



# The IGAD Regional Consultative process (RCP) on migration



# What's RCP?

- It is an **informal**, **non binding mechanism** that brings together **states, international organizations and other stakeholders** to **dialogue and exchange information** on migration issues of common interest (IOM).



# Rationale & background

- RCPs are as a result of the recognition by states of the importance of continuous dialogue and cooperation on migration
- RCPs seek to address the challenge posed by the ad hoc and bilateral approaches to managing international migration.



- 1<sup>st</sup> RCP was established in 1985 but today there are many and varied in almost all parts of the world including; Migration dialogue for Southern Africa, Budapest process, Bali process, Puebla process, Mediterranean Transit Migration dialogue, Migration dialogue for West Africa, e.tc



# IGAD RCP

- Established in 2009 with the support of IOM through an IGAD council decision and held its roll out meeting in 2010.
- The IGAD RCP aims to facilitate dialogue and cooperation on migration amongst the IGAD member states, transit and destination countries and other migration stakeholders .



# Goals of the I-RCP

1. To establish a mechanism for continuous dialogue and co-operation among IGAD Member States on migration and related issues, enhancing their capacity to manage migration within a regional context
2. To enhance knowledge and foster a common understanding by policy-makers, other officials and stakeholders of the causes, dimensions, patterns, trends and impacts of migration in the IGAD Region



# ctn..goals

3. To help develop and strengthen regional institutional and governmental capacities to address the challenges of migration management in a cooperative and knowledge-based manner
4. To focus on the priority areas identified by the IGAD Member States including *inter alia* technical cooperation and capacity building, information collection, analysis and dissemination while progressing toward formulation and harmonization at the national and IGAD level of legislation, policies and practices as inspired by the AU Framework on Migration and the developed IGAD Regional Migration Framework



# Ctn...

5. To develop and enhance dialogue and cooperation between the IGAD Member States and countries of other regions as regards the different dimensions of migration and migrants in to and out of IGAD countries.





# What is the IGAD- RCP responsible for?

- 1) Promoting a continuous migration dialogue for the region which brings together IGAD Member States and other stakeholders including countries of transit and destination and information
- 2) Building capacity and facilitating implementation of various national, regional and continental initiatives on migration
- 3) Encouraging and assisting Member States to integrate migration issues into their national development blue prints



# Ctn...

- 4) Encouraging potential donors including the IGAD Partners Forum as well as relevant international organizations and institutions to provide the necessary financial support and technical assistance to implement regional and national migration management programs
- 5) Developing strategies and programmes for implementation of relevant AU and regional recommendations on migration, including those emanating from the IGAD-RCP



- 6) Establishing a follow-up mechanism as well as ensuring regular reporting on implementation of the Migration Policy Framework for Africa and other regional and continental initiatives, in collaboration with IGAD Member States and partners.



# Priority areas;

- They are as outlined in the AU migration policy framework and further elaborated in the developed IGAD Regional Migration Policy Framework .
- \*Seeks a comprehensive dialogue and engagement on all migration related issues.



# I-RCP Institutional Framework

- The IGAD Secretariat has served as the secretariat of the RCP since its establishment-
- The RCP meeting of 2010 recommended the establishment of a Regional Migration Coordination Committee- where “sensitive” migration matters can be discussed. This was launched in March 2011 and held its 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in May 2015 on labour migration.
- Under it, a sectoral committee- comprising of agencies and departments with migration roles feed into RMCC and therefore RCP deliberations has been proposed.



# Ctn, institutional framework

- All IGAD MSs participate in the RCP
- The African Union, IOM and the IGAD Partners Forum hold observer status
- Transit countries involved in the RCP include Chad, Niger, Yemen, Egypt, Libya and Tunisia. Destination countries include some of the IPF countries as well as USA.
- CSOs and IGOs are involved on an *ad hoc* basis depending on the themes of the consultations



# Gains of the IGAD RCP

- Has kept the IGAD MSs and stakeholders engaged on migration management in the region.
- Has created a platform through which information is exchanged, best practices shared and solutions to common challenges pursued in a non binding and informal manner.



# Ctn; gains

- Has helped bring to the fore migration management concerns of the region into other international mechanism e.g feeding into the GFMD and the UN high Level dialogue on Migration
- It has seen to the concrete programmatic actions undertaken on migration management e.g. the development of the RMPF, the RMCC, capacity building for immigration, and the first ever engagement of the IGAD Diaspora





# Challenges

- The RCP is still “hosted’ by the secretariat through a rotational chair by member
- *Ad hoc* funding for RCP consultations & programmatic actions- how shall the RCP be self sustaining.



# Ctn..challenges

- Some key transit and destination countries are not yet on board the RCP.
- Changing migration trends in the region disrupts ongoing follow up on agreed on priorities to focus on emerging concerns.



# Way forward & conclusion

- national level dialogues on migration that will feed into the RCP are being launched through the National Consultative mechanism on migration
- Reaching out to more transit and destination countries – attempt at engaging more with GCC
- ❖ RCPs provide a mechanism -perceived as “comfortable”- that fosters dialogue and cooperation on common interests in migration



*Thank you for your kind attention.*

*Caroline Njuki,  
Regional Migration Coordinator  
IGAD Secretariat, Djibouti.*