



PARLIAMENTARIANS FOR GLOBAL ACTION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**PARLIAMENTARIANS FOR GLOBAL ACTION ASSOCIATES ITSELF WITH THE PGA NATIONAL GROUP IN
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)
TO DENOUNCE THE CRIMES RECENTLY COMMITTED IN DUNGU, DRC**

New York, October 9, 2008: Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) and its network of more than 1300 Legislators supports the efforts of PGA National Group in Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) to appeal to President Kabila and the Mission of the United Nations in DRC (MONUC) to protect civilians in Eastern Congo.

Since 2005, Ugandan militias of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) of Joseph Kony have continued to pose threats in the Eastern Provinces of DRC. Atrocities were committed recently, when 90 children were abducted by the LRA on September 17, while many civilians were killed and their houses burned in the territory of Dungu, Oriental Province.

In Kampala, Uganda, PGA Member **Hon. Adolf Mwesige, MP**, Minister for General Duties and former proponent of ICC ratification and implementation in the Ugandan Parliament, echoed the appeals made by his colleagues in DRC and said that *"the time has come for the International Community to isolate the LRA and block its chain of supply and support. The victims of Joseph Kony's crimes against humanity are now the children of Congo, South Sudan and the Central African Republic. The LRA has become a threat for the entire sub-region"*.

Mr. Emmanuel Adubango Ali, MP, President of the PGA National Group in DRC *"condemned the fact that Congolese national territory is being used as a back base for the operations of the LRA to commit war crimes and crimes against humanity"* and mobilized the multi-party group of PGA in the DRC Parliament in an immediate advocacy effort aimed at safeguarding the lives and dignity of innocent civilians and the effective enforcement of international justice.

Senator Alain Destexhe (Belgium), PGA Board member, called on all the stakeholders to *"coordinate their efforts to isolate the LRA, and help execute the arrest warrants issued by the International Criminal Court (ICC), which concern several LRA combatants in Uganda, to protect civilians from new attacks, especially the children. »*

NOTE FOR EDITORS

The Press Release issued by the PGA DRC multi-party Group is available on the PGA website at <http://pgaction.org/uploadedfiles/PGA%20DRC%20National%20Group%20Press%20Release.pdf> (<http://pgaction.org/news.asp>).

This release preceded two press releases of the ICC on the same matter, which were issued on 6 and 7 October, 2008 and are available on the ICC website at <http://www.icc-cpi.int/home.html&l=en>.