Statement by the Joint International Facilitation Team (JIFT) on Burundi

26 June 2015

The Joint International Facilitation Team (JIFT) comprising the East African Community (EAC), International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), the African Union and the United Nations convened a meeting of Burundian stakeholders from 23 to 26 June to dialogue on the political, security, socio-economic and humanitarian situation in the country.

The dialogue was attended by representatives of the Government (one session), opposition political parties, civil society, religious leaders and the private sector.

On the basis of the views expressed by stakeholders and taking into account the prevailing political and security climate in the country, the JIFT proposed the postponement of the local, parliamentary and presidential elections to be held simultaneously on 30 July to allow for the creation of conditions conducive to the holding of free, fair, transparent, peaceful and credible elections.

The JIFT noted that there was no consensus among Burundian stakeholders on its proposal. The JIFT reaffirms its commitment to continue to engage with all stakeholders and appeals to Burundians to continue the dialogue.

Dated this 26th June 2015.

Mr. Charles Njoroge
Deputy Secretary General,
East African Community

Prof. Ntumba Luaba
Executive Secretary,
International Conference on the Great Lakes Region

Prof. Ibrahima Fall
Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission for Burundi and the Great Lakes Region

Prof. Abdoulaye Bathily
Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General for Central Africa

Witnessed by:

H.E Justice Joseph Warioba
EAC Panel of Eminent Persons

Amb. Bethuel Kiplagat,
COMESA Committee of Elders