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**Concept Note**

**1st Session of the IGAD Statistics Committee (ISC)**

**February 2022**

**INTRODUCTION**

The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) was launched to supersede the Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development (IGADD), which was founded in 1986 to address the recurrent drought and other natural disasters that were responsible for ecological degradation that caused widespread famine and economic hardships in IGAD Region.

The mandate of IGAD was expanded to encompass food security and environmental protection; economic co-operation and political and humanitarian affairs. IGAD adopted an integrated, multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary approach aimed at contributing more effectively to the attainment of resilient economies in the region, particularly in areas where the economic mainstay depends on primary production.

IGAD vision: *A resilient, peaceful, prosperous and integrated region where citizens enjoy high quality of life*. IGAD’s mission is to p*romote regional cooperation and integration to add value to Member States’ efforts in achieving peace, security, and prosperity.*

IGAD’s mandate includes:

* Agriculture development, NRM, and environment protection, climate V/C and DRM;
* Regional economic cooperation and integration;
* Social development; and
* Peace and security.

IGAD’s goal refers to transformation towards sustainable development, resilience and stability in the IGAD Region.

In line with its mandate, IGAD has six strategic development objectives (SDO) in the short-term covering the planning period of 2021-2025 such as (i) To enhance food and nutrition security in the region; (ii) To enhance sustainable management of natural resources and the environment and build resilience to disasters and climate change/ variability; (iii) To develop a unified regional market with expanded infrastructure and connectivity; (iv) To improve the social wellbeing and human productivity for inclusive development in the region; (v) To strengthen the transformative capabilities for the attainment of peace, security and stability; and (vi) To enhance the institutional capacity of IGAD to deliver its mandate effectively and efficiently.

It can be recalled that the Director Generals of National Statistics Offices/Institutes (NSOs/NSIs) of IGAD Member States convened and validated Regional Strategy for the Development of Statistics (RSDS) on 19 November 2020 – via virtual meeting. This strategy will guide the overall establishment of the regional statistical system.

The IGAD Regional Strategy for the Development of Statistics (RSDS) over its life span aims to achieve a mission to *“facilitate the generation, dissemination and use of high quality, reliable and harmonized statistics required for achieving peace, security and inclusive prosperity in the IGAD region”.*

The rationale of the IGAD RSDS is: *provision of data to the African Regional Integration Agenda; supply of data for development of the IGAD region; and the role of the RSDS in the African Statistical System (ASS).*

As stipulated in the RSDS document, IGAD Statistics Committee (ISC) is key among the institutions within which the IGAD Regional Statistical System will carry out its operations. The ISC will be a body of professionals comprising the heads of NSOs in the Member States and the Secretariat. It is to be responsible for supporting formulation of policy and strategy and for providing professional guidance for the development and implementation of statistics programmes for the IRSS.

Therefore, IGAD intends to organize the 1st Session of the IGAD Statistics Committee which is scheduled to take place from 4th to 5th April 2022 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

**OBJECTIVES**

The 1st session aims to formally launch the ISC and discuss the implementation of the IGAD Regional Strategy for the Development of Statistics at the national and regional level; as well as adopt the TOR for ISC; and share good practices in Statistics among the IGAD Member States.

**EXPECTED RESULTS**

At the end of this 1st session of the ISC, the expected results will be:

* The ToR for the IGAD Statistics Committee adopted
* A draft Data Sharing Policy Framework presented and discussed
* A draft Data Quality Assessment Framework presented and discussed
* Way forward and recommendations on the operationalization of the ISC and RSDS

**PARTICIPANTS IN THE WORKSHOP**

The two-day session brings together two representatives from each IGAD Member State. The group consists of:

* Director General or Head of National Statistics Office; and
* Coordinator of the National Statistical System (i.e., future coordinator of IGAD RSDS).
* IGAD Secretariat team.

Representatives from Pan-African Organizations, namely STATAFRIC/AUC and ACS/UNECA, and RECs; and development partners will also participate in this session.

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

**1st Session of the IGAD Statistics Committee**

**4th to 5th April, 2022**

**Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

**Day-1 Monday, 4th April 2022**

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| **Time** | **Activities/Sessions** | **Responsible** |
| 08:30 – 09:00 | Arrival and registration of participants | IGAD |
| 9:00 – 10:00 | Opening remarks   * Representative of IGAD * Representative of African Union Commission/STATAFRIC * Representative of AfDB * Representative of the WB * Representative of IGAD Chair - Sudan. * Introduction of participants | Master of the Ceremony |
| 10:00 – 10:30 | Coffee Break and Group photo |  |
| 10:30 – 11:30 | * Constitution of the Bureau * Adoption of Agenda * Setting the Scene – IGAD Strategic Framework * IGAD RSDS highlights and progress | IGAD |
| 11:30 – 11:50 | Presentation of ToR for IGAD Statistics Committee | IGAD |
| 11:50 – 12:30 | Discussion/feedback and adoption of the TOR for IGAD Statistics Committee |
| 12:30 – 13:30 | LunchBreak |  |
| 13:30 – 13:50 | Linkage between the SHaSHA2 and the RSDS in strengthening the ASS | STATAFRIC/AUC |
| 13:50 – 14:10 | Support of PAS 2 to the implementation of IGAD RSDS | Expertise France |
| 14:10 – 15:00 | Discussions | IGAD/AUC |
| 15:00 – 15:30 | Coffee Break |  |
| 15:30 – 16:30 | * Highlights of concept of IGAD Data Sharing Policy Framework * NSOs’ experiences in data sharing with RECs and Pan-African Institutions | IGAD |
| **Day -2 Tuesday 5th April 2022** | | |
| **Time** | **Activities/Sessions** | **Responsible** |
| 09:00 – 9:20 | Recap of Day 1 | IGAD |
| 9:20 – 10:20 | * Highlights of concept of IGAD Data Quality Assessment Framework (DQAF) * NSOs’ experiences in DQAF | IGAD |
| 10:20 – 10:50 | Coffee Break |  |
| 10:50 – 11:50 | Migration REPORT highlights and Regional TWG on migration Statistics | IGAD |
| 11:50 – 12:30 | Turning data into action (Data visualization based on the continental and regional agendas) | Data Act lab |
| 12:30 – 13:30 | Lunch |  |
| 13:30 – 14:30 | * Reflection by the Director Generals * Main Conclusions and Recommendations | IGAD  Rapporteur |
| 14:30 – 15:30 | Closing Statement | IGAD  ISC Chair |