MEDIA RELEASE **UNITED AFRICA ROYAL ASSEMBLY NORTH KIVU MASSACRE - DRC**

0008/13.09.25 **JOHANNESBURG**

STATEMENT ON THE SEPTEMBER 8 MASSACRE IN NORTH KIVU

On behalf of the United Africa Royal Assembly, I extend our deepest condolences to the families of the victims in the villages of Potodu and Ntoyo in North Kivu, to the people, and to the Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo, following the brutal massacre of nearly 100 civilians, including women, children, and the elderly. Many of the victims were attending a church funeral when they were attacked. We strongly condemn these atrocities and call for urgent action to protect civilians and uphold justice.

We are appalled by the persistence of violence in the DRC, and the continued disregard for existing peace agreements and initiatives. The Assembly calls on local, regional, and continental institutions to ensure that those responsible for these atrocities and all violations of human rights are held accountable. The impunity and displacements, if tolerated, is a threat not only to the Congolese people but to the stability and sovereignty of the continent as a whole.

We urge the DRC government, the African Union, SADC, and regional partners to act swiftly through African-led peace measures that prioritize civilian protection, cooperation, and respect for human rights. The root causes of conflict, including inequality, marginalization, and foreign interference in the exploitation of resources, must be addressed to ensure sustainable peace. Africa cannot delegate its responsibility for its security and future, and the people of the Democratic Republic of Congo deserve decisive leadership and solidarity from the continent.

HIH Prince Estifanos Matewos President of the United Africa Royal Assembly Ambassador of the Pan-African Parliament to the African Union Member States