



## **Democratic Republic of Congo and its Neighbours**

### *The Regional Integration Challenge in Central Africa*

Conference – Egmont Palace, Brussels – 12 December 2007

#### **DRAFT AGENDA**

9.15 Arrival & registration

9.40 **Introductory Remarks**

Aldo Ajello (former EUSR for the Great Lakes Region)

10.00 **SESSION 1: Prospects for regional integration in Central Africa**

CHAIR : *Amb. Guy Trouveroy (Head Sub-Saharan Africa Department – FPS Foreign Affairs)*

#### **Panel 1. Politics of integration in Central Africa**

Competing Regionalisms in Central Africa (SADC, CEEAC, COMESA, EAC):  
*Pr. Jacques Ténier (Professor – Sciences Po Rennes)*

What role for the RECs in the security debate?: *Andebrhan Giorgis (Senior Adviser – Crisis Group)*

DEBATE

11.00 Coffee Break



11.20 **Panel 2. The CEPGL – what for?**

A state of play: *Gabriel Toyi (Executive Secretary – CEPGL)*

What are the conditions to succeed?: *Jozef Smets (Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region – Belgian FPS Foreign Affairs)*

DEBATE

12.30 Standing Lunch

13.30 **SESSION 2: Peace & Resources: towards a regional approach**

CHAIR: Théodore Trefon (Director – CRE-AC)

**Panel 1. Promoting security in Central Africa**

Regional dimension of the Congolese conflicts: *Pr. Koen Vlassenroot (Director Africa Programme – EGMONT, Professor – Ghent University)*

Case-study Kahemba : Managing cross-border challenges: *Pr. Filip De Boeck (Professor – K.U. Leuven)*

Mechanisms of security cooperation in the region (Tripartite + 1 and other initiatives): *Dr. Richard Sezibera (Special Envoy of Rwanda's President for the Great Lakes Region)*

International Conference on the Great Lakes Region: How to keep the momentum to bring peace to the region?: *Pr. Jacques Djoli Eseng'Ekeli (Congolese Senator and Professor at Kinshasa University)*

DEBATE

15.00 Coffee Break



15.15 **Panel 2. Management of resources**

Mineral Resources in Central Africa: *Pr. Johan Lavreau (Head of Geology & Mineralogy Department – Africa Museum)*

Natural Resources and trans-border economic flows in the Great Lakes: *Dominic Johnson (Pole Institute – Goma)*

Hydro-energy as a locomotive for regional cooperation: *Paul Frix (Independent Consultant)*

Towards a structured framework for peaceful cooperation?: *Pr. Jan Gorus (Director – Brussels Center for African Studies)*

DEBATE

16.30 **SESSION 3: Policy options for the region and the international community**

CHAIR : Pierre-Pol Vincke (Central Africa Counselor – Strategic Cell – FPS Development Cooperation)

Amb. Liberata Mulamula (Executive Secretary – International Conference on the Great Lakes Region)

Dr. Angela Meyer (Advisory Board – Organization for International Dialogue and Conflict Management, Vienna)

DEBATE

17.15 **Concluding Remarks**

Sabine Laruelle (Minister for Development Cooperation of Belgium)

17.30 End of conference