



PEACE, PROSPERITY AND
REGIONAL INTEGRATION

COMMUNIQUE OF THE SECTORAL MINISTERIAL MEETING ON THE PROTOCOL ON FREE MOVEMENT OF PERSONS IN THE IGAD REGION, 26TH FEBRUARY 2020, KHARTOUM, REPUBLIC OF SUDAN

The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Sectoral Ministerial Meeting on the Protocol on Free Movement of Persons in the IGAD Region was held on 26 February 2020 in Khartoum, Republic of Sudan. The meeting was officially opened by **H.E. Dr. Abdalla Hamdok**, Prime Minister of the Republic of Sudan and Chairperson of IGAD. The meeting was attended by the Ministers for Interior, Peace, Internal Security, Labour and Social Affairs of IGAD Member States namely: Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Uganda. H.E. Dr. Workneh Gebeyehu, Executive Secretary of IGAD, Delegation of the European Union, UN IOM, GIZ and UON ILO also attended the meeting.

The Sectoral Ministerial Meeting was preceded by a Final High-Level Experts meeting on the Protocol on Free Movement of Persons on 24th February 2020 and Committee of Ambassadors Meeting on the Protocol on Free Movement of Persons on 25th February 2020 both of which were held at Khartoum, Republic of Sudan.

IGAD Sectoral Ministers' congratulated the people and Government of the Republic of South Sudan on the successful formation of the Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity (R-TGoNU).

After in-depth deliberations on the Protocol on Free Movement of Persons in the IGAD Region as validated by the High-Level Experts of the Member States and endorsement by Committee of Ambassadors, the Sectoral Ministerial Meeting:

On the Protocol:

1. **Approves** the Protocol on Free Movement of Persons in the IGAD Region for presentation to the IGAD Council of Ministers.
2. **Commends** the IGAD secretariat, the experts of IGAD Member States, and the Committee of Ambassadors for thorough preparations, comprehensive consultations and negotiations on the Protocol in the past three years.
3. **Reaffirms** that the Protocol is in compliance with the objectives and provisions of the Agreement Establishing IGAD and the treaty Establishing the African Economic

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Community (the Abuja Treaty), and AU Protocol to the Abuja Treaty relating to Free Movement of Persons, Right of Residence and Right of Establishment.

4. **Advises** the IGAD Council of Ministers to consider the speedy Adoption of the Protocol.

On the Roadmap for the implementation of the Protocol:

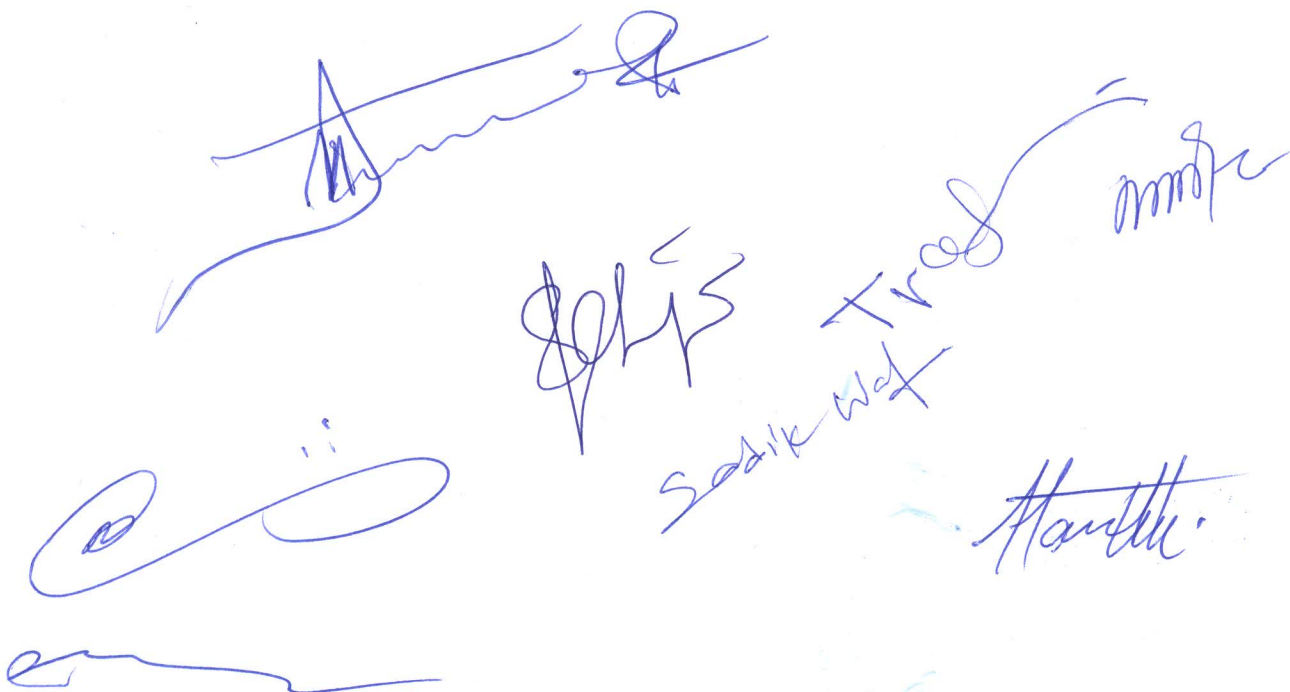
1. **Approves** the decision of the Committee of Ambassadors that tasked the IGAD Secretariat to convene Expert Meeting of IGAD Member States to re - consider the draft Implementation Roadmap in accordance with the Draft Protocol before submission to the IGAD Council of Ministers for endorsement.

We will redouble our efforts towards free movement regime in the IGAD region and appreciate the continued support of the European Union, GIZ and other Partners of IGAD and its Member States.

We, IGAD Ministers for Interior, Peace, Internal Security, Labour and Social Affairs, thank the people and Government of the Republic of Sudan for hosting our meeting and for the generous hospitality provided to us.

Done in Khartoum, Republic of Sudan, 26 February 2020.

-End-



The bottom section of the document contains several handwritten signatures in blue ink. From top to bottom, the signatures are: a large, stylized signature; a signature that appears to be 'Sadiq Wad'; a signature that appears to be 'Hassan'; and a signature that appears to be 'Hassan'. There are also some faint, illegible markings and a small circular stamp or mark on the left side.