



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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LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

DJIBOUTI

Mr. Gudda Mohamed Ahmed
Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Interior,
Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti
Tel: 815019
E-mail: guedmah@yahoo.fr

Mr. Abdoukaker Ibrahim Gona
Directorate of General Information and
Immigration, Ministry of Interior
Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti
Tel: 253-811899
E-mail: abigona@yahoo.fr

Mr. Ali Mohamed Kamil
Director General of ANEFIP
Ministry of Labour
Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti
Tel: 253-812968
E-mail: alimohamed.kamil@yahoo.fr

Mr. Issé Abdillahi Assoweh
Deputy Director
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International
Cooperation
Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti
Tel: 253-823010
E-mail: is66majesty@hotmail.com

ETHIOPIA

Mrs. Mebrat Beyene
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Tel: 251 911 500859
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
E-mail: mbeyene@hotmail.com

Ms. Mahlet Hailu
1st Secretary
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Tel: 251-11-5150692

Cell: 251-911523008
Fax: 251-11-5514300
E-mail: mahlethailu@free.fr

Ms. Emebet Mulu
MoLSA
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Tel: 251-911927410
E-mail: emebet_mulu@yahoo.com

KENYA

Mr. James Ndiho
Assistant Labour Commissioner
Ministry of Labour
Nairobi, Kenya
Tel: 254-0721611288
Fax: 254-20 731458
E-mail: jndho@labour.go.ke

Mr. Peter Kusimba
Commissioner for Refugees
Ministry of State for immigration
And Registration persons,
Department of Refugees Affairs
Tel: 254 20 222022
E-mail: kubanapets@yahoo.com

SOMALIA

Mr. Amb. Haji Abdisalam Ahmed Liban
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mogadishu, Somalia
Cell phone: +252699960612
E-mail: asalam36@yahoo.com

Mr. Mahamud Abdi Addo
Immigration Officer
Directorate of Immigration & Naturalisation,
Mogadishu, Somalia
E-mail: dhabareey11@hotmail.com

Mr. Abdi Rashid Salat
Technical Advisor,
Ministry of Labor & Human Resource
Mogadishu, Somalia
Tel : 254 722 61 51 55
E-mail : arsalat@yahoo.com

SUDAN

H.E. Hassan Eisa El-Talib
Ambassador
Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti
Tel: 253-353614
Fax: 253-351816
E-mail: ohassan63@hotmail.com
[Talib_43@hotmail.com](mailto:talib_43@hotmail.com)

Amb. Idrees Ismaeil Faragallah
Ambassador
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sudan
Sudan, Khartoum
Tel: +249-912353701
Fax: +249-183771369
E-mail: idreesfarg@yahoo.com

Gen. Haider Hassan Taha
Head of Immigration & Nationality
Department
Ministry of Interior Affairs
Sudan, Khartoum
E-mail: salah45net@hotmail.com

Mr. El-sham Mohamed Hamid
Manpower Planning Director
Ministry of Labour
Sudan, Khartoum
Tel: +249-122632182
Fax: +249-18371429
E-mail: sham55@yahoo.com

Mr. Abdel Khalig A. Hameed
Sudan Embassy
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Tel: 251-913316810
E-mail: kholog55@hotmail.com

Mrs. Hali Yahya
Public Relation and Communication Officer
Embassy of Sudan
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Tel: 251-911663539
E-mail: hailey_2006@hotmail.com

Mr. Abdelsamie Dafalla
First Secretary
Sudan Embassy
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Tel: 251-911523533
E-mail: biazhaba2005@gmail.com

Mr. Mohamed Elrashee Sid Ahmed
Counsellor
Sudan Embassy
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Tel: 251-921420474
E-mail: nesodon56@yahoo.com

UGANDA

Mr. Robby Odyeny- Ocen
Senior Assistant Secretary
Diaspora Services Department
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Kampala, Uganda
Tel: 256 772 65 62 57
E-mail: robbyocen@yahoo.com

Mr. Anthony Namara
Assistant Commissioner Immigration
Directorate of Citizenship
Ministry of Internal Affairs
Kampala, Uganda
Te: +256-772503784
E-mail: rugwisa@gmail.com

Mr. Milton Turyasiima
Acting Principal Labour Officer
Ministry of Gender, Labour & Social
Development
Kampala, Uganda
Tel : 256 772 49 60 59
E-mail: mturyasiima@hotmail.com

H.E. Mrs. Juliet Kalema
Ambassador of Uganda
+251 11 55 13 0 88
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
E-mail: ugandaembassy@gmail.com
uganda.emb@ethionet.et

ORGANIZATIONS

AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION

Mr. Omar Diop

SPO, Employment
Tel: +251 913 424098
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
E-mail: diopo@africa-union.org

Mrs. Jane Ongolo

Programme Manager
AU plan of Action on Drug Control
And Crime Prevention
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
E-mail: ongolojm@africa-union.org

ANPPCAN

Ms. Hellen Mala

Programme Officer Anti Child
Trafficking Programme
ANPPCAN, Nairobi, Kenya
Tel: +254-20-3861086
Cell: +254-720201179
Fax: +254-20-3876502
E-mail: stettermala@yahoo.com
hmala@anppcan.org

ICPAT

Mr. Richard Barno

Senior Research Policy Advisor
Tel: +251 11 372472
Fax: +251 11 3724219
E-mail: barnor@icpat.org

ICMPD

Ms. Emmerentia Erasmus

Project Officer
Brussels, Belgium
Tel: 003222331160/476933911
E-mail: emmerentia.erasmus@icmpd.org

ILO

Mr. George Okutho

Director
ILO
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Tel: 251-911646836
E-mail: okutho@ilo.org

IOM

Mr. Charles Kwenin

Senior Advisor Regional Advisor -SSA
Geneva, Switzerland
Tel: 0041 22 71 79 27 8
E-mail: ckwenin@iom.int

Mr. Josiah Ogina

Head of Mission of IOM-SLM
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Tel: 251-11-5519672/5519693
E-mail: jogina@iom.int

Mr. Ashraf El Nour

IOM
Nairobi, Kenya
E-mail: aelnour@iom.int

Mr. Halim Husham

Mixed Migration Manager
IOM-Somalia
Nairobi, Kenya
E-mail: hhusham@iom.int

IPU-IGAD

Mr. Abdirazak Arale

Director, Social & Environment Affairs
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Tel: +251-921425495
E-mail : anunow@yahoo.com

Mr. Daoud Aboubaker

Deputy Director
Information Cooperation & Inter-relation
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
E-mail: daoud@ledcom-studio.com

OHCHR

Ms. Mehret Berhane

National Human Rights Officer
New ECA Building, Room No. 1NC2
Tel: 251-11-5443033

Fax: 251-11-5516078
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
E-mail: mbrehane@ohchr.org

Resident Representative
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Tel: 251-911208655
E-mail: ache@unhcr.org

UNECA

Mr. Yousif Hassan Moussa
OIC/ACGSD
ECA Building
Ext. 35178
E-mail: hyousif@uneca.org

UNFPA

Ms. Tigist Alemu
Programme & Liaison
UNFPA Liaison Office
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Tel: 251-11-5444071
E-mail: tialemu@unfpa.org

UNHCR

H.E. Chrysantus Ache

H.E. Mrs. Marie Antoinette Okimba
UNHCR Resident Representative
Tel: +253 88 96 14
Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti
E-mail: okimba@unhcr.org

Mrs. Anne-Marie Messiaen
Senior Liaison Officer
Tel: +253 35 22 00
Fax: +253 35 86 23
Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti
E-mail: messiaen@unhcr.org

Ms. Millicent Mutuli
Deputy Representative UNHCR
Representation to AU and ECA
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Tel: 251 911 207 906
E-mail: mutuli@unhcr.org

EMBASSIES

AUSTRIA

Mr. Philipp Trapp
Embassy of Austria
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Tel: +251 920 887789
E-mail: philipp.trapp@pmx.at

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Mr. Sherief Sharly
Diplomatic Attache
Embassy of Egypt
Tel: 251 912 28 39 70
E-mail: sheriff.Sharly@gmail.com
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

CANADA

Mr. Ian Trites
Counsellor and Council
Embassy of Canada
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Tel: 251-11-3713022
E-mail: iantrites@international.gc.ca

Mr. Karim Ismail
Third Secretary
Embassy of Egypt
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Tel: 251-911224308
E-mail: karimismail@hotmail.com

EGYPT

H.E Amb. Tarek Ghoneim
Embassy of Egypt
Tel: 0251 911 204601

GERMAN

Mr. Andrea Grimm
Second Secretary

Embassy of German
Tel: 251-11-1235139
Fax: 251-11- 1235152
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
E-mail: paul-10@addi.diplo.de

ITALY

H.E. Mr. Renzo Mario ROSSO
Ambassador, Italy
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Tel: +251 912 797636
E-mail: ambasciata.addisabeba@esteri.it

Mr. Alberto Vecchi
Deputy Head of Mission, Chargé d'Affaire
Embassy of Italy
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Tel: 251-912797636
E-mail: albertovecchi@estern.it

JAPAN

H.E. Mr. Kenjiro Izumi
Ambassador of Japan
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Mr. Yared Tesfay
Political Advisor
Embassy of Japan
Tel: 251-11-5511088
Cell: 251-91161025
E-mail: yaredhood@gmail.com

Mr. Daisuke Abe
Second Secretary

Embassy of Japan
Cell: 251-911503182
E-mail: daisuke.abe@mofa.go.jp

TURKEY

H.E. Amb. Ugur Kenan Ipek
Turkish Embassy
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Tel: 251-11-6612321
E-mail: kipek@mfa.gov.tr

EUROPEAN UNION

Mr. Ron Hendrix
Political Advisor
Delegation of the European Union to the AU
Political Section - Migration, Mobility &
Employment
Brussels, Belgium
Tel: 251-921424069
E-mail: ron.hendrix@ec.europa.eu

LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES

H.E. Ahmed Salah-Eldin Noah
Ambassador to Ethiopia
Permanent Representative to AU & UNECA
Tel: 251-11-6635350/1/2
Fax: 251-11-6635281
Cell: 251-911215954
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
E-mail las@ethionet.et las.addis@gmail.com
ahmedsalahnnoah@yahoo.com

IGAD SECRETARIAT

Eng. Mahboub Maalim
IGAD Secretariat
Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti
E-mail: mahboub.maalim@igad.int

Ms. Fathia Alwan
IGAD Secretariat
Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti
E-mail: fathia.alwan@igad.int

Dr. Osman Bilail
IGAD/IRAPP
Kampala, Uganda
E-mail: osman.bilail@igad.int

Mr. Azhari Karim
IGAD Secretariat
Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti
E-mail: azhari.karim@igad.int

Mr. Steve Otieno
IGAD/IRAPP
Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti
E-mail: steve.otieno@igad.int

Ms. Lily Sanya
IOM Technical Advisor
IGAD Secretariat
Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti
Tel: +253-876216

E-mail: lsanya@iom.int

Mr. Gerald Mbutia

IGAD Consultant

Nairobi, Kenya

Tel: +254-721957593

E-mail: gerald_mbutia@yahoo.com

Mrs. Aicha Houssein

IGAD Secretariat

Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti

E-mail: aicha.houssein@igad.int

Mrs. Egzharia Tekle

IGAD Secretariat

Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti

E-mail: egzharia.tekle@igad.int

Prof. John O. Oucho

Professor/Consultant to IGAD

African Migration and Development Policy

Centre (AMADPOC)

P.O. Box: 14405-00800, Kenya, Nairobi

Tel: 254-20-2640625

E-mail: ouchoj@yahoo.com

GUEST

Mr. Deepinder Singh

13639, 41 Avenue 29

Flushing NY 11355 USA

Tel: 9173487766

E-mail: wdsingh@aol.com

