

Country/entity	Angola Central African Republic Democratic Republic of Congo Kenya Republic of Congo Rwanda Sudan Tanzania Uganda Zambia African Great Lakes
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Protocol of Non-aggression and Mutual Defence in the Great Lakes Region
Date	30 Nov 2006
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Interstate/intrastate conflict(s) African Great Lakes Process (2004 - 2013) The African Great Lakes process attempted to use a regional approach to address a set of inter-linked conflicts notably in Burundi, Rwanda, Democratic Republic of Congo, Central African Republic and Uganda. Close African Great Lakes Process (2004 - 2013)
Stage	Framework/substantive - partial
Conflict nature	Government
Peace process	African Great Lakes: Regional Process
Parties	Unsigned and unlisted, but parties known to be: Angola; Central African Republic; Congo; Democratic Republic of Congo; Kenya; Rwanda; Sudan; Tanzania; Uganda; Zambia
Third parties	-
Description	This protocol is part of the Pact on security, stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region. The objectives of the Protocol include: resolving and preventing internal and inter-state armed conflicts of any kind within and between Member States, and ensuring that disputes between Member States and between armed groups are resolved by peaceful means; thus renouncing the threat or use of force, non-aggression and having a mutual defence arrangements and common border security management. I also calls for the safeguarding of human and people's rights.

Agreement document [AO_BI_CF_CD_KE_CG_RW_SD_TZ_UG_ZM_061130_ProtocolofNonAgressionGreatLakes.pdf](#)
(opens in new tab) | [Download PDF](#)

Groups

Children/youth	Groups→Children/youth→Rhetorical Page 2, Preamble, ... Taking account of the provisions of the Security Council Resolution 1325, on the protection of women and children during armed conflicts and the need for the equitable representation of women in making decisions aimed at ending such conflicts; Page 5, Article 3, Renunciation of the Threat or Use of Force by Member States ... 2. This renunciation is without prejudice to the primary responsibility of Member States to preserve the integrity of their sovereignty and to protect the lives and human rights of all persons and all peoples, including women and children, residing within their territories.
Disabled persons	No specific mention.
Elderly/age	No specific mention.
Migrant workers	No specific mention.
Racial/ethnic/ national group	Groups→Racial/ethnic/national group→Rhetorical Page 2, Preamble, ... Mindful of the responsibility of States to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity, and gross violations of human rights in the Great Lakes Region;
Religious groups	No specific mention.
Indigenous people	No specific mention.
Other groups	No specific mention.
Refugees/displaced persons	No specific mention.
Social class	No specific mention.

Gender

Women, girls and gender	<p>Page 2, Preamble, ... Taking account of the provisions of the Security Council Resolution 1325, on the protection of women and children during armed conflicts and the need for the equitable representation of women in making decisions aimed at ending such conflicts;</p> <p>Page 5, Article 2 Objectives The objectives of this Protocol are to: ... 4. Safeguard human and people's rights, gender equity, the rule of law, democracy, and sustainable development in the Great Lakes Region;</p> <p>Page 5, Article 3 Renunciation of the Threat or Use of Force by Member States ... 2. This renunciation is without prejudice to the primary responsibility of Member States to preserve the integrity of their sovereignty and to protect the lives and human rights of all persons and all peoples, including women and children, residing within their territories.</p>
Men and boys	No specific mention.
LGBTI	No specific mention.
Family	No specific mention.

State definition

Nature of state (general)	<p>Page 2, Preamble, ... Reaffirming that the obligation of non-interference in the internal affairs of any State and that of refraining in international relations from any military, political, economic or other form of coercion aimed against the sovereignty, political independence or territorial integrity of any State in accordance with international law, are essential conditions for ensuring peace, security, stability and development in the Great Lakes Region;</p> <p>Page 5, Article 3 Renunciation of the Threat or Use of Force by Member States 2. This renunciation is without prejudice to the primary responsibility of Member States to preserve the integrity of their sovereignty and to protect the lives and human rights of all persons and all peoples, including women and children, residing within their territories.</p>
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** Page 2-3, Article 1, Definitions
In this Protocol, unless the context otherwise requires, the following mean:
5. Designated border security zones: the following common border zones:
a. Zone 1, comprising the East of the Democratic Republic of Congo, the West of Uganda and the West of Rwanda;
b. Zone 2, comprising the North of the United Republic of Tanzania, the South of Uganda, and the South-West of Kenya;
c. Zone 3, comprising the North-East of Uganda, the North-West of Kenya, and the South-East of Sudan;
d. Zone 4, comprising the North-West of Uganda, the North-East of the Democratic Republic of Congo, and the South-West of Sudan in the West Nile border triangle;
e. Zone 5, comprising the North of the Democratic Republic of Congo, the South-West of Sudan, and the South-East of the Central African Republic;
f. Zone 6, comprising the North-West of the Democratic Republic of Congo, the North-East of the Republic of Congo, and the South-West of the Central African Republic;
g. Zone 7, comprising the North-West of Angola, the West of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the South of the Republic of Congo;
h. Zone 8, comprising the North-West of Zambia, the South of the Democratic Republic of Congo, and the East of Angola;
i. Zone 9, comprising the West of the United Republic of Tanzania, the South of Burundi, the North of Zambia and the South-East of the Democratic Republic of Congo;
j. Zone 10, comprising the East of the Democratic Republic of Congo, the West of Burundi, and the West of Rwanda;
k. Zone 11, comprising the North-West of the United Republic of Tanzania, the South-West of Uganda, and the East of Rwanda; and
l. Zone 12, comprising North-West of the United Republic of Tanzania, the South-East of Rwanda, and the North-East of Burundi.

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	<p>Page 2, Preamble, ... Mindful of the responsibility of States to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity, and gross violations of human rights in the Great Lakes Region; ... Reaffirming further the duty of all States to settle their international disputes by peaceful means in accordance with international law;</p> <p>Page 5, Article 2, Objectives The objectives of this Protocol are to: ... 4. Safeguard human and people's rights, gender equity, the rule of law, democracy, and sustainable development in the Great Lakes Region;</p> <p>Page 5, Article 3, Renunciation of the Threat or Use of Force by Member States ... 2. This renunciation is without prejudice to the primary responsibility of Member States to preserve the integrity of their sovereignty and to protect the lives and human rights of all persons and all peoples, including women and children, residing within their territories.</p> <p>Page 5, Article 4, Prohibition on the Threat or Use of Force by Member States ... 8. Member States agree that the provisions of this Article and Article 5 of this Protocol shall not impair the exercise of their responsibility to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, crimes against humanity, and gross violations of human rights committed by, or within, a State. The decision of the Member States to exercise their responsibility to protect populations in this provision shall be taken collectively, with due procedural notice to the Peace and Security Council of the African Union and the Security Council of the United Nations.</p>
Bill of rights/similar	No specific mention.
Treaty incorporation	<p>Page 5, Article 4, Prohibition on the Threat or Use of Force by Member States ... 2. Member States agree strictly to abide by the duty of non-interference in matters which are within the domestic jurisdiction of any State, in accordance with international law, the Charter of the United Nations, and the Constitutive Act of the African Union.</p>

Civil and political rights	<p>Human rights and equality→Civil and political rights→Life Page 2, Preamble, ... Mindful of the responsibility of States to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity, and gross violations of human rights in the Great Lakes Region;</p> <p>Page 5, Article 4, Prohibition on the Threat or Use of Force by Member States ... 8. Member States agree that the provisions of this Article and Article 5 of this Protocol shall not impair the exercise of their responsibility to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, crimes against humanity, and gross violations of human rights committed by, or within, a State. The decision of the Member States to exercise their responsibility to protect populations in this provision shall be taken collectively, with due procedural notice to the Peace and Security Council of the African Union and the Security Council of the United Nations.</p> <p>Human rights and equality→Civil and political rights→Equality Page 5, Article 2, Objectives The objectives of this Protocol are to: ... 4. Safeguard human and people’s rights, gender equity, the rule of law, democracy, and sustainable development in the Great Lakes Region;</p>
Socio-economic rights	No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship	No specific mention.
Democracy	<p>Page 5, Article 2, Objectives The objectives of this Protocol are to: ... 4. Safeguard human and people’s rights, gender equity, the rule of law, democracy, and sustainable development in the Great Lakes Region;</p>
Detention procedures	No specific mention.
Media and communication	<p>Rights related issues→Media and communication→Media roles Page 6, Article 5, Non-Aggression 1. Member States have a duty to refrain from acts and threats of aggression as defined in Article 1 (2) and (3) of this Protocol, as well as any propaganda related to such acts and threats.</p>
Mobility/access	<p>Page 2-3, Article 1, Definitions In this Protocol, unless the context otherwise requires, the following mean: 3. The following shall constitute acts of aggression, regardless of a declaration of war by a State, group of States, organization of States, or armed groups, or by any foreign entity whatsoever: ... d. The blockade of the ports, coasts or airspace of a Member State;</p>

Protection measures	<p>Rights related issues→Protection measures→Protection of groups</p> <p>Page 1, Preamble</p> <p>Taking account of the provisions of the Security Council Resolution 1325, on the protection of women and children during armed conflicts and the need for the equitable representation of women in making decisions aimed at ending such conflicts;</p> <p>Page 8,</p> <p>Article 8 Measures against Armed Groups 1</p> <p>5. Member States undertake to intercept and disarm members of armed groups fleeing across their common borders, without prejudice to the obligations concerning the protection of refugees and the free movement of persons within the Great Lakes Region.</p>
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 No specific mention.

National economic plan No specific mention.

Natural resources No specific mention.

International funds No specific mention.

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

[Summary] Entire Protocol deals with security and stability in the Great Lakes Region. It aims to prevent and resolve internal and interstate armed conflicts within and between member states, and commits to resolving all disputes and conflicts by peaceful means, renouncing all threat or use of force, non-aggression and respect of state sovereignty. And sets out 12 designated border security zones in the region, mutual defense arrangements, common border security management.

Page 2, Article 1, Definitions

In this Protocol, unless the context otherwise requires, the following mean:

1. Acts of Subversion: any act that incites, aggravates or creates dissension within or among Member States with the intention or purpose of destabilizing or overthrowing the existing regime or political order by, among other means, fomenting racial, religious, linguistic, ethnic or other differences, in a manner inconsistent with the Constitutive Act of the African Union, the African Union Non- Aggression and Common Defence Pact, or the Charter of the United Nations.

Page 2-3, Article 1, Definitions

In this Protocol, unless the context otherwise requires, the following mean:

3. The following shall constitute acts of aggression, regardless of a declaration of war by a State, group of States, organization of States, or armed groups, or by any foreign entity whatsoever:

...

c. The bombardment of the territory of a Member State or the use of any weapon against the territory of a Member State;

...

g. The action of a Member State in authorising its territory, to be used by another Member State for committing an act of aggression against a third State;

Page 5, Article 2

Objectives The objectives of this Protocol are to:

1. Resolve and prevent internal and inter-state armed conflicts, subversive activities and serve as a legal framework for eradicating persistent insecurity of any kind within and between Member States;
2. Eliminate threats to peace, security, stability and sustainable development in the Great Lakes Region through collective security;
3. Ensure respect for the sovereignty and security of States, the inviolability of borders and the territorial integrity of States;
- ... 5. Ensure that disputes between Member States and, between Member States and armed groups are resolved by peaceful means; ...

Page 5, Article 3 Renunciation of the Threat or Use of Force by Member States

... 4. Member States undertake to criminalize any act of aggression or subversion against other States by individuals or groups operating in their respective States.

Page 5, Article 4 Prohibition on the Threat or Use of Force by Member States

1. Member States undertake to refrain, in their international relations, from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the Charter of the United Nations, the Constitutive Act of the African Union, the relevant resolutions of the Security Council of the United Nations and the African Union Peace and Security Council.
2. Member States agree strictly to abide by the duty of non-interference in matters which are within the domestic jurisdiction of any State, in accordance with international law, the Charter of the United Nations and the Constitutive Act of the African Union.

Page 6, Article 5 Non-Aggression

Ceasefire	No specific mention.
Police	No specific mention.
Armed forces	<p>Page 2-3, Article 1, Definitions</p> <p>2. Aggression: the use, intentionally and knowingly, of armed force or any hostile act, as referred to in Article 1(3)(g to k), perpetrated by a State, a group of States, an organization of States or an armed group or by any foreign or external entity, against the sovereignty, political independence, territorial integrity and human security of the population of a Member State, contrary to the Constitutive Act of the African Union, the African Union Non-Aggression and Common Defence Pact or the Charter of the United Nations.</p>
DDR	<p>Security sector→DDR→Demilitarisation provisions</p> <p>Page 8, Article 8 Measures against Armed Groups</p> <p>... 6. A Member State whose armed forces are engaged in the hot pursuit of armed groups shall inform and notify Member States towards whose territory the armed groups are fleeing, and shall request any such Member States to intercept, apprehend and disarm them.</p>
Intelligence services	<p>Page 2-3, Article 1, Definitions</p> <p>In this Protocol, unless the context otherwise requires, the following mean:</p> <p>3. The following shall constitute acts of aggression, regardless of a declaration of war by a State, group of States, organization of States, or armed groups, or by any foreign entity whatsoever:</p> <p>...</p> <p>i. Acts of espionage which could be used, contrary to Article 7(4), for military aggression against a Member State;</p> <p>j. Technological assistance of any kind, intelligence and training given to another State for use, contrary to Article 7(4), with the aim of committing acts of aggression against another Member State; and</p>

**Parastatal/rebel
and opposition
group forces**

Page 2-3, Article 1, Definitions

2. Aggression: the use, intentionally and knowingly, of armed force or any hostile act, as referred to in Article 1(3)(g to k), perpetrated by a State, a group of States, an organization of States or an armed group or by any foreign or external entity, against the sovereignty, political independence, territorial integrity and human security of the population of a Member State, contrary to the Constitutive Act of the African Union, the African Union Non-Aggression and Common Defence Pact or the Charter of the United Nations.

Page 2-3, Article 1, Definitions

In this Protocol, unless the context otherwise requires, the following mean:

3. The following shall constitute acts of aggression, regardless of a declaration of war by a State, group of States, organization of States, or armed groups, or by any foreign entity whatsoever:

...

h. The sending by, or on behalf of a Member State, or the provision of any support to armed groups, mercenaries, and other organized trans-national criminal groups which might carry out hostile acts against a Member State, of a gravity comparable to the acts listed above, or its substantial involvement therein;

...

4. Armed groups: any armed groups that do not belong to, or are not officially incorporated into, the defence and security forces of Member States.

Page 5, Article 4 Prohibition on the Threat or Use of Force by Member States:

....

3. Any act, by a Member State, of sending its armed forces or armed or insurgent groups across the frontier of another State, without the agreement of that State, shall constitute a breach of the prohibition on the threat or use of force and the duty not to intervene in matters which are within the domestic jurisdiction of any State.

4. Any act by a Member State, of harbouring within its territory armed or insurgent groups engaged in armed conflict, violence, or subversion against the government of another State shall constitute a breach of the prohibition on the threat or use of force and the duty not to intervene in matters which are within the domestic jurisdiction of the said State.

Page 6, Article 5 Non-Aggression

...

4. Member States shall counter acts of aggression committed against any one of them by armed groups, taking into account the provisions of Articles 6 and 8 of this Protocol.

Page 8-9, Article 8 Measures against Armed Groups

1. Member States hereby denounce all armed groups in the Great Lakes Region and repudiate any association with such groups, and agree to strictly combat all activities undertaken by such groups.

2. Member States guarantee to prohibit armed groups from using their territories as a base for carrying out armed attacks, committing acts of aggression or subversion, against the sovereignty, security, territorial integrity and political independence of any Member State.

3. Member States undertake not to give any help, directly or indirectly, actively or passively, to armed groups operating against any Member State.

4. Member States undertake to apprehend and disarm, far from their common borders, members of armed groups who use, or attempt to use, their territories to prepare, or mount armed attacks, and/or conduct subversive activities against other States.

5. Member States undertake to intercept and disarm members of armed groups fleeing across their common borders, without prejudice to the obligations concerning the

Withdrawal of foreign forces No specific mention.

Corruption No specific mention.

Crime/organised crime No specific mention.

Drugs No specific mention.

Terrorism Page 2-3, Article 1, Definitions
In this Protocol, unless the context otherwise requires, the following mean:
3. The following shall constitute acts of aggression, regardless of a declaration of war by a State, group of States, organization of States, or armed groups, or by any foreign entity whatsoever:
...
k. The encouragement, support, harbouring or provision of any assistance for the commission of terrorist acts and other violent trans-national organized crimes against a Member State.

Transitional justice

Transitional justice general No specific mention.

Amnesty/pardon No specific mention.

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 Page 6-7, Article 6 Mutual Defence
...
4. Member States agree to build their joint capacity for mutual assistance and defence aimed at enabling collective and effective responses to armed attacks against one or more of them by utilising the command structures of the African Intervention Force.

Enforcement mechanism No specific mention.

Related cases No specific mention.

Source <http://peacemaker.un.org/>
