

***Draft Speech by the EU Ambassador to Djibouti and IGAD,  
Sylvie TABESSE  
on the occasion of the  
Signing Ceremony of the 4 MEUR “Capacity building programme”,  
followed by the opening of the EU-IGAD workshop  
9 am, 22 February 2024  
IGAD premises***

*Honorable Deputy Executive Secretary, Mohamed Abdi Ware  
Your Excellency, IGAD Ambassador to the EU, Mr Moussa Meigague,  
Dear Daniela Rofi, Head of Unit of Regional Programs at DG INTPA,  
Dear participants of IGAD in the room and connected,  
Colleagues of the EU,  
Members of the Press, Ladies and Gentlemen,*

I am pleased to be here today with IGAD on the occasion of the visit of our EU colleagues of DG for International Partnerships.

There is no need to underline that IGAD has been playing an important role in the Horn of Africa, a highly vulnerable region in terms of peace and security. Its engagement spans from addressing the effects of climate change, by ensuring mediation between various warring parties or supporting management of significant migration and refugee flows in the region.

We have been particularly encouraged with IGAD's renewed dynamism in terms of promotion of peace and security, demonstrated during the current Djiboutian presidency of the organisation. Whilst many challenges in this domain persist, our common objectives remain the same: stable and prosperous Horn of Africa.

*Excellencies, Honourable guests,*

The EU is aware of the high volume of needs. IGAD, as an institution, is confronted with the magnitude of challenges - be it in its internal organization, be it in their mediation efforts. That is why the EU is contributing to addressing at least some of these necessities - both through our bilateral and multilateral programs.

I am thus pleased to announce today the signature of a 4 MEUR worth EU Capacity building program.

In addition to this, we are launching a workshop with participation of our colleagues from the EU HQ. During this event, you will have the opportunity to jointly explore key priorities under the remaining part of NDICI program for 2021-2027, including possible actions and best ways forward for working together. I wish you all a constructive and fruitful discussion.

Thank you very much for your attention.