



DRAFT PROGRAMME

**Regional Conference on
Parliamentary Democracy and Peace in the Great Lakes Region
Nairobi, 14-16 April 2005**

Organised by AWEPA, the North-South Centre, and the Amani Forum, in partnership with UNIFEM and UNDP, and supported by the governments of Belgium, Denmark, the Netherlands and Sweden

Thursday 14 April

08:30-09:00 **Registration**

09:00-09:10	Session 1
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Chair: Dr J.N. Scholten, President of AWEPA

09:10-10:00	Session 1a: Opening Plenary
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Welcome remarks by:
AMANI Forum
North South Centre

Keynote speech: Agnes van Ardenne, Minister of Development Cooperation of the Netherlands and co-Chair of the Group of Friends of the Great Lakes

Official opening by: Hon. Speaker F.X. Kaparo, Kenya

10:00-10:30	Session 1b: Presentation of the Dar es Salaam Declaration and an update on the preparations for the Security, Stability and Development Pact. Keynote Speaker: Amb. Ibrahim Fall, UN Special Representative GRL
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10:30-11:00 **Coffee Break**

11:00-12:30	Session 1c: Discussions on the following themes
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- Dar es Salaam Declaration
- Country situational updates (Uganda, DRC, RC, Rwanda, Burundi)
- Strategic partnerships

12:30-14:00 **Lunch Break**

14:00-15:30 Four parallel working sessions on the four pillars of the International Conference for the Great Lakes Region:

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| • Peace and Security | Rapporteur |
| • Governance and Democracy | Rapporteur |
| • Economic Development and Regional Integration | Rapporteur |
| • Social and Humanitarian Issues | Rapporteur |

15:30-16:00 **Coffee Break**

16:00-18:00	Session 2: Parliament as an Instrument for Peace
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Chair: Hon. Dr. Mose Tjitendero, Namibia
Rapporteur: AWEPA
Keynote speaker: Mr. Pär Granstedt, Vice-President of AWEPA
Panel: Member of PAP (Benin)

Introduction of discussion on the following issues:

- Resource scarcity and ethnic tensions as sources of conflict: What can parliament do?
- Effective representation, inclusion of needs of interest groups and early warning
- Pro-active budgetary re-allocation by parliaments to direct resources toward priority needs
- Protection of the rights of vulnerable groups and prevention of human rights abuse and impunity
- Parliamentary Democracy in the GLR; Challenges and Opportunities

18.00: **end of day 1**

19:00 **Cocktail**

Friday 15 April

08:30-10:30	Session 3: The Kigali Declaration of the Great Lakes Regional Women's meeting
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Chair: AMANI
Rapporteur: UNIFEM
Keynote speakers: Hon. Loice Bwambale, Uganda, Chair of the Committee on Gender, Youth, Family and People with Disabilities of the Pan African Parliament
Hon. Amina Abdalla, Reporting on the AMANI workshop on strengthening the role of women Parliamentarians in peace and security
Panel: Mrs. Gumbozvandi, UNIFEM Director
RFPAC Representative
Mrs. Monique Kande, Gender Adviser

Discussion on the following theme:

- Strategies for promoting the role of women MP in the Great Lakes Peace Process

Discussion

10:30-11.00 **Coffee break**

11:00-13:00	Session 4: Small Arms Reduction project
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Chair:
Rapporteur:
Keynote speakers: Mr. Luc Dhoore, Honorary Vice President of AWEPA
Mr. Gilbert Barthe, Programme Manager UN-SARP
Mr. Francis Sang', the Nairobi Secretariat on Small Arms

Discussion on the following themes:

- Small Arms Reduction project
- Harmonisation of legislation: areas for parliamentary action
- Situational update by the parliaments of Rwanda, Burundi and DRC

13:00-14:30 **Lunch break**

14:30-15:30	Session 5: Reporting on session 1c
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14.30-16.30 **Session 6: Working Group Session**

Working groups on the following themes:

- 1 Parliament as an Instrument for Peace. Rapporteur:
- 2 The Summit of Heads of State in Dar es Salaam, follow-up for parliamentarians. Rapporteur:
- 3 The role of women in promoting parliamentary democracy and peace. Rapporteur:
- 4 The role of parliamentarians in reducing small arms: legislation and oversight. Rapporteur:

17:00 end of day 2

Saturday 16 April

08.30-10.30 **Session 7: Report back from Working Groups**

Chair: AMANI

Rapporteur Working Group 1:

Rapporteur Working Group 2:

Rapporteur Working Group 3:

Rapporteur Working Group 4:

Discussion

10.30-11:30 **coffee break**

Committee prepares concluding documents

11.30-12.30 **Session 8: Presentation of parliamentary action plan**

Chair: North – South Centre

Rapporteur:

12:30-13:00 **Session 9: Closing Session**

13:00 – 14:00

Lunch and departure of participants