EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

COMMUNIQUÉ

CONSULTATIVE MEETING BETWEEN THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE SUMMIT OF EAC HEADS OF STATE AND PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI, H.E ÉVARISTE NDAYISHIMIYE; PRESIDENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO, H.E FÉLIX ANTOINE TSHISEKEDI; AND THE FACILITATOR OF THE EAC-LED NAIROBI PROCESS, H.E UHURU KENYATTA ON THE SECURITY SITUATION IN EASTERN DRC

17TH NOVEMBER, 2022

1. The Chairperson of the Summit of EAC Heads of State and President of the Republic of Burundi, Évariste Ndayishimiye; the President of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), H.E Félix Tshisekedi Tshilombo; and the Facilitator of the EAC-Led Nairobi Process in Eastern DRC, H.E Uhuru Kenyatta, held a consultative meeting on 17th November, 2022, on the evolving security situation in Eastern DRC.

2. The leaders;

   i. Expressed concern at the deteriorating security and humanitarian situation unfolding in Eastern DRC and called upon the International Community to activate humanitarian support to alleviate the suffering of the displaced civilian population in and around Goma;

   ii. Reiterated the decision of the three conclaves held in Nairobi, Kenya, calling on all armed groups to lay down their arms voluntarily and pursue their interests through the avenues provided for under the EAC-Led Nairobi Process;

   iii. Supported the recommendation of the Chiefs of Defence Forces made at their meeting held on 8th November, 2022 in Bujumbura, Burundi, demanding the withdrawal of M-23 to the Pre-April 2022 positions, to give way to a ceasefire followed by deployment of the EAC Regional Force in the vacated areas and ultimate disarmament.

3. The meeting reaffirmed the demonstrated commitment of the EAC Heads of State to immediate cessation of hostilities and restoration of Peace and Security in Eastern DRC.

DONE ON THIS 17TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2022