



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

Private Sector Investment Conference (PSIC)

<p>Summary of Facts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ROM meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 31 January 2014, endorsed Regional Action Plan which included a provision for holding a Great Lakes Private Sector Investment Conference (PSIC). The meeting requested the Special Envoy of the Secretary General for the Great Lakes and the Executive Secretary of the ICGLR to organize the PSIC. ▪ Investment Opportunities Brief showcasing 25 illustrative projects compiled from April – August 2014. ▪ Roundtable on Responsible Investment in the Great Lakes Region held in the margins of the UN Global Compact Joint meeting of UN Private Sector Focal Points and Global Compact Area Networks on 11 June 2014. ▪ Regional Consultation on the IOB and preparations for the PSIC held in Luanda, Angola on 17-18 December 2014, attended by ministers responsible for investment and finance as well as representatives of Private Sector and Development Partners. IOB and PSIC preparation plans were endorsed. ▪ ROM meeting of 31 January 2015 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia endorsed the IOB and PSIC preparation plan. ▪ In February 2015 – DRC was selected to host the PSIC. ▪ June 2015, SESG mission to DRC resulted in agreement with the DRC government that 24-25 February 2016 would be the date of the PSIC , coinciding with 3rd anniversary of PSC Framework. ▪ July, Technical Support Committee updated on the preparations for the PSIC and requested further updates along the way. ▪ July 2015, SESG met with DRC National Organizing Committee and a further meeting at a technical level three weeks later to hasten the preparations for the PSIC.
<p>Analysis</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Very expensive exercise, involving a significant amount of coordination, technical preparations, and canvassing. ▪ Great interest from DRC to see projects identified take-off, but need to prepare projects better to attract private investment. ▪ Many projects will need blended financing to leverage private sector interest



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	alongside delivery of peace dividends.	
Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assess the state of readiness (bankability) of projects and prepare project profiles in private sector-oriented formats (in process of recruiting consultants to lead this aspect). ▪ Examine the regulatory environment and investment climate in the region for investment in regional projects and prepare information and advocacy materials that will engage duty-bearers (government for policy improvement, private sector for information and influence). A regional workshop is planned for 31 Aug to 2 September, with participants from the regional Chambers of Commerce, Investment Promotion Agencies, Regional Economic Communities. ▪ Train and work with promoters of governments projects on developing a strategy to sell the projects and skill-up on marketing investment projects ▪ Launch targeted roadshows to market the various opportunities and pitch the investment opportunities to various investment decision-makers. ▪ Recruit a local Events Management Company to help with the detailed logistical requirements. ▪ Execute conference preparation strategy 	
Messaging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is important to support increased access to viable economic opportunities for the populations of the conflict affected areas which will enhance their resilience and resistance to being drawn into conflict. ▪ Sustainable decent job opportunities for women and youth will provide tangible peace dividends to complement on-going efforts to address trauma of conflict and build strong allies in peace and stability maintenance. ▪ We need to work together to prepare bankable projects that will attract investment. This will require resources and a regional and timely approach to preparation of these projects to ensure investors seize the opportunity provided. ▪ While there is a negative risk perception for the region, there is significant basis for galvanizing investment, based on existing investors and demonstrating commitment to improvement in the political and investment climate. 	
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