

## **PfAL Members' Statement to Government of Burundi and the African Union Commission for Peace and Security on the Situation in Burundi**

We, members of Programme of African Leadership (PfAL) Network who attended the first Forum of the network at the Speke Resort Hotel in Munyonyo, Uganda from 14<sup>th</sup>- 16<sup>th</sup> January 2016, wish to express our deep concern regarding the unfolding humanitarian crisis in Burundi.

PfAL is a network of African leadership drawn from different sectors of the society and whose members hold leadership positions at community, country and international levels. The PfAL Network is committed to fostering social justice and human rights in Africa. We are cognizant of the fact that conflict has cost many lives in different African countries and acknowledge that Africa's development is often derailed by poor governance practices and divisions among political leadership.

Following the immediate developments after the disputed Burundi National Elections of July 2015, there continuously been report of threats, violations and displacement of civilians in the country. According to the reports there has been increased growth in number of activists fleeing the country and violent attacks directed towards civilians and women. As citizens of the African continent we wish to state that the crisis not only affects Burundi but the entire region.

In solidarity with the approximately 144,000 refugees who have fled Burundi to other parts of Africa we therefore;

- Condemn the heinous acts of killings and maiming of the people Burundi;
- Note with concern the postponement of the peace talks and urge a peaceful, negotiated resolution of the crisis
- Encourage return of the parties involved in the ongoing conflict to the commitments and principles of the Arusha National Accord;
- Express our support for the African Union initiative intended to bring the carnage to an end;
- Urge all neighboring countries to restrain militia in their respective territories who are stoking the war in Burundi and put an end to the illicit movement of arms into Burundi;
- Call upon the Government of Burundi, opposition and militia forces to declare immediate and an unconditional ceasefire and cessation of hostilities directed towards civilians;
- Appeal to the leadership of Burundi to uphold constitutionalism, rule of law and respect for human rights and;
- Call upon African leaders to commit to ethical and accountable leadership aimed at enabling peace, social justice and equitable development for all our people.

### Endorsed by

Aaron Timothy Kirunda – Uganda  
Adebimpe Atinuke Balogun - Nigeria  
Alice Mogwe – Botswana  
Andrews Addoquaye Tagoe – Ghana  
Annet Kisaka Magolo – Uganda  
Atek Eunice Gillian – Uganda  
Benedict Wachira – Kenya  
Butare Bernard – Uganda  
Charles Ogeno – Uganda  
Charles Andrew Edimu – Uganda  
Clement Gyimah – Ghana  
Donnas Ojok – Uganda  
Fiona Imbali – Kenya  
Garang Buk – Rep of South Sudan  
Genevieve Imbali – Kenya

Helen F. Mayelle – Uganda  
Kassim Mwanika – Uganda  
Lesoetsa Makafane – Lesotho  
Merekaje Lorna Nanjia – Rep of South Sudan  
Michael Mugisha – Uganda  
Moses Omondi – Kenya  
Nanyonjo Rhonah – Uganda  
Naomi Barasa – Kenya  
Sheila Keetharuth – Mauritius  
Trufena Ogol – Kenya  
Tseguereda Abraham – Ethiopia  
Yusuf Kiranda – Uganda  
Zahid Rajan – Kenya