



## COMMUNIQUE

### Declaration on the Validation of the National Blue Economy Strategy for Sudan

(2023-2027)

28 February 2023, Coral Hotel- Port Sudan, Republic of Sudan

The Africa Blue Economy Strategy was endorsed by the 3rd Session of the Specialized Technical Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and Environment in October 2019 having, identified development of the Blue Economy as a priority towards achieving the aspirations of 'the Africa Union Agenda 2063.

At the regional level, IGAD developed a Regional Blue Economy Strategy and its Implementation Plan to guide the development of national Blue Economy strategies, and also guide implementation of Blue Economy programs at national and regional levels. This is while increasing cooperation and regional integration, and strengthening support to the member states to effectively translate policies into concrete actions. In the IGAD context, the Blue Economy (BE) encompasses both marine and fresh water environments. It thus translates to the sustainable use and the conservation of oceans, seas, coastlines, lakes, rivers, reservoirs, dams, wetlands and groundwater.

Sudan is endowed with abundant natural resources including the Red Sea, rivers and wetlands which comprise Blue Economy resources. These BE resources have a potential of generating enormous income if developed and exploited in a concerted manner. Currently, however due to insufficient institutional capacity and given the socio-cultural context, these BE resources generate less than their potential. To realise the full potential of the Blue Economy and maximise the benefits for wealth creation within Sudan, it requires that the multiple links between the Blue Economy sectors be strengthened through development of a Blue Economy Strategy.



Accordingly, the Ministry of Finance & Economic Planning, which is the BE Focal Ministry, with the support of IGAD, organized a three-day validation and adoption workshop of the National Blue Economy Strategy from 26-28 February 2023 at Coral Hotel in Port Sudan. The first two days involved a review by technical officials from the BE thematic sectors of Irrigation and Water Resources; Agriculture and Forests; Oil and Gas; Mining; Transportation, Animal Resources, and other emerging sectors as well as officials from the private sector at Federal and State levels to finalize the strategy and prepare a report and a communique.

This third day has been dedicated to the Honourable Ministers of: Finance and Economic Planning; Irrigation and Water Resources; Agriculture and Forests; Oil and Gas; Mining; Transportation and Animal Resources to adopt the draft National Blue Economy Strategy for Sudan.

The vision of the National Blue Economy Strategy is "Growing, Inclusive and Environmentally Sensitive Blue Economy for Better Quality of Life and Sustainable Development".

The Strategy has the following core goals:

**Goal 1:** Establish functional blue economy governance policy and investment framework, regulations and coordination mechanisms.

**Goal 2:** Define, develop, and deploy Blue Economy Priority Program of Actions at the Sectoral Level.

**Goal 3:** Establish empowerment and inclusive decision making, environmental sustainability, and economic viability.

**Goal 4 :** Accelerate the Exploitation of Blue Economy Sectors and Industries through Innovation, Research and Development.





We on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023, hereby adopt the Sudan National Blue Economy Strategy of Sudan (2023 – 2027). This Strategy will be the platform for inter-sectoral engagement and planning of the development of the Blue Economy resources, related industries and Blue Economy sectors in Sudan.

Finally, we are committed to mobilize local and external resources for the full implementation of this Strategy.

**Signed by:**

**Hon. Dr. Gibril Ibrahim Mohamed**

**Minister for Finance and Economic Planning**

Hon. Daw Elbeit Abdelrahman

  
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**Minister for Irrigation and Water Resources**

~~Hon. Abul Bakr Omer Elbushra~~

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**Minister for Agriculture and Forests**

Hon. Husham Ali Ahmed

  
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**Minister for Transport**

Dr. Hassan Eltoum Abdalla

For  
**Minister of Animal Resources**