



## **Concept Note**

### **Workshop on the IGAD Regional Consultative Process (IGAD-RCP)**

The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) in partnership with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and in collaboration with the African Union Commission (AUC) are jointly implementing a regional project on “Capacity Building in Migration and Border Management for Selected IGAD Member States funded by the IOM 1035<sup>i</sup> facility for member States”

The project is an extension and continuation of the East African Migration Route (EAMR) Programme funded under the EC Aeneas programme by the European Commission, and governments of Italy, Malta, Netherlands, and UK. The project is designed to address specific policy needs and gaps as well as operational challenges in the migration and border management structures in the region, hence it will compliment other Technical Cooperation on Migration Management programmes in the region notably in the IGAD member states of Djibouti, Ethiopia, Sudan, Kenya and Uganda and other partners from both transit and destination countries.

IGAD in Partnership with the African Union Commission (AUC) and International Organization for Migration (IOM) jointly launched the IGAD-RCP at a regional workshop held at the AU Headquarters, in Addis Ababa on May 14<sup>th</sup> 2008. Subsequently, the IGAD Council of Ministers took note of the Declaration on the establishment of the IGAD-RCP and adopted it in December 2009 at its 33<sup>rd</sup> Council of Ministers meeting held in Djibouti. One of the key activities of this project is to roll-out the IGAD-RCP and to establish a roadmap for its continuity and sustainability

This meeting is being organized by IGAD in collaboration with the AUC and IOM to bring together relevant officials from target IGAD Member States, selected neighbouring transit countries, IGAD Partners Forum (IPF) and relevant international partners to initiate the roll-out of the RCP. It is envisaged that the RCP will foster common understanding and promote policy coherence on migration management with concrete outcomes for programmatic actions in the region.

With the growing complexity of mixed migratory movements in the IGAD region, cooperation and coherence are needed between states to enhance the prospects for successful and mutually beneficial migration. Initiatives such as the IGAD-RCP, fostering interstate dialogue and cooperation are important steps to achieving policy coherence between states. Enhancing cooperation and coordination among states is particularly important to migration management because of the close connection between migration and other policy fields. Now more than ever, international attention is focused on migration and coherence in migration management. As inter-

state cooperation grows from strength to strength, partnerships between agencies are equally fundamental. RECs are mandated by its Member States to address migration in its multiple facets. At the same time, they recognize the valuable expertise of other agencies and entities on various aspects of migration such as IOM, ILO, UNHCR etc and welcome their involvement

This workshop is the first since the launch of the IGAD RCP.

**Objectives of the Workshop:**

- Inform and promote the IGAD-RCP amongst IGAD Member States and partners to foster inter-state dialogue and cooperation on international migration;
- Initiate the roll-out of the process and to establish a roadmap for its continuity and follow up with Member States on other thematic issues;
- Establishment of IGAD-RCP Steering Committee to ensure its sustainability and effectiveness;
- Establishment of the IGAD Regional Migration coordination Committee to facilitate information sharing and regional cooperation on migration;

It is expected that IGAD partners including IOM will follow up with the respective IGAD Member States for the implementation of the outcomes of the workshop. IGAD will also seek both bilateral and multilateral funding for the continuation and sustainability of the Regional Consultative Process in the spirit of the EC-Africa strategic partnerships.

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<sup>i</sup> The 1035 funding facility provides special support to IOM Developing Member States to address particular areas of migration management.