



IGAD-RCP Meeting on Migration Management in the IGAD Region

Addis Ababa, 20 – 22 October 2010

Meeting Report

The first meeting of the IGAD Regional Consultative Process (IGAD-RCP) since its launch was held in Addis Ababa from 20-22 October, 2010. The meeting was attended by senior government officials and was hosted by the Inter Governmental Authority for Development (IGAD) in close collaboration with the African Union (AU) and International Organization for Migration (IOM). Participants were welcomed by Engineer Mahboub Maalim, the Executive Secretary of IGAD, and Mr. Josiah Ogina, Head of IOM Office in Ethiopia among many others.

The purpose of the IGAD-RCP Meeting was to draw together senior government officials from the ministries with migration related functions and responsibility within the IGAD region including inter-alia; Interior, Immigration, Labour and Foreign Affairs to share information, lessons experiences and best practices on the values of facilitating regional dialogue, foster common understanding and promote policy coherence on migration management. Participants from selected neighbouring transit countries, IGAD Partners Forum (IPF), United Nation (UN) Agencies and International Partners attended the meeting. Representatives from the governments of Ethiopia and Kenya with IOM acted as the meeting's Co-Chairs. The discussions were very open and interactive, with the active participation and involvement of the participants.

Several presentations were made during the three day workshop and some of the key emerging issues can be summarised as follows;

- **Facilitating Inter-State Cooperation by:**
 - ✚ IGAD Secretariat should hold regular workshops with a view to promoting an effective and collaborative forum for discussing both national and regional migration issues in the region.
 - ✚ Identifying the migration challenges of nomadic communities and put in place mechanisms to engage them.

- **Building capacity to manage migration by;**
 - ✚ Identifying common training needs and developing a standard curriculum for training
 - ✚ Establishing a Regional Migration Training Centre to support capacity building in migration management in the IGAD region.

- ✚ Encouraging the collection, analyse and sharing of migration data, to optimize inter-departmental coordination in the region.
- **Helping to improve policy coherence by;**
 - ✚ Engaging the National Parliaments and civil society to ensure their involvement and participation in creating a harmonized policies for effective migration management regimes;
 - ✚ Having consultative discussions with government ministries and the need for the IGAD-Regional Migration Policy Framework to provide a template for developing national migration policies which reflect the national character of migration.
- Participants recommended the following implementing structure for the IGAD-RCP;
 - ✚ Establishment of a Regional Migration Coordination Committee (RMCC) comprising of the Directors of Immigration as well as a Steering committee comprising of sectoral officers notably; (Immigration, Labour, National security, Refugees, and Foreign Affairs)
 - ✚ Establishment of a Ministerial committee responsible for migration to facilitate endorsement and adoption of recommendations proposed by Member States and relevant committees e.g. RMCC

The agenda of the meeting is attached to this report as **Annex 1**

MEETING PARTICIPANTS

Approximately 80 participants attended the opening ceremony of the workshop which comprised primarily of representatives from IGAD Member States, IGAD PartnerForum (IPF), UN agencies, Diplomatic community and International Organisations. After the opening of the meeting the participants who remained for the deliberations were from the IGAD member states, IOM, UNHCR and International organizations.

The list of participants appears in **Annex 11** to this report

WELCOME REMARKS

Engineer Mahboub Maalim, Executive Secretary of IGAD

Participants were welcomed by Engineer Mahboub Maalim, Executive Secretary of IGAD. He observed that the Horn of Africa, which comprises of IGAD countries share common concerns about the movement of irregular migrant populations whether inspired by a search for economic opportunity or by other motivations. He noted that the key challenge faced by the states in the region was how to find a balance between maintaining security without stifling legitimate movement. “It is not possible to meet this challenge unless coherence is achieved between security policies, migration policies and human rights obligations” said the Executive Secretary. He welcomed the IGAD-RCP as an opportunity to achieve this and pledged his commitment to collaborate with member states and partners to realize the full development potential of migration in the region.

Mr. Josiah Ogina, Head of Mission, IOM Ethiopia.

Mr. Ogina thanked IGAD for taking the lead in organizing the workshop to address issues of Migration Management among its Member States and partners. He noted that regional consultative processes in different regions of Africa and the rest of the world have proven to be an effective information sharing and collaborative forum. He stressed that he was convinced that this workshop would be the beginning of a sustainable and effective partnership on Migration between the various stakeholders involved in the process.

He stated that IOM was honoured to be part of this brainstorming and was ready to provide its expertise on the different areas of migration as requested by IGAD Members States. He further assured IGAD Partners of IOM's ability and willingness to work closely with them in operationalizing migration related decisions/programmes of IGAD at the request of the IGAD secretariat and its partners.

Statements were delivered by representatives from the AU, UNHCR, UNECA, IPU and IPF all of whom stressed the need to foster and enhance interstate cooperation; since by its very nature migration management required a collaborative approach. They reflected on the challenges faced in managing migration in this new era of human mobility and looked at the IGAD-RCP as a platform for further cooperation and efficient migration management in the region and beyond.

OPENING REMARKS

Representative from the Government of Ethiopia.

Mrs Mebrat Beyene, Director General Expatriate Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs made opening remarks on behalf of the Ethiopian Government. She took note that this was the first meeting since the launch of the IGAD-RCP and was pleased that it was coming close on the heels of the regional workshop which had just been held in Dar es Salaam to discuss Mixed Movements and Irregular Migration from the East and Horn of Africa and Great Lakes Region to Southern Africa. She pointed out that though we can't stop migration, we can work together as a region to deal with its challenges. She stressed the need for collaboration among states to tackle common challenges of irregular migration such as Human Trafficking and Smuggling.

PRESENTATIONS AND GROUP DISCUSSIONS MADE AT WORKSHOP¹

Presentations made at the workshop highlighted the growing complexity of mixed migratory movements in the IGAD region, and underlined the need for cooperation and coherence between states to enhance the prospects for successful and mutually beneficial migration. The IGAD-RCP, was lauded as an initiative that could foster interstate dialogue and intra-regional cooperation to achieve policy coherence between states. Recognition of the valuable expertise of other partner agencies and entities on various aspects of migration was noted and their active involvement and engagement with the RECs was welcomed .

¹ Presentations by the participants are available on IGAD and IOM websites
<http://www.igad.int/migration>

RECOMMENDATIONS

The participants comprised of mainly representatives from ministries with mandates on migration and related issues in the IGAD Member States made the following recommendations at the end of the 3 day workshop;

1. That collaborative, holistic and balanced approaches to migration management among IGAD Member States and stakeholders be promoted with a view to effectively and efficiently identify the existing national and regional migration policy gaps, operational needs and challenges in the IGAD region.
2. Through IGAD RCP, the IGAD Secretariat to undertake series of workshops with a view to promoting an effective and collaborative forum for discussing both national and regional migration issues in the IGAD region.
3. That there is a need to develop an IGAD Region Protocol on Free Movement of Persons with clearly established operational modalities, in support of IGAD regional integration and economic cooperation;
4. Undertake study on the existing bilateral free movement of persons and migration policies and instruments within the Member states with the purpose of harmonizing migration management policies in the IGAD region.
5. Identify and promote regional migration management policies towards mainstreaming them into national development policies for implementation among IGAD Member States for the purpose of achieving the MDGs and PRSPs;
6. Harmonise labour legislation, and vocational training modules to promote coherence among the IGAD member states to enhance transfer of knowledge within member states as means to address the root causes of irregular migration .
7. Formulate policies and regional programmes to promote economic integration and economic cooperation within the IGAD member states.
8. IGAD member states should promote legal migration by facilitating issuance of travel documents to their citizens for safe migration.
9. Adopt relevant policies and retention strategies geared towards curbing brain and capacity waste in the IGAD member states.
10. Establish a Regional Migration Training Centre to support capacity building in migration management in the IGAD region.
11. Identify the migration challenges of nomadic communities and put in place mechanisms for their engagement.
12. IGAD member states need to focus on how to manage the health aspects of migration given the trends of increased mobility within the region. and its public health implications;

13. The Migration and Security nexus should be considered a top agenda item of migration management in the IGAD region in view of its impact for mobility, stability and development;

14. Engage the National Parliaments and civil society to ensure their involvement and participation in formulating harmonized policies for effective migration management regimes;

Border Control:

- Ensure a delicate balance between effective security and management of borders to counter movement of terrorists whilst facilitating the smooth movement of genuine migrants, refugees and asylum seekers;
- Encourage registration of births and issuance of identity documents to ensure respect for the rights of citizens, facilitate mobility in the region and guarantee security.
- Develop harmonised border procedures, manuals, and laws for the IGAD region;
- Encourage the collection, analyse and sharing of migration data, and use results to inform migration management strategies and policies to optimize inter-departmental coordination in the region;
- Conduct a training needs assessment and provide a tailored and standardized curriculum for targeted training on border and migration management procedures, to enhance technical and operational capacities of border officials;

Africa - EU MME Partnership:

- Ensure the active involvement and effective participation of the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and civil society partners in the implementation of the Africa- EU Migration, Mobility and Employment (MME) Partnership;

Refugee and IDP Protection:

- Provide proper identification for safety and access to fair and efficient Refugee Status Determination procedures;
- Asylum seekers must not be refused admission or prosecuted for illegal entry;
- The IDP situation should receive legislative and policy attention as well as programmatic responses in accordance with the AU Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa.

Human Trafficking:

- Empower communities of origin with resources and information to enhance preventive measures targeting potential migrants including Women and Children from irregular migration;

- Advocate for inter-state dialogue and cooperation between countries of origin, transit and destination for more research and joint interventions to combat human trafficking;
- Urge member states to ratify the Palermo Convention and relevant Protocols and to develop the necessary national laws to ensure its enforcement;
- Provide outreach and awareness campaigns as well as provide assisted voluntary assistance to vulnerable populations requiring humanitarian assistance;

IGAD-RCP:

- The Outcomes and Recommendations should be translated; into joint projects and programmes (both national and regional) by IGAD, MS, and Partners such as IOM, HCR, ILO and others for implementation;
- IGAD and IOM to formulate a 3 year joint programme for the RCP implementation to be submitted by the IGAD Executive Secretary to potential bilateral and multilateral donors including the IGAD Partners Forum (IPF) as soon as possible. The Three year-RCP programme (2011-2013) should include 2-Workshops with 2 themes per workshop per semester.
- Migration & Health, Smuggling and Trafficking in Persons were discussed extensively during the workshop and the remaining themes to be considered for the subsequent RCP Workshops /meetings. The theme and venue will be decided at the preceding meeting.
- The theme for the next IGAD-RCP meeting for the first semester of 2011 to be Migration & Development with a focus on Brain Drain and Unethical Recruitment of professional especially Health personnel;

RCP Structure:

- The Officer responsible for Migration matters within the IGAD Secretariat to be designated as Focal Person for RCP matters;
- The RCP designated Focal Person to liaise with the migration Focal Persons in the respective IGAD MS to coordinate issues related to the RCP
- To establish a Ministerial committee responsible for migration to facilitate endorsement and adoption of recommendations proposed by MS and relevant committees e.g. RMCC
- Establish a Regional Migration Coordination Committee (RMCC) comprising of the Directors of Immigration as well as a Steering committee comprising of sectoral officers notably; (Immigration, labour, national security, refugees, and foreign affairs)
- Establish a migration unit within the Economic and Social Development Section of IGAD to facilitate coordination and follow up on migration issues between IGAD and its member states;

“Towards IGAD Regional Migration Policy Framework (RMPF)”

- The IGAD-RMPF should provide a template for developing national migration policies which reflect the national character of migration representing an array of migration concerns.
- IGAD should mount a National Migration Survey (NMS) to provide perspectives of citizen perceptions of and attitudes toward the phenomenon and how best it should be handled nationally and regionally.
- IGAD and EAC should develop stronger synergies on migration management given their proximity and complementarities for mutual benefit to citizens within their jurisdiction.
- Apart from deploying and benefiting from national Diasporas of IGAD MS, deliberate efforts should be directed at intra-regional labour circulation to utilize the skills and resources of nationals in activities and programmes amongst IGAD member states.
- IGAD MS should ensure that there exists institutional memory in all national organs involved in migration management for continuity, sustainability and incremental achievements.

CONCLUSIONS

IGAD will seek both bilateral and multilateral funding for the continuation and sustainability of the Regional Consultative Process in the spirit of the EC-Africa strategic partnerships. It is expected that IGAD partners including IOM will follow up with the respective IGAD Member States for the implementation of the outcomes of the workshop.

CLOSING REMARKS BY IGAD

The meeting was closed by Mrs Mebrat Beyene, Director General Expatriate Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs on behalf of the Ethiopian Government and Ms Fathia Alwan, Acting Director Economic Cooperation and Social Development Division on behalf of the Executive Secretary of IGAD.

Representative of Ethiopian Government

The representative of the Government of Ethiopia thanked the participants for their contributions during the workshop. She took note of the recommendations that they had made especially on the need for regional capacity building and training in research so that reliable data can be used to develop policies at National and regional level. She informed the participants she would be attending the GFMD in Mexico and would share some of the recommendations during the round table sessions.

Representative of IGAD

The IGAD representative noted that the deliberations during the three days had emphasized that finding a solution to the identified challenges required a regional coordinated and collaborative effort. IGAD committed itself to work in collaboration with its member states and key partners and take their recommendations forward to make the IGAD-RCP a model worthy of emulation by other regions.

Closing statements were also delivered by representatives from the AU, IOM and IPF all of whom hoped that the IGAD regional consultative process (IGAD-RCP) would now be the forum that would bring member states together on a regular basis to address common challenges of migration in the region.



Draft Agenda









**IGAD-RCP Meeting
on Migration Management in the IGAD Region**

**Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)
Addis Ababa, 20 – 22 October 2010**

First Day – Wednesday, 20 October 2010

09:00 – 10:00

Opening

-  Welcome Remarks – Executive Secretary, IGAD
-  Remarks– Secretary General –IGAD IPU
-  Head of SLM Addis Ababa – IOM
-  Remarks – Executive Secretary - UNECA
-  Remarks – UNHCR Representative Addis Ababa (TBC)
-  Remarks – Co-Chair - IGAD Partners Forum (IPF), Addis Ababa
-  Remarks – Commissioner of the African Union Commission (AU - DSA)
-  Opening Remarks– Representative of Ethiopian Government

10:00 – 10:15

Coffee break

Election of Bureau and Adoption of Agenda

Migration Management in IGAD Region

10:15 – 11:00:

Overview of IGAD

The Role of Regional Consultative Process in IGAD Region

Achievements of EAMR Programme – **IOM Technical Advisor**

11:00 – 11:30: Overview of Border Assessment in the IGAD Region **ICPAT**

11:30 – 12:00:

Discussion

12:00 – 13:00 : AU Continental Migration Policies and Decisions - **AU**

EU- Africa Strategic Partnership- **EU**

Discussion

13:00 – 14:00: Lunch

- 14:00 – 14:30: Ouagadougou Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings – AU
– COMMIT / RECs - AU
- 14:30 – 15:00: UNHCR Partnership with IGAD and Refugee Protection in the IGAD Region
– UNHCR
- 15:00 – 15:30: Irregular Migration and Mixed Migratory Flows in the Horn of Africa - IOM
- 15:30 – 16:00: Presentation of Study – on Trafficking in the Region; with specific reference
to children - **African Network for the Prevention and Protection against
Child Abuse and Neglect (ANPCAN)**
- 16:00 – 16:20 Discussion

16:20 – 16:40: Coffee break

- 16:40 – 17:10 Best Practise: An institutionalized Coordination Mechanism
IGAD HIV/AIDs Partnership Programme – IGAD
- 17:10 – 17:40: Migration – Implications for Public Health - IOM.
- 17:40: – 18:00: Discussion and Wrap up

Cocktail

Second Day – Thursday, 21 October 2010

- 09:00 – 09:10: Recap
- 09:00 – 09:30: Migration Management and Policies in the IGAD region: Presentation of
Draft IGAD Regional Migration Policy Framework – **IGAD Consultant**
- 09:30 – 10:00: IOM Partnership with IGAD and its role with the RCPs in Africa – IOM
- 10:30 – 11:00: Discussion
- 11:00 - 11:30: Coffee Break**
- 11:30 – 12:15: IGAD Minimum Integration Plan (MIP): the need for IGAD to develop a
protocol of free movement of persons – IGAD
- 12:15 – 12:40: Support project for the Africa-EU Partnership on Migration, Mobility and
Employment - ICMPD
- 12:40 – 13:00: Discussion

13:00 – 14:00: Lunch

- 14:00 – 15:30: **Country Presentations - Migration Management**
Opportunities,
Challenges and
Prospects / Programmes

- 15:30 – 16:00: Discussions
- 16:00- 16:15: Coffee Break**
- 16:15 – 17:30: **Working Group Discussions:**
Groups:
1. Modalities of Information sharing & Coordination - Establishment of IGAD Regional Migration coordination Committee (RMCC)
 2. Migration Challenges: Capacity Gaps and Future Projects intervention in relation to migration management
 3. Key Issues as inputs to the GFMD – a brief on the GFMD to be provided
 4. Way Forward for Implementation of the IGAD RCP

Third Day – Friday, 22 October 2010

- 09:00 – 09:10 Recap
- 09:10 – 10:30: Presentation – Working Groups (30 mins each)
- 10:30 – 11:00: Discussion
- 11:00 - 11:15: Coffee Break**
- 11:15 – 13:00: **Recommendations:**
- Establishment of Steering Committee on migration
 - Establishment of IGAD –Regional Migration Coordination Committee
 - Tentative recommendations for implementation of IGAD-RCP

13:00 – 14:00: Lunch

15:00 – 15:30: Presentation of Draft Report / Recommendations:

15:30 – 16:00: **Closing**

-  Closing Remarks by IOM
-  Remarks by Chair of IGAD Committee Ambassadors
-  Remarks by Chair of IGAD Partners Forum (IPF)
-  Adv. Bience Gawanas, AU Commissioner for Social Affairs
-  H.E. Eng. Mahboub Maalim, Executive Secretary of IGAD



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Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)
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