

KAMPALA DECLARATION

IGAD MINISTERIAL MEETING ON MIGRATION FOR ESTABLISHING THE SECTORAL MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE ON MIGRATION

We, the Ministers in charge of Migration drawn from IGAD Member States attending the First IGAD Ministerial Meeting on Migration at the Speke Resort, Kampala in the Republic of Uganda on 10th November 2016:

Conscious of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its specific migration related goals and targets and the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants adopted at the UN Summit on 19th September 2016 expressing the political will of world leaders to save lives, protect rights and share responsibility on a global scale;

Welcoming the appointment of the Special Envoy on the Somalia refugee situation by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees

Mindful of the AU Decisions adopted in Banjul in 2006: EX.CL/Dec.304 (IX) that adopted the Migration Policy Framework for Africa and the AU agenda 2063 adopted by the 21st Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union in Addis Ababa in 2013;

Noting the IGAD Regional Migration Policy Framework (RMPF) endorsed by the IGAD Council of Ministers in 2012;

Recalling the subsequent development of the IGAD Migration Action Plan (MAP) for 2015 – 2020 that details the migration interventions to be implemented in the region during the stated period;

Recognizing that all countries of origin, transit and destination develop a shared understanding, common frameworks for cooperation and coordination on all aspects related to migration, including concepts and interpretations of migration and forced displacement;

Taking into account the increased challenges and opportunities that migration renders for the IGAD region and beyond, as well as the present continuous movement and displacement of people due to a combination of factors related to conflicts, prevailing socioeconomic situations, climate change and environmental conditions;

Underlining that a comprehensive approach to migration is necessary for boosting sustainable development;

Further underlining that establishing comprehensive migration governance systems at national, regional and global level can contribute to enhancing development, security and stability;

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Acknowledging that the free movement of persons as articulated in Article 13 of the agreement establishing IGAD and strengthening of labour mobility enhances safe, orderly migration, decent working conditions for migrants and contributes to regional integration and development;

Further acknowledging the development impact of migration and the contribution of the Diaspora to the development of their country of origin through remittances, stimulating trade, investment, knowledge, skills and technology transfer;

Reaffirming IGAD Member States' continued commitment to preserving asylum space and providing protection and assistance to asylum seekers and refugees;

Appealing to the international community to support IGAD Member States in this endeavor;

Taking into account the several regional initiatives established in response to the migration realities in the region; and

Adopting the recommendations of the experts' meetings of the 5th IGAD Regional Migration Coordination Committee (RMCC) and the 8th IGAD Regional Consultative Process (RCP) on Migration:

DO HEREBY AGREE TO:

- **1. Establish** the IGAD Sectoral Ministerial Committee on Migration and adopt its Terms of Reference and responsibilities;
- **2. Endorse** the recommendations of the experts meeting; and call upon all relevant stakeholders to support its implementation;
- **3. Strengthen and institutionalize** the National Coordination Mechanisms (NCM) in all IGAD Member States;
- **4. Integrate, harmonize and coordinate** all Migration initiatives through the NCM's at national level and through IGAD at the regional level;
- **5. Reaffirm** the role of the Regional Migration Coordination Committee (RMCC) as the main regional technical platform on migration;

COMMIT OURSELVES TO:

- **1. Support** the objectives of the IGAD Migration Program to implement the IGAD Regional Migration Policy Framework (RMPF);
- **2. Promote** shared understanding with a view of having a joint position and common voice in global and regional initiatives and processes;
- **3. Provide** political leadership and commitment at the highest level of each country in support of common regional migration strategies and policies;
- **4. Work** in partnership with all relevant partners and stakeholders to respond jointly to various migration issues in the region;

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IN CONCLUSION DO HEREBY;

1. Thank the People and the Government of Uganda for hosting this important meeting; and

2. Decide to remain engaged of this matter.

Col. Abdoukader Ibrahim Gona

Representative of the Minister of Interior of the Republic of Djibouti Director of Immigration Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti

H.E. Mr. Damene Darota

State Minister of the Ministry of Labour & Social Affairs Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Amb. Maj. Gen. (RTD) Geoffrey Okanga

Representative of the Minister of Interior of the Republic of Kenya Kenya High Commissioner to Uganda Kampala, Uganda

Ms. Mariam Yassin Hagi Yussuf

Representative of the Minister of the Internal Security of the Federal Republic of Somalia Special Envoy for Children's & Migrants' Rights Mogadishu, Somalia

Hon. Riaw Gatlier Gai Chuol

Deputy Minister of Interior-RSS Juba-South Sudan

H.E. Babiker Ahmed Alamin Digna

State Minister of Interior Affairs Khartoum, Sudan

Hon. Obiga Kania

State Minister of Internal Affairs Uganda, Republic of Uganda PO 18/11/16

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Done in Kampala, Uganda on this 10th day of November 2016