



JOINT IGAD-EU COMMUNIQUE

Brussels, Belgium: 01-04-2014: The Sixth Ministerial Meeting between the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the European Union (EU) was held in Brussels on 1st April, 2014. The meeting was co-chaired by His Excellency **Dr. Tedros Adhanom**, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and incumbent Chairman of the IGAD Council of Ministers representing the IGAD Troika, and H.E. Mr. **Dimitrios Kourkoulas**, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Greece on behalf of H.E. Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy. It was also attended by H.E. **Amina Mohamed**, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kenya and the rapporteur of IGAD and H.E. Amb. **Mahboub Maalim** the Executive Secretary of IGAD.

The two parties discussed the situation in the Horn of Africa, including South Sudan and Somalia. They also discussed the implementation of the IGAD Regional Strategy and the EU Strategic Framework for the Horn of Africa as well as the status of and the prospects for future co-operation between IGAD and the EU.

The EU and IGAD underlined their mutual interest in security and stability throughout the Horn of Africa and highlighted the role of IGAD as a key actor in achieving lasting peace, security and economic development in the region.

On South Sudan, the EU emphasized its firm support for the IGAD mediation process and efforts to open the way for an inclusive political dialogue and welcomed the ongoing close co-operation between the IGAD mediation and the EU Special Representative for the Horn of Africa and other envoys. Both parties recognized the need for the Government of South Sudan and other South Sudanese parties to engage constructively in IGAD-led negotiations. The EU noted its readiness to consider all necessary measures, including targeted restrictive measures, to encourage the parties to abide by the agreements reached at the IGAD Heads of State Summit and to act constructively in the political process. The two parties also discussed the IGAD initiative to establish an IGAD Monitoring Protection Force comprised of contingents from neighbouring countries, which is currently under consideration and the establishment of the AU Commission of Inquiry into violations of human rights and international humanitarian law by both sides.

The two parties welcomed their ongoing close co-operation with the Federal Government in Somalia in supporting the establishment of interim local and regional administrations, and they underlined the

need for a concerted effort by all partners to support stabilization programmes and local capacity building. IGAD and the EU agreed that visible progress in development and stabilization were necessary to pave the way for elections in 2016. Both sides expressed support for the renewed and joint offensive of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and the Somali National Armed Forces (SNAF) to weaken and to recover territory from, Al-Shabaab. IGAD stressed the need to make available the enablers and multipliers that were promised to AMISOM by the International Community.

The EU and IGAD acknowledged the progress made in implementing the four pillars of the IGAD Regional Strategy and the EU Strategic Framework for the Horn of Africa and committed to strengthening co-operation under these strategies. They noted the ongoing development co-operation, including the implementation of actions funded by the 10th EDF Regional Indicative Programme for Eastern Africa, Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean and exchanged views on progress on the programming of the 11th EDF Regional Indicative Programme for Eastern Africa, Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean. The EU appreciated the steady resolve of IGAD to continue its important role in the region and undertook to support IGAD's ongoing reform process through practical measures including capacity development.