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Conference Resolutions

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Conference Resolutions

After the two days of deliberations, the participants put forward the following resolutions:

Conflicts in the Africa's Great Lakes Region have been recurrent and endemic, mainly because policymakers and leadership in respective countries have failed to effectively manage and peacefully exit from their transitions in late 50's and early 60's and more recently in the 90's.

Informed and effective management of transitions is a key requirement to achieve peace and development in the Great Lakes Region and even beyond;

The participants commended the Center for Conflict Management, the National University of Rwanda and their partners for organizing such an important conference on a critical theme for the region, and suggested that such conferences should be held at least once in 6 months;

The participants urged the leaders and policy makers in the region to continuously monitor and effectively manage transitional arrangements put in place by respective countries in order to achieve sustainable peace and development;

Participants also commended Rwanda for successful efforts made since 1994, in managing its transition from the legacy of genocide towards nation building;

Participants also commended Rwanda for its innovative and visionary arrangements that are home grown based and urged Rwanda to make sure that such mechanisms (like *Gacaca*, *Ingando*, *Abunzi*) are successfully implemented in such a way that they bring about an environment conducive for peace, security, social cohe-

sion and development in the society.

Participants emphasized the importance of citizenship in peacebuilding and urged countries in the region to carefully manage their transitional arrangements so that the latter do not undermine the citizenship ideal which is the basis of modern state building and democratic governance.

Participants commended countries in the region for efforts made towards regional integration, especially the revival of the CEPGL (*Communauté Economique des Pays des Grands Lacs*) and the extension of the EAC to Rwanda and Burundi.

Referring to the expulsion of people of "Rwandan origin" from Tanzania, participants also expressed serious concerns about the "disintegration process" that is still going on in the region, while regional integration and globalization are the features of hope for a better Great Lakes Region and a better World; they urged regional leaders to discourage such a negative process.

Participants in addition urged development partners and friends of the region to support the countries in the region in making their transitional road successful.