



ADDIS ABABA CALL FOR ACTION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DJIBOUTI DECLARATION ON EDUCATION FOR REFUGEES, RETURNEES, IDPs, AND HOST COMMUNITIES

Addis Ababa, 6th December 2018

Preamble

We, the Ministers in charge of Education in the IGAD Member States, convening in Addis Ababa on the 6th of December 2018 at the Second Ministerial Conference on Education for Refugees, Returnees, IDPs and Host Communities in IGAD Member States:

1. **Recalling** our commitments in the Djibouti Declaration on Refugee Education in the IGAD region and its plan of action;
2. **Reaffirming** our collective responsibility to ensure that every refugee, returnee, IDP and members of host communities and in particular girls have access to quality education in a safe learning environment within our respective countries without discrimination;
3. **Recalling** Other 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;
4. **Recalling** the High-Level Meeting on Action for Refugee Education organized in the United Nations General Assembly in September 2018, which reaffirmed the commitment for inclusion of the refugee into the national education system and ensure quality learning opportunities for refugee, returnee, IDP and host community children;
5. **Deeply concerned** by the continuing disruption that conflict and forced displacement has on the education of refugees, returnees and host communities, the trauma caused, including physical abuse and sexual violence, and the need to provide adequate protection and safe spaces, and address their psycho-social wellbeing;
6. **Underlining** the importance of education of women and girls, and that girls, as well as other vulnerable groups including people with disabilities must have equal access to education and skills training at all levels;

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7. **Welcoming** the progress made by Member States, IGAD and the International Partners in the implementation of the Djibouti Declaration, in particular measures being taken to incorporate refugee education in national education policies and systems;

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8. **Adopt** the recommendations of the second meeting of IGAD education experts held on the 17th and 18th of July 2018 as well as the recommendations of the third meeting of IGAD education experts held on the 3rd to 5th of December 2018 and commit ourselves to accelerate implementation of these two sets of recommendations;
9. **Commit** to Integrate refugees into national education policies, strategies, programs and plans of action in our respective countries;

On Inclusion of Refugee Education in National Education Systems

10. **Reaffirm** our commitment to integrate education for refugees, returnees and IDPs into National Education Sector Plans by 2020;
11. **Commit** to facilitate registration and inclusion of refugees in national education systems within the first 3 months of arrival in the country of asylum;
12. **Commit** to developing multi-year, costed education plans through existing education coordination structures, that will form the basis for comprehensive resource mobilization, and urge that this process be completed in advance of the next Ministerial Meeting;
13. **Request** IGAD together with its partners to support Member States to take this process forward through a phased approach taking into account and compiling emerging regional and international best practices;
14. **Call upon** humanitarian and development partners to provide technical and financial support for the coordinated development and delivery of these plans;
15. **Welcome** the mapping exercise conducted by IGAD and UNHCR on the state of inclusion of refugees in national education systems and request that a follow-up report be generated in 2019 taking stock of the indicators on access and quality of education for refugees, returnees, IDPs and host communities;
16. **Request** IGAD to conclude the mapping exercise on funding for refugee, returnee and IDPs education in order to understand the current state of funding and assist in the targeted mobilization of resources on a long-term basis;
17. **Urge** IGAD to finalise the results framework on inclusion with clear, measurable indicators and milestones to track the implementation of the Plan of Action of the Djibouti Declaration.

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