



# United Nations Industrial Development Organization

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## Industrial Development Board

### Thirty-seventh session

Vienna, 10-12 May 2010

Item 12 of the provisional agenda

**Matters related to intergovernmental, non-governmental,  
governmental and other organizations**

## Information on intergovernmental organizations

### Note by the Director-General

Provides information on an intergovernmental organization (International Conference on the Great Lakes Region) that has expressed the wish to enter into an appropriate relationship agreement with UNIDO.

1. Pursuant to paragraph 8 of the guidelines issued by the General Conference in its decision GC.1/Dec.41 regarding relationship agreements with intergovernmental organizations not in the United Nations system, the present document provides in an annex information on the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), which has expressed the wish to enter into an appropriate relationship agreement with UNIDO

#### Action required of the Board

2. The Board may wish to authorize the Director-General, in accordance with General Conference decision GC.1/Dec.41, annex, paragraph 9, to conclude an appropriate relationship agreement with ICGLR based on the information contained in the annex to the present document.

For reasons of economy, this document has been printed in a limited number. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies of documents to meetings.

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## Annex

### **International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR)**

#### **Historical background**

ICGLR was established in 2003, at the initiative of the United Nations and the African Union. Its first summit in 2004 laid the foundations for a common vision for reconstruction, political stability and sustainable development in the Great Lakes Region. A wide consultative process followed that involved member States, civil societies and members of the international community.

#### **Legal instrument**

The Pact on Security, Stability and Development of the Great Lakes Region signed in 2006, and which officially entered into force in 2008.

#### **Purpose**

ICGLR implements programmes of action and protocols in four thematic areas, namely: (a) peace and security; (b) democracy and good governance; (c) economic development and regional integration; and (d) humanitarian and social issues. The member States of ICGLR also address some cross-cutting issues such as gender, youth and environment.

Their aim is to turn the Great Lakes Region into a space of political and social stability, and shared growth and development.

#### **Membership**

ICGLR has 11 member States, namely Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia.

#### **Organizational structure**

The organization has two governing bodies: the Summit and the Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee. The Secretariat is established in Burundi with a liaison office in Kenya.

#### **Financing**

The Secretariat is funded by the member States and supported by international development partners.

A Special Fund for Reconstruction and Development finances the implementation of the protocols and programmes of ICGLR. It is funded by annual contributions from the 11 member States and voluntary contributions by international partners. The African Development Bank acts as treasurer of the fund.

### **Activities**

ICGLR develops activities and programmes to jointly promote a prosperous, integrated economic space, to improve the standard of living of its populations, and to contribute to the development of the Region. Through its Program of Action for Economic Development and Regional Integration it aims in particular to:

- (a) Promote cooperation and economic integration by harmonizing and coordinating national and regional policies with relevant regional economic communities so as to improve stability and economic competitiveness, and to reduce poverty;
- (b) Develop a common infrastructure in the areas of energy, transport and communications.

### **Cooperation with UNIDO**

As an organization specialized in the promotion of sustainable industrial development, UNIDO could be a key partner to ICGLR in developing cross-cutting programmes in aspects relating to:

- Employment and environment;
- Youth employment and development of skills for productive work;
- Poverty reduction;
- Establishment of a Region Support Mechanism for Micro-Finance Institutions;
- Food security.

### **Relationship with other intergovernmental and governmental organizations**

ICGLR has observer status with the United Nations General Assembly and signed a cooperation agreement with the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM). ICGLR also signed memorandums of understanding with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT).

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**Head of organization**

Her Excellency Ms. Liberata Mulamula, Executive Secretary

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