

IGAD Inter-Ministerial Committee and Technical Experts' Meeting on the Nairobi Declaration and Action Plan on Durable Solutions for Somali Refugees and Reintegration of Returnees in Somalia.

Nairobi, 20-22 March 2018

SUMMARY NOTES

Objectives of the meeting:

- Assess progress made in delivering the Nairobi Plan of Action both at the national and regional levels, including commitments made by partners and various stakeholders,
- Mobilize the support needed to foster broad-based partnerships to deliver on the commitments made and
- Set out priorities and milestones for the next 12 months

Attendance and meeting agenda

The stocktaking meeting was attended by

- Experts and Ministers from IGAD Member States (Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda),
- UN agencies (DPKO/UNSOM, FAO, IOM, UNHCR, UNDP, WFP, etc)
- Development partners and donors (EU, World Bank, GIZ,)
- Diplomatic representations from Germany, Netherlands, Sweden, United States of America and others...
- NGOs and CSOs (ReDSS and others...)

Over the first two days technical experts of key line ministries of IGAD Member States, partners and other relevant stakeholders reviewed the overall progress made so far, and set the priorities and milestones for the next 6-12 months. The third day was dedicated to the inter-ministerial level meeting used as an opportunity to keep the momentum in line with the commitments made in September 2016 in New York as renewed in the Nairobi Declaration in March 2017.

The meeting was articulated around an opening session, presentations, working groups, plenary sessions and closing statements.

Opening remarks were delivered during both the experts and ministerial meeting by the representatives of:

- Government of Kenya;
- Chair of IGAD-the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia;
- Co-Chair of the IGAD Partners Forum- Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy;
- IGAD Secretariat;
- European Union;
- UNHCR;
- United Nations Development Programme;
- The World Bank

Presentations

- IGAD presented the first progress report to its Inter-Ministerial Committee and partners

- Each Member State provided updates and priority next steps, including the development of national plans of action
- IGAD Refugee situation Aid flow analysis: mapping of humanitarian and development interventions in support of the Nairobi Plan of Action, presented by **UNHCR**.
- Presentation on Durable Solutions for Displacement in the East and Horn of Africa by ReDSS

Working Groups

- Four groups composed of IGAD M/S and key partners brainstormed on next steps in operationalization of the results framework articulated around the following strategic outcomes: creating an environment conducive for Voluntary and Sustainable Returns; Asylum, Protection and Self-Reliance; Stronger Regional Cooperation on durable solutions for Somali Refugees; International Responsibility Sharing and Solidarity. The Notes of each Group are part of the outcome package which also include this Summary Note.

Plenary session with key line ministries and partners focused on

- Next steps in operationalizing the results framework by Member States and key partners' commitment to supporting the result framework;
- Adoption of the Communiqué of the inter-ministerial committee meeting of the Nairobi Action Plan

Representative from IGAD Secretariat and Federal Republic of Somalia delivered the closing statements.

Key points of the Communiqué. IGAD Member States agreed [inter alia] to

- Invigorate efforts aimed at addressing root causes of forced displacement in the sub-region
- Finalize (by Somalia Government) the National Policy on Displacement and set a comprehensive normative framework to respond to the needs of PoC;
- Finalize the development of national action plans by the end of 2018, which can take the form of CRRF roadmaps;
- Improve significantly the access and quality of education for both refugees and host communities by implementing the Djibouti Declaration and Action Plan;
- Hold within six-months the second regional thematic meeting on livelihoods to promote self-reliance and increase economic growth in refugee hosting areas;
- Increase investment, in collaboration with partners, in data and evidence, with a focus on strengthening national systems and analysis on the costs and benefits of self-reliance and inclusion of refugees in social services
- Undertake joint planning as a way of ensuring integration of durable solutions at the onset of displacement with development and humanitarian partners.

Next steps to be taken by UNHCR over upcoming months

- Continue to support IGAD process: *identify and support actionable recommendations arising from IGAD Stocktaking meeting' working group reports;*
- Contribute to the operationalization of the Djibouti Declaration and its Plan of action: *discussions ongoing with Core Group Members and other partners to identify key priorities*
- The second regional thematic meeting on refugee livelihoods: *contribute to the consultations and approval of concept note to be shared by EU and World Bank*
- Generate and feature evidence-based progress achieved by countries within the Nairobi Declaration framework and CRRF in the Global Compact for Refugees.

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