



**DJIBOUTI DECLARATION
ON REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON REFUGEE EDUCATION
IN IGAD MEMBER STATES**

Theme:

*“Regional Quality Education Standards and Inclusion into National Systems for
refugee children in line with CRRF, SDG 4 and Agenda 2063 on Education”*

14 December 2017

Preamble

We, the Ministers in charge of Education in the IGAD Member States, convening in Djibouti on 14th December 2017 at the Regional Conference on Education for Refugees in IGAD Member States:

1. **Recalling** relevant national, regional and international strategies, frameworks and initiatives, notably the Nairobi Declaration on Durable Solutions for Somali Refugees and Reintegration of Returnees in Somalia, and its accompanying Plan of Action; the IGAD Regional Migration Policy Framework and the Migration Action Plan; the African Union’s Agenda 2063 on Education; the 2016 New York Declaration on Refugees and Migrants, including its Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF); and the Sustainable Development Goals, notably Goal 4;
2. **Deeply concerned** by the disruption that conflict and displacement have on the education of refugees, returnees, host communities and other people of concern in the IGAD region, and the impact that this has on their aspirations and their contribution to society and the economy in host communities and upon return;
3. **Particularly concerned** by the disproportionate impact that conflict and forced displacement have on the education of women and girls, and that girls and boys, as well as people with disabilities must have equal access to education and skills training at all levels;
4. **Alarmed** that children and young people experience trauma as a result of conflict, including physical abuse and sexual violence, and the need to address their psycho-social wellbeing in education;
5. **Recognising** that participation in education delivers critical protection outcomes for refugee children and youth and that schools provide a safe place for refugee and returnee children to learn and connect meaningfully with peers from host communities.
6. **Aware of** the broader implications of disrupted access to education and economic opportunities for refugee, returnee, host community youth and the resulting effects of these on stability and sustainable development; **Also aware of** the role of education, training and employment in preventing the marginalisation and radicalization of young people in the IGAD region;

