



**OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL ENVOY OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
FOR THE GREAT LAKES REGION**

Displacement in the Great Lakes Region

Summary of Facts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The PSC Framework is focused on addressing causes of conflict and putting an end to the recurring cycles of violence in eastern DRC. With displacement figures in the Great Lakes Region among the highest in the world, the Special Envoy and Heads of State have made addressing aspects of displacement a key priority. ▪ Forced displacement in the Great Lakes is a key consequence of the conflicts that have occurred over the past 20 years, and a driver of further conflict because of scarcity of resources, lack of land, property rights or the means to make a sustainable living for those who might return. Millions of people remain in a situation of protracted displacement, having been displaced from their places of origin for more than 5 years. ▪ Displacement is not only a humanitarian issue, but one that needs to be addressed on a variety of levels, including political, humanitarian, development and economic, if lasting solutions are to be found. ▪ Regional and international organizations are increasingly looking to work together to find durable and progressive solutions to forced displacement in the Great Lakes.
Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Special Envoy, working with the World Bank and UNHCR, which recently released a thorough analysis on forced displacement in the Great Lakes (Burundi, the DRC, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia), regional and international organizations, in particular ICGLR, and national authorities, plans to convene a series of technical workshops bringing together national experts from Burundi, the DRC, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia , and key regional and international stakeholders to learn from each other, share experiences, and look at what is and is not working in terms of long-term solutions for refugees and IDPs. ▪ The workshops will build on ongoing, existing efforts, take into account lessons learned thus far, and develop concrete recommendations and action points that can better support and address displacement in the region in its multiple dimensions. ▪ A working group has been created which includes IOM, OCHA, O/SESG, World Bank and UNHCR and will be expanded to include the AU, ICGLR and SADC to plan technical workshops with national experts to analyse forced displacement. Initially the focus will be on forced displacement



**OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL ENVOY OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
FOR THE GREAT LAKES REGION**

	<p>from or within Burundi, the DRC and Rwanda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The first technical workshop is tentatively planned for November 2015. ▪ It is anticipated that the technical workshops will lead to recommendations that can be presented to Ministers during a high-level conference in 2016 but also develop concrete proposals for action in specific cases. 	
Messaging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is important to continue to advocate for continued assistance and funding to address the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Great Lakes countries. ▪ It is crucial for key stakeholders to come together to develop plans that will lead to effective action and find durable solutions to the protracted displacement crisis in the Great Lakes region. 	
	Drafted by	Distribution
	Madeleine Schwarz	SESG
DATE: 19 August 2015		