



**PRESS STATEMENT BY THE ICGLR SECRETARIAT, ON THE SIGNING OF
THE WASHINGTON ACCORDS FOR PEACE AND PROSPERITY BETWEEN
THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO AND RWANDA**

Bujumbura, Burundi. 7th December 2025. The Secretariat of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) welcomes the signing of the Washington Accords for Peace and Prosperity between the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and the Republic of Rwanda on 4th December 2025. Appreciation is extended to the U.S. Government, the State of Qatar, the African Union, the East African Community (EAC), Southern African Development Community (SADC), and other leaders from the Great Lakes Region for the support provided.

The Washington Accords represent a crucial advance toward peace in the Great Lakes Region, urging all parties to commit to the agreements. The Conference Secretariat welcomes renewed pledges for mineral governance mechanisms which contribute to enhancing stability and development in the whole region. ICGLR is ready to enhance regional collaboration for the effective implementation of the Regional Certification Mechanism.

Finally, ICGLR reaffirms its commitment to support DRC and Rwanda in advancing this process for the benefit of the people of DRC, Rwanda and the entire region.

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