

Country/entity	Democratic Republic of Congo
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Communiqué of the 1140th meeting of the PSC
Date	17 Feb 2023
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Interstate/intrastate conflict(s)

Congo Civil Wars (1996 -)

The overthrow of the long-term dictator Mobutu Sese Seko by a rebel Tutsi army backed by Uganda and Rwanda in 1997 acted as a catalyst for a war with regional dimensions, mainly fought in the eastern Kivu provinces. The conflict escalated in 1998, when President Laurent Kabila, then backed by Zimbabwean and Angolan troops, ordered Rwanda and Uganda to leave. After Kabila's assassination in 2001, his son Joseph took over the presidency and won in the 2006 democratic elections.

In the eastern provinces, Tutsi-led militias, mainly organised in the National Congress for the Defense of the People (CNDP), fought the remnants of the Rwandan Hutu force FDLR, with further involvement of Rwandan and Ugandan troops. Other regionally operating militia groups, like the Lord's Resistance Army from Northern Uganda, the so-called Mai Mai groups or short-lived guerrilla outfits like the March 23 Movement (M23) further contributed, and still contribute, to the complexity of the situation in eastern DRC.

Close

Congo Civil Wars (1996 -)

Stage	Implementation/renegotiation
Conflict nature	Government/territory
Peace process	DRC: Eastern DRC processes
Parties	-

Third parties

-

Description

The Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU) convened its 1140th meeting on February 17, 2023, assessing the security conditions in the Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The meeting expressed significant concern regarding the ongoing insecurity, humanitarian crisis, and socio-economic decline due to violence by armed groups and heightened tensions between the DRC and Rwanda. The Council called for the immediate cessation of hostilities, revitalization of the Peace, Security, and Cooperation Framework for the DRC, and the deployment of the East African Community (EAC) Regional Force to promote regional peace, and urged the international community for financial and technical support.

Agreement document

[CD_230217_Communiq   of the 1140th meeting of the PSC.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Groups**Children/youth**

No specific mention.

Disabled persons

No specific mention.

Elderly/age

No specific mention.

Migrant workers

No specific mention.

**Racial/ethnic/
national group**

No specific mention.

Religious groups

No specific mention.

Indigenous people

No specific mention.

Other groups

No specific mention.

Refugees/displaced persons

Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Rhetorical

Acting under Article 7 of its Protocol, the Peace and Security Council:

...

8. Underscores the need to engage in rehabilitation and community development plans to address the issue of ex-combatants and voluntary return of the IDPs and refugees, among others;

(Locate in agreement)

Social class

No specific mention.

Gender

Women, girls and gender No specific mention.

Men and boys No specific mention.

LGBTI No specific mention.

Family No specific mention.

State definition

Nature of state (general) **The Peace and Security Council,**
...
Reaffirming the unwavering commitment of the AU to respect the sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of the DRC and further reaffirming the solidarity of the AU with the people and the Government of the DRC in their legitimate aspirations for peace, stability and socio-economic development;
Locate in agreement

State configuration No specific mention.

Self determination No specific mention.

Referendum No specific mention.

State symbols No specific mention.

Independence/secession No specific mention.

Accession/unification No specific mention.

Border delimitation No specific mention.

Cross-border provision No specific mention.

Governance

Political institutions (new or reformed) No specific mention.

Elections No specific mention.

Electoral commission No specific mention.

Political parties reform No specific mention.

Civil society No specific mention.

Traditional/religious leaders No specific mention.

Public administration No specific mention.

Constitution No specific mention.

Power sharing

Political power sharing No specific mention.

Territorial power sharing No specific mention.

Economic power sharing No specific mention.

Military power sharing No specific mention.

Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general **Acting under Article 7 of its Protocol, the Peace and Security Council:**

...

reiterates its strong condemnation of the human rights abuses committed by the M23, as well as the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), Forces Démocratiques de Libération du Rwanda (FDLR) and other armed groups;

Locate in agreement

Bill of rights/similar No specific mention.

Treaty incorporation No specific mention.

Civil and political rights No specific mention.

Socio-economic rights No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship No specific mention.

Democracy No specific mention.

Detention procedures No specific mention.

Media and communication No specific mention.

Mobility/access **Acting under Article 7 of its Protocol, the Peace and Security Council:**
...
10. Strongly condemns the recent attacks against MONUSCO, which resulted in casualties amongst peacekeepers and civilians, the obstruction of access to humanitarian assistance to populations in dire need, and expresses its heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and the respective Governments;
Locate in agreement

Protection measures Rights related issues→Protection measures→Protection of civilians
Acting under Article 7 of its Protocol, the Peace and Security Council:
...
11. Welcomes the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2667 (2022) that lifted the arms embargo on DRC, which enhances its capacity in the fight against armed groups and protection of its citizens;
(Locate in agreement)

Other No specific mention.

Rights institutions

NHRI No specific mention.

Regional or international human rights institutions No specific mention.

Justice sector reform

Criminal justice and emergency law No specific mention.

State of emergency provisions No specific mention.

Judiciary and courts No specific mention.

Prisons and detention No specific mention.

Traditional Laws No specific mention.

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Socio-economic development
The Peace and Security Council,
...
Reaffirming the unwavering commitment of the AU to respect the sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of the DRC and further reaffirming the solidarity of the AU with the people and the Government of the DRC in their legitimate aspirations for peace, stability and socio-economic development;
(Locate in agreement)

National economic plan No specific mention.

Natural resources No specific mention.

International funds **Acting under Article 7 of its Protocol, the Peace and Security Council:**
...
in this regard, authorizes the Council in collaboration with the Commission and the Governance Structures of the AU Peace Fund, to immediately work out modalities for the utilization of the Fund and report back to the PSC within six weeks;
Locate in agreement
calls upon the United Nations and other partners to support peace-making efforts in the DRC through the provision of financial and technical expertise;
Locate in agreement

Business No specific mention.

Taxation No specific mention.

Banks No specific mention.

Land, property and environment

Land reform/rights No specific mention.

**Pastoralist/
nomadism rights** No specific mention.

Cultural heritage No specific mention.

Environment No specific mention.

**Water or riparian
rights or access** No specific mention.

Security sector

**Security
Guarantees** No specific mention.

Ceasefire No specific mention.

Police No specific mention.

Armed forces No specific mention.

DDR Security sector→DDR→Demilitarisation provisions
Acting under Article 7 of its Protocol, the Peace and Security Council:
...
calls for cantonment and disarmament of M23 under the control of the DRC authorities, and the supervision of EAC Regional Force and the Ad Hoc Verification Mechanism, with the collaboration of United the Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO);
(Locate in agreement)
8. Underscores the need to engage in rehabilitation and community development plans to address the issue of ex-combatants and voluntary return of the IDPs and refugees, among others;
(Locate in agreement)

**Intelligence
services** No specific mention.

Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces

Acting under Article 7 of its Protocol, the Peace and Security Council:

1. Expresses grave concern over the prevailing insecurity and deterioration of the humanitarian and socio-economic development due to violence and human rights abuses committed by the armed groups and negative forces in the eastern DRC;
Locate in agreement
reiterates its strong condemnation of the human rights abuses committed by the M23, as well as the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), Forces Démocratiques de Libération du Rwanda (FDLR) and other armed groups;
Locate in agreement
...
5. Demands that all armed groups, particularly the M23, as well as the ADF, and FDLR to immediately cease hostilities and unconditionally withdraw from the eastern DRC;
Locate in agreement
...
calls for cantonment and disarmament of M23 under the control of the DRC authorities, and the supervision of EAC Regional Force and the Ad Hoc Verification Mechanism, with the collaboration of United the Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO);
Locate in agreement
...
11. Welcomes the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2667 (2022) that lifted the arms embargo on DRC, which enhances its capacity in the fight against armed groups and protection of its citizens;
Locate in agreement

Withdrawal of foreign forces

Acting under Article 7 of its Protocol, the Peace and Security Council:

- ...
5. Demands that all armed groups, particularly the M23, as well as the ADF, and FDLR to immediately cease hostilities and unconditionally withdraw from the eastern DRC;
Locate in agreement

Corruption

No specific mention.

Crime/organised crime

No specific mention.

Drugs

No specific mention.

Terrorism

No specific mention.

Transitional justice

Transitional justice general No specific mention.

Amnesty/pardon Transitional justice→Amnesty/pardon→Relief of other sanctions
Acting under Article 7 of its Protocol, the Peace and Security Council:
...
11. Welcomes the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2667 (2022) that lifted the arms embargo on DRC, which enhances its capacity in the fight against armed groups and protection of its citizens;
(Locate in agreement)

Courts No specific mention.

Mechanism No specific mention.

Prisoner release No specific mention.

Vetting No specific mention.

Victims No specific mention.

Missing persons No specific mention.

Reparations No specific mention.

Reconciliation No specific mention.

Implementation

UN signatory No specific mention.

Other international signatory No specific mention.

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

International mission/force/similar

Acting under Article 7 of its Protocol, the Peace and Security Council:

...

7. Emphasizes the need to support the Expanded Joint Verification Mechanism (EJVM);
Locate in agreement

calls for cantonment and disarmament of M23 under the control of the DRC authorities, and the supervision of EAC Regional Force and the Ad Hoc Verification Mechanism, with the collaboration of United the Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO);

Locate in agreement

...

9. Welcomes the deployment of the EAC Regional Force to the eastern DRC and pays tribute to the Troop Contributing Countries (TCCs) to the EAC Regional Force for their commitment to the promotion of regional peace and security;

Locate in agreement

and decides to support its deployment and operations;

Locate in agreement

...

reiterates its call for cooperation, coordination and complementarity of efforts between MONUSCO, Forces armées de la République Démocratique du Congo (FARDC) and the EAC Regional Force;

Locate in agreement

Enforcement mechanism

No specific mention.

Related cases

No specific mention.

Source

No specific mention.