretoria

18. Tanzania

His Excellency
Mr. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete
President of the United Republic of Tanzania
Dar es Salaam

19. Uganda

His Excellency
Mr. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni
President of the Republic of Uganda and
Chairperson of the International Conference on
the Great Lakes Region
Kampala

20. United Kingdom

His Excellency
Mr. David Cameron
Prime Minister, First Lord of the Treasury and
Minister for the Civil Service of the United
Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern
Ireland
London

21. United States

His Excellency
Mr. Barack Obama
President of the United States of America
Washington D.C.

22. Zambia

His Excellency
Mr. Michael Chilufya Sata

- | | |
|---|--|
| | President of the Republic of Zambia
Lusaka |
| 23. African Union | His Excellency
Mr. Jean Ping
Chairperson of the African Union Commission
Addis Ababa |
| 24. European Union | His Excellency
Mr. Herman von Rompuy
President of the European Council
Brussels |
| 25. International Conference on
the Great Lakes Region
Secretariat | His Excellency
Mr. Daniel Alphonse Ntumba Luaba Lumu
Executive Secretary of the International
Conference on the Great Lakes Region
Bujumbura |
| 26. Southern African
Development Community
(SADC) | His Excellency
Mr. Armando Guebuza
President of the Republic of Mozambique and
Chairperson of the Southern Africa
Development Community (SADC)
Gaborone |



To: CDC (Through DSG) 

Please find attached for your approval and the SG's signature, a draft concept note and invitation letter on the holding of a high-level meeting on the situation in the eastern DRC in the margins of the GA, scheduled to take place from 9 a.m. to 12 noon on 27 September.

PU, along with SOSG, has reviewed the concept note and attached invitation letter ~~along with SOSG~~. No changes are proposed.

Once the attached letter is approved, PU will submit the letter to DPKO/DPA to be translated into French. The formatted letters will then be resubmitted to CDC for approval and signature by the SG.



Political Unit
30 August 2012

Cc: DSG



12-07966

(These are now being resubmitted)

ACTION

AG

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DSG

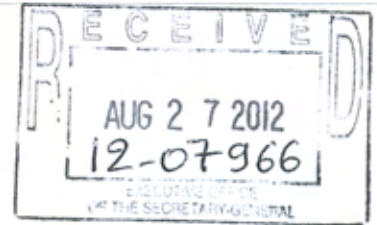
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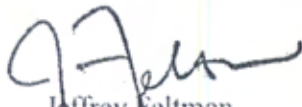
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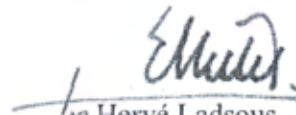
Note to Ms. Malcorra



DRC: Proposal for a High-Level meeting at the ministerial level

- 412-07590
1. Further to our note of 14 August (attached for your ease of reference), the security and humanitarian situation in eastern DRC remains of serious concern. We would therefore recommend that the Secretary-General chair a High-Level meeting on the eastern DRC, if possible on 27 September. Should the Secretary-General agree, we have prepared a concept note with a list of suggested participants, a draft agenda, and a generic letter of invitation, for his consideration.
 2. We would be grateful if you could bring this proposal to the attention of the Secretary-General for his approval, including with a view to identifying possible times for holding such a meeting in the margins of the General Assembly debate.


Jeffrey Feltman
23 August 2012


Hervé Ladsous
23 August 2012

cc: Mr. Eliasson
Ms. Amos
Ms. Haq
Ms. Pillay

PKG/05/001; POL/03/008, SC#108/002

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Immediate

Note to the Secretary-General

Eastern DRC: Proposed meeting on the margins of the General Assembly

1. We are proposing that you chair a mini-Summit on eastern DRC on the margins of the upcoming General Assembly Debate, during the week of 24 September.
2. The aim of the mini-Summit would be to build, *inter alia*, on the decisions reached by the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) regarding the crisis in eastern DRC. The ICGLR has met twice at Summit level on this issue. While the ICGLR Summit of 15 July yielded a number of decisions (see the attached DPKO Note to you of 2 August), the 7-8 August ICGLR Summit in Kampala did not result in any concrete agreement on addressing the crisis in operationalising the 15 July decisions, including the possible deployment of a "neutral international force" and the revival of the team of UN-AU Special Envoys, namely former Presidents Obasanjo and Mkapa.
3. In Kampala, the ICGLR Member States pledged to continue efforts to ensure a complete halt in fighting in eastern DRC, not excluding (unspecified) sanctions "against those who would obstruct the peace process", and established a humanitarian assistance fund for the affected populations. A sub-committee of Ministers of Defence was tasked with submitting a report to the next Summit, which is planned in early September, on "urgent actionable steps" to ensure that fighting would not resume and on the operationalization of the "neutral international force". In addition to the DRC, Rwanda and Uganda (Chair), this sub-committee is comprised of Angola, Burundi, the Republic of Congo and Tanzania. It was also agreed that consultations would continue on the re-engagement of the Special Envoys. A number of international partners, including the EU, US and South Africa, attended a follow-up meeting in Kampala on 9 August, during which they were briefed on the outcomes of the Summit by Uganda (in its role as current Chair of the ICGLR) and the Executive-Secretary of the ICGLR.
4. The latest ICGLR Summit was held against a backdrop of a continued lull in fighting between the M23 and the FARDC since 28 July (see the above-referenced note). In the presence of Presidents Kabila and Kagamé, discussions were held in a broadly constructive atmosphere. The event set a placeholder for continued ICGLR engagement and may provide additional time for a political track to gain momentum, in particular with regard to bilateral discussions between the DRC and Rwanda. However, reports from the Summit indicate that the two countries continue to hold different views regarding the parameters of the ICGLR-proposed "neutral international force" (supported by the DRC) and mediation aimed at resolving the crisis (option favoured by Rwanda).
5. A resumption of fighting in eastern Congo should not be excluded in the absence of a breakthrough. While the M23, in a communiqué dated 8 August, welcomed the outcome of the Summit and requested the establishment of an "efficient monitoring mechanism" on the "front line", the DRC delegation refused to meet separately with a M23 delegation that had travelled to Kampala but did not participate in the ICGLR Summit. However, informal discussions were held between the M23 delegation and President Museveni on the margins of the Summit.
6. In the meantime, the Group of Experts on the DRC reported to the 1533 Sanctions Committee on 7 August that there is evidence of continued Rwandan violations of the arms embargo in connection with the M23 mutiny. Even if there were to be agreement among the ICGLR Member States on the practical modalities of the "neutral international force", its deployment alone would, in our view, not be

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sufficient to address the root causes of insecurity in the Great Lakes region. Any military approach will need to be complemented by a political track. The sub-committee of ICGLR Ministers of Defence is scheduled to meet in Goma on 16 August for further discussions on the "neutral international force".

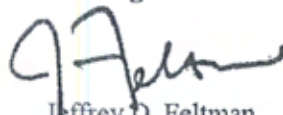
7. The proposed mini-Summit on the margins of the General Assembly Debate would allow the United Nations to reinforce the regional efforts in the search for a peaceful solution to the crisis. The meeting could focus attention on a political track that would involve an ancillary military role concentrating on monitoring and verification activities, possibly with MONUSCO's participation without a change in its mandate.

8. It would be important that the mini-Summit takes place in a non-acrimonious atmosphere with broad attendance at the highest levels. In order to be successful, taking forward the proposed mini-Summit would depend on certain conditions being in place, including: a) tangible positive developments on the ground, in particular a continued cessation of hostilities between the FARDC and the M23; and b) visible traction on the political track between Kigali and Kinshasa, translating into the beginnings of a political solution to the conflict in eastern DRC. The outcome of the next ICGLR Summit, scheduled for early in September, before the 67th session of General Assembly, would also provide further indications regarding the appropriateness of the proposed mini-Summit.

9. Under these conditions, the mini-Summit would be a useful forum to explore options for: a) a permanent cessation of hostilities by the M23; b) strengthened confidence-building measures between Rwanda and the DRC, possibly under the framework of the ICGLR Pact on Peace, Security and Stability; c) the resolution of the crisis through dialogue to address the fundamental issues of the conflict at local and regional levels; and d) possible roles for third parties in implementing the ICGLR decisions, including the UN. A declaration or communiqué would be issued following the meeting.

10. The DRC, Rwanda, South Africa, Angola, and the Executive Secretary of the ICGLR have so far welcomed the idea of a mini-Summit. Rwanda has indicated that President Kagame plans to attend the General Assembly Debate and Rwanda is open to dialogue regarding eastern DRC. It is not clear at this stage whether Presidents Kabila and Museveni will attend the General Assembly Debate.

11. Should you agree to hold the mini-Summit, we would like to propose that you invite, in particular, the following participants: the Presidents or senior Government officials at Secretary of State/Foreign Minister level of the DRC, Rwanda, Uganda and the other eight ICGLR Member States, and of the P-5, South Africa, Belgium and The Netherlands; the ICGLR Executive Secretary; and senior representatives from the AU and EU. We would suggest that you call a number of key invitees at the appropriate time to encourage their attendance at the meeting. We will keep you informed of developments.



Jeffrey D. Feltman
14 August 2012



Hervé Ladsous
14 August 2012

cc: Ms. Amos
Mr. Eliasson
Ms. Haq
Ms. Malcorra