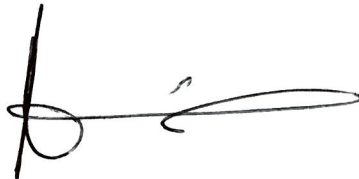
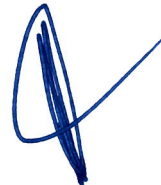


**COMMUNIQUE OF THE
MEETING OF MINISTERS
RESPONSIBLE FOR WATER
RESOURCES OF THE
IGAD REGION**



14th November 2018



SP

We the Ministers responsible for Water Resources of the IGAD member states of Djibouti, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, the Sudan and Uganda met in Nairobi, Kenya; and

MINDFUL of the endorsement of the IGAD Regional Water Resources Policy on 21st January, 2015 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

RECOGNIZING that water is a basic necessity for human survival and development, and that the Member States face common problems and challenges in relation to water resources that require joint actions.

ACKNOWLEDGING that there are a number of transboundary/shared river and lake basins, and transboundary aquifers, in the IGAD region;

CONSCIOUS of the importance of the water resources contained therein for the social and economic development of our countries;

BEING AWARE that these resources are unevenly distributed, with some areas in the region being arid or hyper-arid, and others experiencing recurring drought and floods;

CONSCIOUS of the increasing water demand to satisfy human and socio-economic development needs, which should be consistent with conservation and protection requirements;

AWARE of the particular challenges in the management of transboundary/shared water resources including vulnerability to pollution and the effects of climate change;

APPRECIATING the work done at national and regional levels to improve knowledge about water resources in the IGAD region;

CONVINCED that sustainable management of transboundary/shared water resources will contribute to poverty eradication, peace, socioeconomic development, regional cooperation, environmental sustenance and water security;

FURTHER CONVINCED of the need for common actions and synergy in our efforts towards preventing or mitigating the potential risks to which our transboundary/shared water resources are exposed;

RECALLING the principles enshrined in the UN Convention on the Law of Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on the 21st May 1997;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the Draft Law of Transboundary Aquifers appended Resolution No. 63/124 of the General Assembly of the United Nations on 11 December 2008;

MINDFUL of the existence of other mechanisms for cooperation in the management of transboundary/shared water resources in the IGAD region;

MINDFUL of the existence of policies and strategies on the sustainable management of natural resources and the environment in the IGAD region;

The image shows several handwritten signatures in blue ink at the bottom of the page. There are approximately six distinct signatures, some of which are quite stylized and overlapping. The signatures are arranged horizontally across the width of the page.

RECALLING the IGAD Summit Decision of September 2011 on ending drought emergencies in the region and the critical role that the sustainable management of water resources plays with regard to enhancing resilience and ending drought emergencies;

CONSIDERING the Africa Water Vision 2025, that provides for equitable and reasonable utilization and sustainable management of water resources without causing significant harm;

TAKING NOTE of the provisions of the Agreement Establishing the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), done at Nairobi on the 21st of March, 1996, and in particular on Articles 7 (b), 13A (e) and 17 (a) thereof;

REAFFIRM our commitment to cooperate within the framework of a Regional Water Resources Policy with a view to promote agreements and institutional arrangements for the equitable and reasonable utilization, protection, conservation and sustainable management of transboundary/shared water basins in the IGAD region;

FURTHER REAFFIRM our commitment to finalize the negotiation on the Regional Water Resources Protocol to promote closer cooperation in the equitable, sustainable and coordinated utilization, protection, conservation and management of the Transboundary / shared water resources in the IGAD region.

DIRECT the IGAD Secretariat with the support of Member States to strengthen the IGAD Water Unit to enable it effectively coordinate water related issues in the region;

FURTHER DIRECT IGAD Secretariat to ensure the continued facilitation of the negotiation process on the Regional Water Protocol with a view of promoting regional cooperation on sustainable management of water resources in the region;

FURTHER DIRECT IGAD Secretariat to do more research on groundwater potential in the IGAD region;

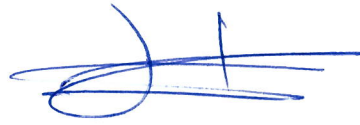
FURTHER DIRECT IGAD Secretariat and Member States to mobilize more resources for the implementation of the Regional Water Policy, programmes and projects in the region;

EXPRESS our gratitude to the Government and the Ministry of Water Resources of the Republic of Kenya for hosting this Ministerial meeting

Done at Nairobi, Kenya, on this 14th day of November, 2018



For the Republic of Djibouti
H.E Mohamed Ahmed Awaleh
Ministre de l'Agriculture, de l'Eau, de la Pêche,
de l'Elevage Et des Ressources halieutiques



For the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
H.E Dr. Seleshi Bekele
Minister of Water, Irrigation and Electricity

For the Republic of Kenya
Hon Simon Chelugui
Cabinet Secretary; Ministry of Water & Sanitation



For the Federal Republic of Somalia
H.E Osman Libah Ibrahim
Deputy Acting Minister of Water



For the Republic of Sudan
H.E Khider Mohamed Gasmelseed Hamad
Minister of Water Resources, Irrigation and Electricity of Sudan

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For the Republic of South Sudan
Hon. Sophia Pal Gai
Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation



For the Republic of Uganda
Hon. Sam Cheptoris
Minister of Water and Environment



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