



PEACE, PROSPERITY AND
REGIONAL INTEGRATION

IGAD POLICY FRAMEWORK ON REFUGEE PROTECTION



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IGAD Policy Framework on Refugee Protection

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B. List of Abbreviations

AU	African Union
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CRRF	Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework
CEWARN	IGAD Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism
EAC	East African Community
GCR	Global Compact on Refugees
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organisation
ICPAC	IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Centre
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
IGAD	The Intergovernmental Authority on Development
MS	IGAD Member States
REC	Regional Economic Community
RMPF	Regional Migration Policy Framework
RSD	Refugee Status Determination
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SMEs	Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

C. Foreword

In the IGAD region we have always prided ourselves on our values of inclusivity, diversity, and respect for human rights. These values are integral to our identity and are at the core of our social fabric. Our Member States have always strived to provide refuge to those who have been displaced from their homes due to conflict, persecution, or other forms of violence.

Today, more than ever, the world is witnessing a global refugee crisis of unprecedented proportions. Millions of people are forced to flee their homes every year, and many of them seek safety and protection within our borders. As a region, we are responsible for upholding our values and providing assistance and protection to those in need.

Our regional Policy Framework on Refugee Protection is a comprehensive framework that outlines our commitment to providing a safe haven for refugees, ensuring their access to basic services such as healthcare, education, and employment, and promoting their integration and reintegration into our communities. This Policy Framework recognises refugees' unique challenges and aims to address them through a range of measures that will support their resilience, dignity, and autonomy.

Our Policy Framework is rooted in the principles of international law, human rights, and relevant regional declarations, and it reflects our shared values as a region. It is the result of extensive consultation with our Member States, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Organisations, civil society organisations, refugee communities, and other stakeholders, and it represents our collective commitment to upholding our responsibilities towards refugees.

We believe this Policy Framework will serve as a model for other regions and countries, and we hope it will inspire others to join us in our efforts to protect refugees and uphold human rights. Together, we can make a difference and create a more just and compassionate world for all.



IGAD Executive Secretary



IGAD Chair

D. Acknowledgement

The IGAD Policy Framework on Refugee Protection represents a crucial step forward in fostering regional cooperation, enhancing refugee protection, and promoting durable solutions for those forcibly displaced from their homes. Its comprehensive regional approach acknowledges the complexity of the refugee issue and underscores the importance of collaboration among member states in finding sustainable solutions. It signifies more than just a set of guidelines; it represents our collective commitment to providing a safe haven for those fleeing persecution, conflict, and disaster. It recognizes the evolving nature of displacement challenges and seeks innovative and sustainable solutions that will benefit refugees and host communities.

This initiative is a testament to our Member States' commitment to tackling one of our era's most urgent humanitarian crises. I wish to convey my deep and sincere gratitude for the invaluable guidance and contributions made by the national refugee management agencies, under the guidance of the Commissioners, Director Generals, Executive Secretaries, and their team of technical experts, in developing this Policy Framework on Refugee Protection.

As the Policy Framework is a result of dedication and unwavering efforts of numerous individuals and organisations, I wish to express my heartfelt appreciation to UNHCR experts both at the Country Offices and the Regional Bureau for East and Horn of Africa, as well as the refugee representatives and civil society organisations. Your tireless contributions and shared commitment throughout the development and finalisation of the framework have not gone unnoticed. It is evident that the positive outcomes of your collective work will significantly benefit numerous refugees and vulnerable communities throughout the IGAD region.

Finally, I would like to commend the tireless efforts of the lead consultant and IGAD's dedicated team involved in the development of this policy framework. Your collective commitment to upholding the principles of protection, shared responsibility, and respect for human rights is truly commendable. This framework provides a solid foundation for addressing the needs and vulnerabilities of refugees and host communities alike.

As we move forward, I am confident that the IGAD Policy Framework on Refugee Protection will serve as a beacon of hope, guiding the region's response to displacement crises and fostering a more inclusive and humane approach to refugee protection.



**Director of Health and Social Development
IGAD**

E. Glossary of Terms

Asylum: The grant, by a State, of protection on its territory to persons outside their country of nationality or habitual residence, who are fleeing persecution or serious harm or for other reasons as provided for under Article 14 (1) of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Civil registration: The continuous, permanent, compulsory and universal recording of the occurrence and characteristics of vital events pertaining to the population, as provided through decree or regulation in accordance with the legal requirements in each country.

Civil status documentation: Refers to documents issued by the competent authorities that register and certify the vital events of a person including refugees and asylum-seekers such as birth, marriage, divorce, and death that have occurred in that country.

Civil Society Organizations: These are government-accredited self-organised, self-governing, nonstate, non-profit, non-private institutions and groups that collaborate to advance the public good of protection, assistance, and solutions with and for refugees, such as the National and International Non-Governmental and Refugee-led Organisations.

Inclusion: A gradual approach to ensure refugees have access to national systems and services in law and practice and without discrimination in accordance with international norms and standards.

Financial services: Services provided by the finance industry, embracing a wide range of businesses that manage money including banks accounts, credit cards, mobile money, prepaid cards, smart cards, micro-credit.

Group status determination: A practice by which all persons forming part of a large-scale influx, or groups of similarly situated individuals who share a readily apparent common risk of harm, are considered for refugee status on a prima facie basis in accordance with the 1969 OAU Convention.


Local integration: A durable solution for refugees that involves their gradual permanent settlement in a host country comprising three distinct but interrelated dimensions: legal, economic, and socio-cultural. The process is often concluded with the naturalisation of the refugee.

Non Refoulement: A core principle of international human rights and refugee law that prohibits States from returning individuals in any manner whatsoever (whether directly or indirectly) to territories where they may be at risk of persecution, torture, or other forms of serious or irreparable harming accordance with Article 33 of the 1951 Convention and its 1967 Protocol.

Onward movement: Movement by refugees and asylum-seekers from one country of asylum where their asylum application had been registered (regardless of the standards of treatment which they may have experienced in that 'previous State'), to another State where they wish to apply for asylum.

Protection: All activities aimed at obtaining full respect for the rights of the individual in accordance with the letter and spirit of the relevant bodies of law.

Reception: The set of measures to address the material and psycho-social needs of asylum-seekers, refugees, and migrants upon arrival to a country.



Registration: The recording, verifying, and updating of information on asylum-seekers and refugee with the aim of protecting, assisting and documenting them, and of implementing durable solutions.

Reintegration: A process which enables refugees returning to their country of origin to regain the physical, social, legal and material security needed to maintain life, livelihood and dignity and which eventually leads to the disappearance of any distinction or discrimination vis-à-vis their compatriots.

Refugee: Any person who meets the eligibility criteria to be considered a refugee under an applicable refugee definition, as provided for in the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees, its 1967 Protocol and the 1969 OAU Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa.

Refugee Status Determination (RSD): The legal or administrative process by which governments determine whether a person seeking international protection is considered a refugee under international, regional, and/or national law.

Self-reliance: The social and economic ability of an individual, a household or a community to meet essential needs in a sustainable manner and with dignity.

Statelessness: The condition of not being considered a national by any State under the operation of its law.

Voluntary repatriation: The free and informed return of refugees to their country of origin in safety and dignity.

F. Preamble

The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) is one of the eight Regional Economic Communities of the African Union with eight Member States: Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Uganda. IGAD's strong commitment to promoting peace, security, and prosperity within its Member States, is demonstrated in its programme areas on Agriculture Development, Natural Resources Management and Environmental Protection, Regional Economic Cooperation and Integration, Social Development, Peace and Security, and Humanitarian Affairs and Corporate Development. Migration and Forced Displacement issues in the region are addressed under the Social Development pillar with various regional policies developed and agreed upon by Member States to facilitate collaboration among all stakeholders in order to find practical, long-term solutions that will enable refugees, internally displaced people, and their generous host communities to thrive.

The IGAD region is home to millions of forcibly displaced individuals including refugees, asylum seekers, returnees, and internally displaced persons (IDPs). Migration and Forced Displacement in the IGAD region are driven by many factors - ranging from conflicts, environmental degradation, disasters, and poverty that force people to move away in search of safety and economic opportunities, among others. Many of these displaced individuals remain within their countries or within the region, making all the IGAD Member States countries of origin, transit, and destination. As of October 2023, the region hosted over 4.7 million registered refugees and asylum seekers and there were an estimated 13.3 million IDPs. The displacement crisis has led to significant population movements, straining the resources and capacities of host communities and governments, and creating socio-economic and environmental challenges such as increased competition over limited resources, environmental degradation, and social tensions between refugees and host communities.

This Policy Framework on Refugee Protection is a consolidation of the key findings and recommendations that reflect the IGAD Member States' commitment to providing a safe haven for refugees, ensuring their access to essential services and promoting their socio-economic integration and reintegration into host communities while recognising their contributions. This Policy Framework acknowledges the efforts and innovations of IGAD Member States in addressing the unique challenges faced by refugees. It seeks to leverage successful approaches and efficient responses within Member States while proposing key areas for harmonisation at the regional level. The regional approach complements individual Member States' efforts to effectively and sustainably respond to the displacement situation. It builds on the IGAD Member States' commitments and pledges towards realising the objectives of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework, IGAD's Nairobi Declaration and the Global Compact on Refugees.

G. Background


This Policy Framework emanates from IGAD's broader mandate to facilitate inter-state, regional and international cooperation in promoting social, economic, political, and cultural development. Articles 7 and 13 of the [1996 Agreement Establishing IGAD](#) define the Aims, Objectives and Areas of Cooperation. The agreement empowers the organisation to, among others, harmonise policies regarding trade, customs, transport, communications, agriculture, and natural resources and environment, and promote free movement of goods, services, and people within the region. Specifically, Article 13 A (s) provides that one of the main areas of cooperation in the IGAD Region is to facilitate repatriation and reintegration of refugees, returnees and displaced persons and demobilised soldiers in cooperation with relevant governmental and non-governmental organisations in accordance with the existing national, regional, and international instruments.

The overall IGAD Migration and Forced displacement dynamics are addressed within the framework of the Regional Migration Policy Framework (RMPF) that is derived from the African Union Continental Framework adopted in Banjul in 2006. The RMPF was adopted by the IGAD Council of Ministers in 2012 and became IGAD's primary policy reference on migration and forced displacement. The ultimate objective of the RMPF is to realise the well-being and protection of migrants and displaced populations in all IGAD Member States. It recommends a number of strategies and appropriate mechanisms for ensuring the protection of refugees and asylum seekers, addressing the root causes of refugee movements, and strengthening capacities of Member States, engagement with broad stakeholders and securing durable solutions. Time-bound Migration Action Plans are developed to implement the RMPF.

Since 2017, IGAD Member States have spearheaded a comprehensive regional and 'whole of society' approach to enhance the protection and durable solutions for displacement affected populations. This approach stemmed out of the March 2017 IGAD Special Summit on Durable Solutions for Somali Refugees and Reintegration of Returnees in Somalia that recognized the regional nature of the impacts and solutions for displacement and mixed migration, and underscored the need for a strengthened regional framework for integration and cooperation. The Nairobi Declaration and its Action Plan built on the commitments of the 2016 New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants that called for strengthened regional cooperation in addressing the impacts of displacement and to expand the search for solutions, including through the increased engagement of development actors. The commitments of the Nairobi Declaration have since been expanded to cover all populations of concern in the IGAD region and translated into Thematic Declarations and Plans of Action on Education, Health, Jobs, Livelihoods, and Self-reliance. Collectively, the Nairobi Declaration and its subsequent Thematic Declarations have established principles, good practices, and affirmed IGAD Member States' commitments to taking a common approach in supporting displacement-affected communities.

In 2019, the IGAD Support Platform was launched at the first Global Refugee Forum to sustain the progress made in implementing the Nairobi Declaration and its subsequent Thematic Declarations and Plans of Action. The IGAD Support Platform galvanised commitments, mobilised additional support, including additional actors, and followed up on Member States commitment in forced displacement responses particularly in the education, livelihoods, and health sectors while strengthening the implementation of long-term solutions to the refugee situation in the IGAD region.

The Support Platform's flagship initiative was the Solutions Initiative for Sudan and South Sudan in October 2020, which built upon the Somali-focused situation of the Nairobi Process.



This initiative resulted in the development of National Durable Solutions Strategies and Plans of Action for Refugees, IDPs, Returnees, and their Host Communities, as well as a Regional Solutions Strategy and accompanying Plan of Action for displacement in and from Sudan and South Sudan.

This IGAD Policy Framework on Refugee Protection is informed by International, Continental, Regional Instruments and guided by the principle of subsidiarity with National Instruments and Frameworks of IGAD Member States.

H. **Rationale**

This Policy Framework aims to ensure the safety, dignity, and self-reliance of refugees and asylum seekers, while also supporting the well-being of host communities, in line with international and regional standards. It contributes to IGAD's Strategic Development Objective on improving the social wellbeing and human productivity for inclusive development in the region.

It is developed against the backdrop of the magnitude and impacts of displacement, as well as an analysis of the benefits to be accrued from harmonised refugee responses in the region through a common regional mechanism for refugee management. In recognition of the impacts of displacement on human suffering and development across the region, Member States have established common positions and are moving towards regional norms and a community of practice to elevate each country's understanding of the refugee situation and develop responses beyond the national contexts.

Furthermore, this Policy Framework is an offshoot of assessments and consultations that examined the various refugee management practices, laws, and policies, as well as the various challenges faced by the IGAD Member States in managing specific refugee situations focusing on access to territorial asylum, asylum procedures, access to essential services, socio-economic inclusion, social cohesion, and responsibility sharing. The consultations revealed that Member States face similar challenges and experiences and highlighted the need for a regional approach. The assessments were also useful in documenting good practices, highlighting challenges, and shedding light on overarching issues that demand a regional approach. They effectively pinpointed gaps that must be addressed, forming the foundational groundwork for the development of this Policy Framework.

I. STRATEGIC DIRECTION OF THE POLICY

1. VISION OF THE POLICY

The vision of the IGAD Policy Framework on Refugee Protection is to contribute to the development of a sustainable and inclusive approach to refugee protection that promotes peace, stability, and social cohesion in the region.

2. MISSION OF THE POLICY

The mission of the IGAD Policy Framework on Refugee Protection is to assist and complement the efforts of IGAD Member States in implementing holistic national and regional approaches to refugee protection.

3. POLICY OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the IGAD Policy Framework on Refugee Protection are;

1. Maintaining asylum space and improving the living standards of refugees and host communities with the support of the international community and refugees themselves.
2. Enhancing a regional approach, cooperation, coordination and collaboration among IGAD Member States and all stakeholders including refugees, refugee led organisations, women, children, and youth.
3. Developing regional norms and a community of practice in refugee protection through harmonising legislation, policies and practices across the region while giving impetus to localisation.
4. Promote pragmatic and sustainable approaches to comprehensive solutions including emergency preparedness and climate change mitigation in refugee settings.

4. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The foundational principles of the IGAD Policy Framework on Refugee Protection are:

1. Conflict sensitive and rights-based protection: Refugee protection interventions should identify rights holders and their entitlements and corresponding duty bearers and their obligations, and work towards strengthening the capacities of rights holders to make their claims and of duty bearers to meet their obligations, taking into account challenges linked to age, gender and diversity. This principle also requires analysing and understanding conflict dynamics and ensuring that the interventions do not inadvertently contribute to the conflict.
2. Government-led and whole of society approach: An institutionalised whole-of-government and whole of society approach will facilitate the nexus between humanitarian, development and peace building actors and approaches. Humanitarian, development, and peacebuilding partners will work closely together to support government authorities at all levels in planning, coordinating, delivering, and monitoring solutions, policies, programmes, and projects.
3. Protection and Humanitarian principles: Following the inherent dignity of each person, it is critical to prevent and alleviate human suffering without any form of discrimination. All interventions should support the development of self-protection capacities and assist people to claim their rights, while avoiding exposing people to further harm. This

principle further underscores the importance of ensuring accountability to affected populations through meaningful participation of refugees and asylum-seekers.

4. Compliance with international, regional, and national laws, standards, and norms on Gender equality: This policy affirms that women, men, girls and boys should enjoy rights, responsibilities and opportunities on equal terms to build lasting, positive development outcomes based on equality. It implies respect for the interests, needs and priorities of each gender in line with international, regional, and national laws, standards, and norms.
5. Inclusion of refugees into national systems: Including refugees and asylum seekers in the national systems is the most effective and sustainable way of helping them to rebuild their lives and positively contribute to their countries of asylum. To achieve this, national governments are encouraged to include refugees and asylum seekers in national plans, budgets and service delivery systems

J. RISKS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Potential risks in the implementation of the IGAD Policy Framework on Refugee Protection include:

- i. New and renewed conflict and/ or intensified adverse effects of climate change in the region or in neighbouring countries increase the levels of displacements and deny opportunities for safe and dignified returns.
- ii. Implementation of a Regional Policy requires significant political will and legal commitment from all Member States. If some Member States do not fully endorse and domesticate the Policy Framework, its effective implementation may be jeopardised.
- iii. Member States may lack sufficient resources and capacity required to effectively implement the provisions of the Policy Framework, thus undermining its effectiveness.
- iv. Challenges, both in coordination across different government entities supporting refugees in a Member State and in cooperation among Member States given the diverse political, economic, and social contexts.

To mitigate these risks, the following measures will be taken:

- i. Continuous support to IGAD Member States in peaceful resolution of conflicts, countering violent extremism and encouraging the utilisation of early warning systems for proactive planning and responses to potential conflict and natural disasters at both national and regional levels.
- ii. Adoption of Government-led, participatory and consensus-building approaches in the implementation of the Policy Framework. This policy comes at a time when Member States appreciate the interconnectedness of the impacts of displacement, and are calling for harmonised approaches in addressing these impacts.
- iii. Strengthening resource mobilisation, advocacy and broadening partnerships with stakeholders involved in the refugee responses at national and regional levels. The IGAD Secretariat will work closely with the private sector, development partners,

international community and other stakeholders to mobilise resources and strengthen the capacity of Member States in the implementation of the Policy Framework.

- iv. Strengthening national and regional level coordination mechanisms/structures that support the implementation and monitoring of the Policy Framework through consultations, dialogues learning and experience sharing and co-creation of solutions.

K. KEY PRIORITY AREAS

The priority areas identified within the IGAD Policy Framework on Refugee Protection draw upon the good practices and lessons learned by Member States, offering a series of recommendations in line with International Protection Principles. The priority areas mentioned in this Policy Framework, while not covering all protection needs comprehensively, have been carefully selected to effectively contribute to addressing the refugee situation in the IGAD region.

Priority Area 1 – Access to Territory and Reception Procedures

Acknowledging the extent of forced displacement in the region and Member States' sovereign power in regulating entry of non-nationals in their territories, IGAD seeks to promote the fulfilment of the right to seek and enjoy asylum within the region and to prevent *refoulement* in line with its Member States' obligations under international law, more specifically, Article 14(1) of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 12 (3) of the African Charter on Human and People's Rights, Article 33 of the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and Article and Article 2.3 of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa.

1.1. Recommended Actions

- i. Promote accessible, timely, consistent and quality asylum procedures and conditions that permit effective protection and sufficient assistance to refugees and asylum seekers.
- ii. Ensure the provision of accurate and timely information in the relevant languages to persons seeking asylum on their rights, obligations, available services, and legal options.
- iii. Ensure non-penalization of persons seeking asylum for irregular entry or presence provided they present themselves to the authorities without delay and show a good cause for their delay in seeking asylum.
- iv. Ensure continuous capacity strengthening and sensitization of Member States' border and immigration management authorities on asylum procedures to improve their capacity to systematically identify, refer, and protect persons seeking asylum while preventing *refoulement*.
- v. Establish and strengthen safe and secure reception facilities and ensure that procedures for persons seeking asylum are protection-sensitive and appropriate.
- vi. Establish and implement standard operating procedures for screening, registration, issuance of asylum related documentation, information sharing, referral to necessary

- services, and referral to asylum procedures for all persons seeking asylum with due regard to data protection principles.
- vii. Establish effective mechanisms for monitoring reception arrangements for persons seeking asylum along flight corridors to mitigate protection risks.
 - viii. Maintain the civilian and humanitarian character of asylum by identifying, disarming, and separating ex-combatants from other asylum seekers and refugee populations and interning them at a safe location from the border, ensuring permanent renunciation of military activities as a precursor to access to asylum procedures and specialised Refugee Status Determination.
 - ix. Utilise pragmatic tools which already exist in international and regional instruments and domestic law such as the Prima Facie/group recognition approach.
 - x. Generate a coherent and comprehensive regional overview of the trends and drivers of onward movement of persons with international protection needs in the region to establish consistency of practice and identify appropriate responses to onward movement in the region.
 - xi. Develop standard operating procedures on transit, readmission arrangements and arrangements for the sharing of responsibilities incorporating harmonised procedural safeguards
 - xii. Promote access to territory and reception including in situations of displacement related to natural disasters and adverse effects of climate change.

Priority Area 2 – Registration and Refugee Status Determination Processes and Procedures.

There are some legislative, infrastructural, procedural, human resources, expertise and other gaps which have the potential to result in delays/backlogs in Registration and Refugee Status Determination (RSD) processes. These gaps have a detrimental impact on the lives of asylum seekers and refugees, which constrain their inclusion in national systems and negatively impact the public perception of the asylum system. Quality, efficient and accessible asylum procedures including registration and RSD modalities are critical to preventing refoulement and promoting fulfilment of the right to seek and enjoy asylum and planning for their protection, assistance, and solutions. Addressing such gaps is a critical priority to improving the overall refugee management and protection environment in each of the Member States and the IGAD region.

2.1 Recommended Actions

- i. Identify capacity gaps in national asylum systems and develop work plans to promote consistent fair and efficient asylum processes and procedures.
- ii. Create an enabling national legislative and policy environment to promote accessible, quality and adaptable asylum procedures.
- iii. Promote and support harmonised registration, verification and deregistration datasets for Refugees and Asylum seekers for effective protection.
- iv. Ensure timely and protection sensitive individual registration and documentation of persons seeking asylum using biometrics while upholding data protection principles.

- v. Strengthen infrastructural capacity, human resource policy and sustainable staffing structures and efficient procedures to ensure finalisation of quality RSD decisions that are issued within the timelines stipulated in national legislation, thereby preventing the accumulation of RSD backlogs.
- vi. Promote quality, timely and efficient RSD procedures to reduce or eliminate asylum applications backlog.
- vii. Ensure the integrity of the asylum system by adopting measures to identify, mitigate and respond to fraud, including establishing confidential feedback/complaints mechanisms and robust standard operating procedures with effective management oversight for compliance.

Priority Area 3 – Access to Civil Registry, Identity, and Travel Documents for Refugees and Asylum-Seekers

Establishing a person’s legal identity is essential for enjoying fundamental human rights, including the registration of births and deaths, contracting marriage and applying for divorce, decisions on the custody or guardianship of children, accessing employment, financial services, housing, healthcare, basic needs, social benefits, accessing educational institutions, post displacement family reunification and other related services.

Personal identity documents for asylum-seekers or refugees, are critical in ensuring their access to essential services in the country of asylum, protection against refoulement and certifying the person’s right to stay in the territory of their host country. Considering that forced displacement may create additional risks of statelessness, access to birth registration and certification especially for asylum-seekers and refugees born in countries of asylum, irrespective of their age, is also crucial to prevent and reduce statelessness. Due to the circumstances in which they are sometimes forced to leave their home country, refugees are perhaps more likely to find themselves without civil registry and identity documents from their country of origin.

3.1 Recommended Actions

- i. Promote inclusion of refugees and asylum-seekers in the national digital identity management systems of the countries of asylum with a Unique Identification Number to facilitate their inclusion into national systems.
- ii. Ensure all refugees and asylum seekers are registered and issued with individual identity documentation in accordance with the national legislation of the country of asylum.
- iii. Ensure that law enforcement authorities and other government officials, including in urban areas, are aware that refugee and asylum-seekers identity documents constitute valid proof of identity and authorization to reside in the country.
- iv. Strengthen capacity of Member States to ensure timely issuance or renewal of refugee and asylum-seeker identity documents and raise awareness of all stakeholders regarding refugee and asylum seeker documents.

- v. Promote regional harmonisation of identification documentation for refugees and asylum-seekers with robust security features to preserve the integrity of the documentation.
- vi. Provide for the return of original identity documents from their countries of origin to refugees and asylum-seekers who were required to surrender them when asylum applications were lodged.
- vii. Ensure registration by the competent authorities of all births for asylum-seekers and refugees born in the country of asylum, including late birth registration and issuance for relevant civil registry documentation as well as all other vital events such as death, marriage, divorce, or adoption.
- viii. Facilitate upon request access to administrative assistance documents for vital events which did not take place in the country of asylum, for which the recognized refugees are not in possession of documentation.
- ix. Issue International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) standard and machine-readable Refugee Convention Travel Documents to refugees lawfully staying in the countries of asylum, in accordance with national and international laws and provide consular services and assistance in third countries to refugees holding such Convention Travel Documents.
- x. Advocate for mutual recognition of the Convention Travel Documents issued by Member States and the refugee's right of entry and consular services in third countries and return to his/her country of asylum.

Priority Area 4 – Favourable Protection Environment and Access to Essential Services

Access to essential services, such as food, water, shelter, education, and healthcare is a critical component of inclusion in the IGAD region. Without a conducive environment that ensures the availability of basic services, the well-being and protection of asylum-seekers and refugees will continue to be at risk, and their ability to be self-reliant, contribute to hosting communities and economies, and build a better future will be hindered. To create a favourable protection environment for refugees and asylum-seekers, countries of asylum need to strengthen social safety nets and ensure the inclusion of vulnerable populations in national systems including development plans.

4.1 Recommended Actions

- i. Promote appropriate national laws and policies to facilitate family unity, tracing and reunification of refugees and asylum-seekers' families and their dependents.
- ii. Reinforce national measures and community-based protection structures to ensure the physical safety and security of refugees, asylum-seekers and the host communities.
- iii. Strengthen national systems in prevention, identification and response to protection risks related to access to essential services, for vulnerable groups and people with specific needs.
- iv. Strengthen national policies, strategies and practices related to access to essential services while addressing systemic barriers that may disproportionately affect refugees and asylum-seekers.

- v. Promote the participation of refugees and asylum-seekers in formulation of national and local development plans and budgets for sustainable service delivery and equitable distribution of resources.
- vi. Leverage existing country and regional approaches promoting inclusion of refugees and asylum-seekers, including the provisions of the Djibouti Declaration on Equal Access to Education and Skills Training and the Mombasa Declaration on Refugee and Cross-Border Health.
- vii. Support integrated development of infrastructure and services for refugees, asylum-seekers, and their host communities through area-based programming, joint resource mobilisation through enhanced coordination among stakeholders.
- viii. Increase meaningful participation of refugees and asylum-seekers, civil society organisations, and women-led organisations in effective decision-making processes.
- ix. Strengthen coordination across the humanitarian, peace, and development nexus by ensuring broader partnerships and use of innovative solutions in support of development programmes in hosting areas.
- x. Promote harmonised levels of essential services in line with the core and sector standards in the region taking into account the Member States varying capabilities.

Priority Area 5 – Access to Jobs, Livelihoods and Self-Reliance

Achieving self-sufficiency outcomes for refugees, asylum seekers and host communities remains key to refugee management and programming for IGAD Member States and their partners. Article 18 of the 1951 Convention and Article 6 of the ICESCR provide for access to employment opportunities and self-reliance. Enhanced access to livelihood support for refugees and asylum seekers provides opportunities to generate income, contribute to local economies and reduce dependency on humanitarian assistance and scavenging among host communities.

Further, economic inclusion allows refugees to contribute to host economies and prepares them for their future, either in their decision to return home, integrate in the host country or third country solutions. It is essential to work towards enhancing refugees' access to jobs, livelihoods, and self-reliance to meet their needs in a safe, sustainable, and dignified manner as outlined in the Kampala Declaration on Jobs, Livelihoods and Self-Reliance for Refugees, Returnees and Host Communities and the Global Compact on Refugees.

5.1 Recommended Actions

- i. Enhance access to jobs and livelihood opportunities for refugees and asylum seekers, taking into account their vulnerabilities, through initiatives such as job training workshops, recognition of skills and qualifications and inclusion into labour mobility schemes.
- ii. Support the implementation of local solutions to facilitate the integration of refugees into labour markets, market systems and economic development initiatives, in line with the Global Compact on Refugees.
- iii. Encourage public and private sector investment in infrastructure, digitalization, and energy to promote the growth of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to create jobs and livelihood opportunities for refugees and host communities.

- iv. Enhance access to market opportunities, credit, and financial services through advisory and incubation opportunities for refugee start-ups to enhance their skills and entrepreneurial abilities within the host country.
- v. Foster conditions that allow refugees access to land for farming-based livelihoods and enhance access to agro-pastoral value chains.
- vi. Embed access to social protection into livelihood and self-reliance programming for sustainability by enabling access to contributory insurance, pension schemes and shock-responsive social assistance.
- vii. Promote visa exemption for refugees who are equally IGAD citizens holding ICAO and machine-readable Refugee Convention Travel Document, allowing them to travel to other IGAD countries, with the exception of their country of origin.

Priority Area 6 – Sustainable Environmental Management and Climate Adaptation

The IGAD region faces severe environmental and natural resources degradation including deforestation and devastation of agricultural and range lands. The pressing need to adopt sustainable environmental management and adapt to the cascading impacts of the climate crisis in the region is not limited to refugees, but also host communities who rely on natural resources for their livelihoods. Deforestation and forest depletion due to increased demand for wood fuel can potentially force refugees and host communities to compete for resources and become a source of tension and conflicts.

A holistic and well-coordinated environmental management and climate adaptation approach is imperative for an increase in environmental protection and restoration. This can be achieved by enhancing resilience to climate-related and other environmental risks, improving access to sustainable and renewable energy solutions for improved livelihoods among displaced populations and protecting refugees and host communities from further harm. This needs to be aligned with regional and national engagements on climate action to ensure inclusion of displaced people.

6.1 Recommended Actions

- i. Adopt sustainable measures and conjoined efforts by all relevant stakeholders, to enhance environmental health, and minimise negative impacts on people's basic needs and rights in refugee hosting areas.
- ii. Empower refugees, local communities and civil society organisations, with a particular focus on women and youth, to be change makers that contribute to community-based preparedness and climate adaptation measures that are suited to their needs and challenges.
- iii. Develop and enforce clear and strong regulatory frameworks for climate adaptation, environmental protection and management linked with refugee-based policies.
- iv. Encourage investment by governments and the private sector in the area of bioenergy for restoration through growing and managing tree resources, and the use of clean and alternative renewable energy solutions.
- v. Promote climate-smart agriculture, green jobs, and other alternative sources of livelihoods.

- vi. Invest in disaster risk reduction and inclusive early warning system coverage for refugees and host communities.
- vii. Invest in research and monitoring capacity to better understand degradation processes, develop integrated multi-sectoral climate related risk assessment and context appropriate technologies and innovations, and address the environmental and climate-change related challenges facing refugee and host populations.

Priority Area 7 - Social Cohesion and Peaceful Coexistence among Refugees and between Refugees and their Host Communities.

In the IGAD region, local communities are the default first line of responders in displacement situations with refugees and asylum seekers often settling amongst local communities' households, land and/or properties. The sudden and unplanned changes in population distribution puts pressure on essential services and livelihood opportunities resulting in negative impacts on receiving communities including declining tolerance over time. Subsequently, this can increase social tensions among refugee communities and between refugees and host communities.

The arrival of refugees and asylum seekers in a region can also lead to improved access to basic services for the populations living in marginalised areas. Refugees and asylum seekers bring with them useful skills, competencies and experiences that positively impact the economy and society in the host areas, thereby improving social cohesion. Promoting social cohesion is important in improving economic inclusion of refugees into host communities. It is essential to build mutual understanding, respect and peaceful coexistence towards peace, stability, and the integration of forcibly displaced populations in their host countries.

7.1 Recommended Actions

- i. Review policies that foster social inclusion, build trust and a sense of belonging for collaborative coexistence between refugees and host communities, and establish mechanisms to continuously sensitise refugees on the applicable laws and their obligations in the host countries.
- ii. Implement integrated and inclusive development programs demonstrating shared interests to empower communities to help resolve tensions among refugees and between refugees and their hosts, and strengthen social cohesion.
- iii. Strengthen cultural exchange, peacebuilding and conflict resolution mechanisms that promote formal and informal dialogues between refugees and host communities, to address mutual concerns and misconceptions.
- iv. Enhance capacity of community-based, civil society organisations including refugee-led organisations and initiatives that promote peaceful coexistence between refugees and host communities.
- v. Promote evidence-based inclusive programming to address inequalities between refugees and host communities.
- vi. Promote integrated settlement approaches as an alternative to camps to ensure refugees and host communities benefit from area-based programming.

Priority Area 8 – Comprehensive Durable Solutions

The ultimate goal of refugee protection is to find durable solutions that will enable refugees to enjoy their rights, including through access to national services, on a sustained, legal basis equivalent to that of nationals. Comprehensive durable solutions require a full understanding of the interconnected factors causing displacement, tackling them in an inclusive manner and rely on greater international cooperation. As a region hosting some of the largest refugee populations and protracted situations, scaling up and providing lasting solutions for refugees is crucial for the IGAD Member States.

It calls for conducive conditions for voluntary returns in safety and dignity to countries of origin, exploring local integration with a transition to alternative statuses in countries of asylum, and timely expansion of resettlement and complementary pathways to third countries. Comprehensive Durable Solutions can be achieved by leveraging on existing frameworks in the region such as the Nairobi Declaration on Durable Solutions for Somali Refugees and Reintegration of Returnees in Somalia (2017) and the Protocol on Free Movement of Persons in the IGAD Region (2021).

8.1 Recommended Actions

- i. Foster coordination for comprehensive durable solutions for refugees including voluntary repatriation, resettlement and complementary pathways for admission to third countries, and local integration.
- ii. Create an enabling conducive environment for sustainable return and reintegration.
- iii. Advocate for increased resettlement opportunities and facilitate opportunities for complementary pathways to achieve greater international responsibility sharing, including expedited exit visa processing and clearances for resettlement departure.
- iv. Pursue local integration prospects for protracted refugees by facilitating their access to alternative status in accordance with existing national laws.
- v. Support local economic development initiatives in refugee hosting areas.
- vi. Support the implementation of transitional justice and reconciliation initiatives amongst refugees and between refugees, returnees and host communities
- vii. Prevent and respond to the risks of statelessness by facilitating access to legal identity documentation.

Priority Area 9 – Addressing drivers of forced displacement

Displacement in the IGAD region results from complex interaction factors ranging from conflicts, degradation of the environment, natural and manmade disasters, and poverty that forces people to migrate in search of safety and economic opportunities amongst other reasons. Without proper strategies and actions to address these issues, refugees and asylum seekers are often trapped in a cycle of displacement with little hope for sustainable solutions. Addressing displacement requires identifying its drivers and triggers and addressing the underlying structural causes, improving security and social cohesion, and strengthening political and economic stability. This requires joint efforts by Member States' governmental and local authorities as well as civil society, the private sector, locals including displacement affected communities, regional bodies, and their international partners.

9.1 Recommended Actions

- i. Promote good governance, enhance the rule of law and support stabilisation measures to resolve conflicts and achieve sustainable peace in countries of origin and Member States.
- ii. Establish and strengthen early warning and action systems for preparedness, prevention and mitigation of displacements related to natural disasters.
- iii. Strengthen the local and national governments' capacities to respond to refugee emergencies and manage displacement, through shock-responsive social protection support, and provision of basic services to the refugees, asylum seekers and host communities.
- iv. Development and enhancement of national policies and guidelines to address national emergencies.
- v. Encourage bilateral and regional dialogues, cooperation, and coordination to address the root causes of displacement in the IGAD region, through IGAD Secretariat initiatives.

Priority Area 10 – Emergency Preparedness and Response

In a region where natural and human-made disasters, including droughts, floods, conflicts, and disease outbreaks are common, efficient emergency preparedness and response measures are critical in ensuring the safety and welfare of refugees who may find themselves in challenging circumstances. Past experiences have demonstrated that initiating the delivery of emergency aid, particularly on a large scale, requires significant lead time and places a huge strain on the receiving Member State. Early warning systems that monitor and assess potential threats allow for timely alerts, enabling governments and communities to take pre-emptive actions and mitigate risks.

By prioritising emergency preparedness, Member States will be better equipped to anticipate, respond, and recover from emergencies. This proactive approach ultimately safeguards the lives and livelihoods of refugees, as well as contributes to the overall stability of the region. It further calls for the development of strategic plans, and prepositioning of resources and essential components for an effective response.

10.1 Recommended Actions

- i. Establish and strengthen early warning systems to detect and monitor potential hazards through investment in advanced technologies, data collection, and analysis to ensure timely and accurate alerts, enabling early response and evacuation if necessary.
- ii. Develop risk profiles and conduct regular analysis and monitoring for potential refugee emergencies to build the communities resilience.
- iii. Enhance Government-led and joint preparedness action and contingency plans at the national and field levels.
- iv. Encourage utilisation of IGAD's regional mechanisms to provide valuable climate and conflict information and facilitate data exchange, that will enhance in early warning systems and response planning.

- v. Build and strengthen the capacity of relevant national and regional institutions to provide early warning and response analyses in a timely manner and user-compatible mode to decision-makers within the IGAD Member States.
- vi. Foster regional cooperation, collaboration, and learning among Member States through platforms and mechanisms to facilitate information and resource sharing, and capacity-building initiatives.

Priority Area 11 – Solidarity, Responsibility Sharing and Resource Mobilisation

Addressing the needs of refugees in the IGAD region requires effective responsibility sharing through the IGAD Support Platform and other adequate resource mobilisation strategies to cater for the needs of the displaced and host communities. With costs associated with protecting and assisting refugees and displaced persons unequally placed among states, large population movements place a burden on national resources, especially in the case of developing countries. This calls for equitable sharing of responsibility and resource mobilisation initiatives for hosting and supporting refugees, while taking account of existing contributions and the differing capacities and resources among States.


11.1 Recommended Actions

- i. Leverage on existing coordination mechanisms at the regional level to develop and implement actionable strategies and approaches to solidarity and responsibility sharing arrangements.
- ii. Encourage an increase in national government's resource allocation by host countries and countries of origin to respond effectively to refugee and returnee situations.
- iii. Strengthen governments' capacity in mobilising and tracking the utilisation of resources for refugee-responses.
- iv. Consider innovative financing mechanisms, such as diaspora bonds, climate finance and the Global Refugee Forum (GRF) pledge-matching to mobilise resources for the refugee situations.
- v. Leverage on development financing for refugees and host communities particularly in support of inclusion into national systems and services.
- vi. Build the capacities of refugees, refugee-led-organisation and host communities in resource mobilisation and responses.

L. Implementation Mechanisms

The effective implementation of this Policy Framework will require the commitment and collaboration of all relevant stakeholders, including IGAD Member States, the IGAD Secretariat, refugees, UNHCR, international organisations, civil society organisations, private sector, academia, media, charitable foundations and development partners.

The IGAD Secretariat and its Member States will develop a detailed and time bound action plan for the Policy Framework outlining the tasks and steps to be carried out, the stakeholders responsible, when these tasks are to be completed (deadlines and milestones), resources needed to complete the tasks and measures to evaluate progress. The IGAD Secretariat will coordinate the implementation of the Policy Framework.



With a view to ensure a pragmatic application of the policy, the IGAD Secretariat or IGAD Member States may call for a thematic meeting of Senior Officials in Charge of Refugee Management to be convened, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders. A thematic meeting will offer an additional flexible mechanism for swift regional coordination and action to address contemporary protection and operational challenges falling within the scope of the IGAD Policy Framework on Refugee Protection.

M. **Role of IGAD Member States**

The following are key responsibilities of IGAD Member States in relation to this policy:

1. Contribute to the development and reviews of this Policy Framework and its implementation plan.
2. Member States are encouraged to incorporate their obligations under this Policy Framework into national laws by harmonising relevant policies, legislations, and procedures.
3. Strengthen engagements with all stakeholders at national level on the implementation of the Policy Framework, including the refugees and asylum seekers, host communities, UN agencies, Private Sector, International Financial Institutions, civil society, think tanks, academia, local authorities, and faith-based Organisations.
4. Coordinate and collaborate with the IGAD Secretariat in the implementation of the Policy Framework and provide platforms for dialogue and sharing of good practices.
5. Provide regular updates to the IGAD Secretariat on the implementation and effectiveness of the Policy Framework at the national level.
6. Promote state-led and sustainable solutions in addressing the root causes of displacement.
7. Enhance data collection and evidence-based forecasting to inform responses to displacement shocks and aid in the management of the refugee crisis.
8. Facilitate refugees' repatriation to their countries of origin in safety and dignity, admission to third countries through resettlement and complementary pathways, and integration into local communities in the countries of asylum.

N. **Role of the Refugees**

The role of refugees in relation to this policy includes:

1. Fulfil their duties and obligations in line with the laws and regulations of the host country.
2. Meaningfully participate in decision making processes and solutions by utilising their 'situated knowledge' and lived experiences.
3. Act as agents of peace in countries of asylum to improve social cohesion within refugee communities, particularly across the ethnic and political divides at the heart of their displacement and for peaceful co-existence with their host communities.

4. Participate in the social and inter-cultural activities between refugees and host communities to foster understanding and acceptance between refugees and host communities.
5. Endeavour to attain self-reliance and positively contribute to the countries of asylum leveraging on their knowledge, skill sets, labour market opportunities and networks.

O. **Role of the IGAD Secretariat**

The role of the IGAD Secretariat in relation to this policy includes:

1. Support its Member States in the finalisation of this Policy Framework and its implementation Plan; and its popularisation and dissemination.
2. Provide technical assistances to Member States to implement this Policy Framework through strengthening institutional capabilities of Member States and promoting learning and experience sharing among Member States.
3. Monitor and evaluate the implementation of the policy and provide regular reports in collaboration with Member States' experts responsible for refugees.
4. Facilitate collaboration, experience sharing and cooperation between Member States and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the Policy.
5. Galvanise political support and coordinate resource mobilisation efforts through the IGAD Support Platform.
6. Represent the IGAD region and act as a liaison with the international community, including other regional and international organisations, in matters related to this Policy Framework.

P. **Role of Partners**

I. **The UNHCR**

The role of the UNHCR in relation to this Policy Framework includes:

1. Provide expert advice to the IGAD Secretariat and its Member States in the finalisation of this Policy Framework and development of its implementation Plan.
2. Support Member States in fulfilling their responsibilities in protecting and finding durable solutions for refugees and other persons of concern in accordance with the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol.
3. Provide guidance and recommendations to governments, the IGAD Secretariat and other actors on how to address the needs of the refugees and other persons of concern.
4. Engage in advocacy efforts with host governments and other relevant actors to promote the rights and needs of refugees and other persons of concern in the IGAD region.

5. Contribute to the development and implementation of national and international policies and frameworks aimed at promoting the protection and rights of refugees and other displaced persons in the IGAD region.
6. Support the development and implementation of effective resource mobilisation and responsibility-sharing mechanisms to ensure that the needs of refugees and other displaced persons are met sustainably and efficiently.
7. Promote international and regional cooperation and coordination efforts to further the four objectives of the Global Compact on Refugees at national and regional levels.
8. Monitor and report on refugee situations including emerging trends in the IGAD region.

II. **Civil Society Organizations**


Vital roles that these partners play in close collaboration with the Member States include.

1. Strengthen service delivery including legal assistance and psychosocial support for protection, assistance and facilitation of durable solutions for refugees and asylum seekers as part of burden and responsibility sharing.
2. Support the development, review and implementation of policies and practices that promote the protection and rights of refugees.
3. Engage national governments on behalf of refugees through advocacy and lobbying to influence national policy and foster the participation of refugees in the development and implementation of policies and programs.
4. Utilise community outreach and awareness campaigns to combat stereotypes, misinformation and foster understanding to promote social cohesion and peaceful coexistence between refugees and the host communities
5. Empower vulnerable groups including women and children to ensure that their specific needs are met through consideration of their unique perspectives and meaningful participation in decision making.
6. Build partnerships and collaborations with government institutions, and other partners for resource mobilisation and joint implementation.
7. Monitor and report on the state of asylum space, including refugees' access to essential services, their living conditions and violations of their fundamental rights and freedoms

III. **Development Partners, Humanitarian Organisations, International Community, Private sector, and Charitable Foundations**

The role of the Development Partners, International Community, Private Sector, Foundations and Media in relation to this policy includes:

1. Provision of development-oriented support to refugee-hosting countries, refugees, returnees, and their host communities to enhance access to basic and essential services, create livelihood opportunities and solutions, and advance the objectives of the GCR on burden and responsibility sharing.

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2. Collaboration with refugee-producing and hosting countries, UN agencies, refugees, and other relevant actors in promoting sustainable long-term solutions for refugees considering the priorities, strengths, and challenges at the regional, national, and local contexts.
 3. Broaden and deepen its cooperation with relevant State authorities, International Organisations, civil society groups operating at national levels for an effective international response and strengthen the humanitarian-development-peace nexus.
 4. Utilise and strengthen the existing consultation mechanisms, at the international level, involving affected States, the international community, relevant UN system actors and other international and Civil Society Organisations, to develop strategies and approaches to address the refugee challenges and explore possible durable solutions.
 5. Strengthen existing emergency and humanitarian mechanisms to ensure that the necessary funds and other material and technical assistance are immediately made available to respond to displacement.
 6. Extend financial assistance to host countries based on the economic and social costs of hosting large numbers of refugees in form of grants.

IV. **Academia, Think Tanks and the Media**

1. Facilitate public education and awareness on international, regional and national instruments, obligations and commitments governing refugee protection.
2. Conduct research, analysis and generation of new knowledge for evidence-based policy formulation, programming and context appropriate technologies and innovations.
3. Facilitate research-informed dialogues and engagements with decision making mechanisms towards adoption, formulation and implementation of progressive policies on refugee protection.
4. Shape discourses and narratives on refugee and other displacement situations through provision of expert advice in policy discussions at regional, national, and local contexts.
5. Highlight emerging and protracted refugee situations to bring them to the attention of international actors and support fundraising, resource mobilisation and solidarity campaigns.
6. Act as disseminators of fact-based information and raising awareness on the refugee situations, rights of refugees and provide platforms for amplifying “refugee voices”.



Q. **Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism**

The IGAD Secretariat and its Member States will develop a monitoring and evaluation mechanism for the IGAD Policy Framework on Refugee Protection. The mechanism should align with existing frameworks and processes such as the annual stock takes of the Nairobi Declaration and its resulting thematic areas as well as the objectives of the Global Compact on Refugees.

Annex 1: International, Continental and Regional Instruments underpinning this Policy Framework

- i. The Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees (1951)
- ii. The Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees (1967)
- iii. The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966)
- iv. The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966)
- v. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989)
- vi. The OAU Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa (1969)
- vii. The African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights (1987)
- viii. The African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (1990)
- ix. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs, 2015)
- x. The Global Compact on Refugees (2018)
- xi. The IGAD Regional Migration Policy Framework (2012)
- xii. The Nairobi Declaration on Durable Solutions for Somali Refugees and Reintegration of Returnees in Somalia (2017)
- xiii. The Djibouti Declaration on Quality Education for Refugees, Returnees and Host Communities for refugees, returnees, and host communities and its accompanying Action Plan (December 2017)
- xiv. The Mombasa Declaration on Refugee and Cross-Border Health Initiatives (2022)
- xv. The Kampala Declaration on Jobs, Livelihoods and Self-Reliance for Refugees, Returnees and Host Communities and its annexed Action Plan (2019)
- xvi. The Protocol on the Free Movement of Persons in the IGAD Region (2020)
- xvii. Guiding principles on the access of refugees and other forcibly displaced persons to the labour market (2016)
- xviii. The New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (2016)
- xix. IGAD - EAC Ministerial Declaration on Durable Solutions for Refugees in the East and Horn of Africa (2023)
- xx. Member States National Laws, Policies and Frameworks.

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IGAD Policy Framework on Refugee Protection

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**PEACE, PROSPERITY AND
REGIONAL INTEGRATION**

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