



PEACE, PROSPERITY AND
REGIONAL INTEGRATION

MEETING OF MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR LAND AND MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR GENDER/WOMEN AFFAIRS OF THE IGAD MEMBER STATES

(DJIBOUTI, ETHIOPIA, KENYA, SOMALIA,
SOUTH SUDAN, SUDAN AND UGANDA)



COMMUNIQUE ON THE IGAD REGIONAL WOMEN'S LAND RIGHTS AGENDA (2021 -2030)

28TH JULY 2021

We, the Ministers responsible for Lands and Ministers responsible for Gender/Women Affairs from the IGAD Member States: Djibouti, Ethiopia Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda;

MEETING this day 28th July 2021, in Nairobi Kenya, at Emara Ole-Sereni Hotel, to endorse the IGAD Regional Women's Land Rights Agenda under the rallying call - Beyond Policy: Accelerating Actions towards Achieving Women's Land Tenure Security in the IGAD Region:

AFFIRM the commitments, we made in the AU Declaration on Land Issues and Challenges in Africa to strengthen security of land tenure for women who require special attention. The declaration mandates Member States to promote land sector interventions that tackle underlying causes of tenure insecurity.

AFFIRM the commitments, we made in the AU Agenda 2063 to ensure women empowerment in all spheres, with equal social, political and economic rights, including the rights to own and inherit property, sign contracts, register and manage businesses and; rural women to have access to productive assets: land, credit, inputs and financial services;

REAFFIRMING our commitments to the global agenda to eliminate all forms of systemic inequalities, exploitation, marginalization and discrimination of young people and to mainstream youth issues in all development agendas.

RECALLING the mandate endowed on Regional Economic Communities to appropriately capture and address issues of land policies within their respective common agricultural policy framework, convene periodic regional platform to facilitate experience sharing, lessons learnt and dissemination of best practices in land policy formulation, implementation and monitoring based on Member States experiences and provide technical guidance and support to the Member States on land governance,

GUIDED by the principles enshrined in the Africa Framework and Guidelines on Land Policy in Africa and Agenda 2030 to address challenges and barriers to equal land rights for all.

INFORMED by the IGAD Land Governance Business Plan (2020-2030) to embrace gender transformative approaches to achieve gender equality on land and security of tenure for women and vulnerable groups in the IGAD region

ACKNOWLEDGING our commitments to the existing regional instruments relevant to gender equality and land governance such as the Maputo Protocol, The Framework and Guidelines on Land Policy in Africa, AU Agenda 2063, and The guiding principles on Large Scale Land Based investments in Africa and AU Declaration on Land Issues and Challenges;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible governance of Tenure over Land, fisheries and Forests, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the New Urban Agenda;

CONSCIOUS of the need for strong systems of gender transformative land governance rooted in principles of equality and sustainability in an effort to ensure preservation, protection and renewability of Africa's land and related resources;

AWARE that women are major contributors (approximately 80% of agricultural producers in Africa) to the social and economic survival and wellbeing of households and communities;

MINDFUL of the need to ensure our region's transformation to a sustainable future by ensuring that no one is left behind in the region's development, using land as an enabler for prosperity and economic growth.

COGNIZANT of the progressive legal frameworks in our Member States (including the Constitutions) on gender equality and security of land tenure for women, and the need to implement these progressive frameworks

MINDFUL of the need to mobilize resources and build capacities necessary to close the gender gap on land in all Member States and deliver on the global and regional commitments on gender equality and existing policies and strategies on the sustainable management of natural resources and the environment in the IGAD region;

TAKING NOTE of the provisions of the Agreement Establishing the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), done at Nairobi on the 21st March 1996, and in particular on Article 13A in which Member States agree to develop and expand cooperation and undertake to coordinate their effort to strengthen land resource monitoring systems and harmonize existing national plans and as mandated by the AU Declaration on Land issues and Challenges in Africa;

DESIROUS to implement effective regional land governance programs that enhance regional integration and cooperation necessary to achieve broader social, economic and environmental goals as enshrined in Agenda 2063 and Agenda 2030 – Sustainable Development Goals.

AFFIRM our commitment to mainstream gender in national and sectoral development frameworks with a view to closing the gender gap on land.

REAFFIRM our commitment to implementing the National Women Land Rights Agenda by increasing government financing to the land sector.

REAFFIRM our commitment to take transformative actions, act collaboratively and embrace convergence and regional integration to implement the IGAD Regional Women's Land Rights Agenda; and

REAFFIRM our commitment to allocate and jointly fundraise for adequate budgetary resources for gender sensitive land policies, programme development and implementation processes, including monitoring and tracking of progress.

REAFFIRM our commitment to promote cross country collaboration and learning on gender and land including facilitating knowledge and skills transfer, establishing multistakeholder platforms at regional and country levels.

REAFFIRM our commitment to strengthening inter-ministerial collaboration and cooperation in closing the gender gap on land.

Hereby consider and endorse the IGAD Regional Women's Land Rights Agenda (2021 - 2030) as well as the Women's Land Rights Conference Outcome Document.

Done at Nairobi, Kenya, on this 28th day of July 2021.



For the Republic of Djibouti

1. **H.E Ms Amina Abdi Aden**
Minister – Ministry of Town, Urbanism and Housing
 2. **H.E Ms Mouna Osman Aden**
Minister – Ministry of Women and Family
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For the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

3. **H.E. Sani Redi Ahmed**
State Minister - Ministry of Agriculture
 4. **H.E. Filsan Abdullahi**
Minister – Ministry of Women, Children and Youth Affairs
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For the Republic of Kenya

5. **H.E. Farida Karoney, EGH**
Cabinet Secretary - Ministry of Lands and Physical Planning
 6. **H.E. Prof Margaret Kobia PhD, EGH**
Cabinet Secretary - Ministry of Public Service and Gender
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For the Federal Republic of Somalia

7. **H.E. Mr Mohamed Adam Moalim,**
Minister - Ministry of Public Works, Reconstruction and & Housing
8. **H.E. Ms Hanifa Mohamed Ibrahim,**
Minister - Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development



For the Republic of South Sudan

9. **H. E. Hon. Michael Chaingiek Geay**
Minister – Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development

 10. **H.E. Hon Aya Benjamin Libo Warille,**
Minister for Gender, Child & Social Welfare
-



For the Federal Republic of Sudan

11. **H.E. Dr. Eltahir Ismail Harbi**
Minister - Ministry Agriculture and Forests

 12. **H.E. Mr Ahmed Adam Bakheid Dukhri**
Minister – Ministry of Social Development
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For the Republic of Uganda

13. **H.E. Hon. Judith Nabakooba**
Cabinet Minister - Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development

14. **H.E. Hon. Peace Regis Mutuuzo**
Minister of State for Gender and Culture Affairs - Ministry of Gender,
Labor and Social Development