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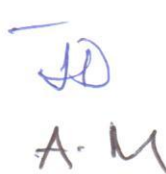
STATEMENT

Special *Ad Hoc* Meeting of the Regional Migration Coordination Committee on the return of migrants and refugees to the Greater Horn of Africa from Yemen

Kempinski Palace, Djibouti, 29th April 2015

1. We, the participants of the Special *Ad Hoc* Meeting of the Regional Migration Coordination Committee (RMCC) consisting of Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda, IOM, RMMS, FAO, WHO, UNICEF, UNAIDS, UNHCR, WFP, EU, Germany, Turkey and USA on the return of migrants and refugees to the Greater Horn of Africa from Yemen, having deliberated on the aforementioned subject:

- a) Express our gratitude to the Government and the people of the Republic of Djibouti for hosting this critical meeting and extending their usual warm hospitality;
- b) Commend the Governments and the people of Djibouti, Ethiopia, Somalia and Sudan for receiving the migrants and refugees from Yemen, as well as providing them with various humanitarian assistances;
- c) Note the efforts of the IGAD Member States to collaborate and cooperate in migration management;
- d) Further commend the international community, the UN agencies, IOM, the European Union, the Swiss Confederation and USA among others for ensuring the wellbeing of the migrants and refugees through assistance and protection;
- e) Recognize the challenges currently faced by countries in the region receiving migrants and refugees as a result of the crisis in Yemen;
- f) Note with concern the increase in smuggling of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, as well as human trafficking within, from and through the IGAD region to Europe and the Middle East;
- g) Note further with concern the already existing security threats in the region and recognize the need for profiling and screening of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees;



- h) Urge the international community to avail much-needed resources to support the return and reintegration of migrants and refugees;
- i) Recognize the instrumental role that the Diaspora plays in the development of their countries of origin and more specifically in the reintegration of returning migrants; and
- j) Acknowledge the need to raise awareness on the dangers of irregular migration including amongst the Diaspora.

2. Now state that IGAD Member States:

- i. Continue and strengthen cooperation amongst themselves on migration management;
- ii. Improve national coordination amongst agencies with migration management functions especially to address migration challenges;
- iii. Address the challenges of human trafficking, as well as migrant, refugee and asylum seekers' smuggling through a comprehensive approach involving prevention, protection and prosecution and strengthen legal frameworks on the same;
- iv. Improve border management as a strategy to facilitate regular migration and curb transnational crimes;
- v. Together with development partners, address the root causes of migration comprising inclusive development, conflict prevention and good governance;
- vi. Advocate for the use of early warning and preparedness as a strategy to mitigate causes leading to migration and forced displacement; and
- vii. Report progress made to address irregular migration at the regular RMCC meetings.

3. In order to realize the above actions, now urge the IGAD Secretariat to:

- i. Continue spearheading regional coordination on migration management;
- ii. Mobilize additional resources from Member States, development partners and the private sector to support capacity building on migration management;
- iii. Support the contingency plan of the Republic of Djibouti cosigned by the UN to address the influx of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers;
- iv. Engage actively with the Khartoum Process/Horn of Africa Initiative that seeks to address irregular migration from the Greater Horn of Africa; and
- v. Support Member States to implement provisions of the Regional Migration Policy Framework (RMPF) in regard to addressing emerging migration realities and challenges.

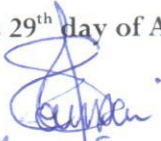


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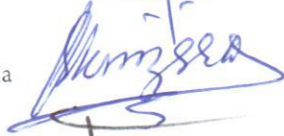


Adopted on this 29th day of April 2015 in Djibouti by representatives of:

1. Djibouti



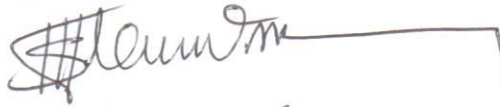
2. Ethiopia



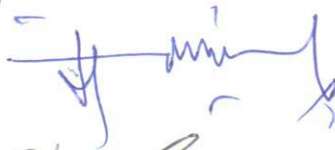
3. Kenya



4. Somalia



5. South Sudan



6. Sudan



7. Uganda

