<u>Progress report on the implementation of HFA and Programme of Action for the Africa Regional Strategy:</u>

<u>Achievements, challenges, and focus areas by the end of HFA 2015 and beyond, HFA2-Post 2015 DRR Framework:</u>

<u>The case of Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the East African Community (EAC) Sub-Regions</u>

1. Introduction

Participants from DRM institutions and other agencies from Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the East African Community (EAC) Sub-Regions met on 13th–15th February 2013 in Arusha, Tanzania. The meeting was organized by the African Union Commission (AUC) and the Africa Regional Office for United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) to review the progress made in the implementation of the Sub-Regional and National Disaster Risk Management programme, Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) and the Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction (ARSDRR) and its Programme of Action (PoA). Further, the meeting identified key priority areas for post 2015 HFA. In addition, outstanding actions to be scaled up in the remaining period of the HFA1 were identified. It is anticipated that this report will contribute to the final African position on Post HFA 2015.

The outcome of the meeting is outlined below:

2. Major achievements:

HFA priority 1: Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation

PoA 1: Increase political commitment to Disaster Risk Reduction

- IGAD as REC has developed a Regional DRM strategy and Programme and was endorsed by its policy organs in 2004. The Secretariat and MS have been endeavoring in the implementation since then.

- The EAC has developed its Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) Strategy, a Climate Change Strategy and Master Plan and adopted by its policy organs;

- The East Africa Legislative Assembly is in the process of developing a Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act;

- Most Member States have developed/reviewed policies, strategies and plans and put in place institutions with dedicated staffs and resources for DRR/DRM, indicating increased awareness and commitments on the part of policy and decision makers.

- IGAD organized a high level event for Representatives of National Assemblies of Member States to inform them about the progresses and challenges of DRR/DRM implementation in the sub-region and seek their support in legislating policies.

- In 2011 Heads of State and Government of IGAD and EAC Summit adopted the ending drought emergencies strategy (resilience strategy) leading to country and regional implementation programme.

HFA priority 2: Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning

PoA 2: Improve identification and assessment of disaster risks

- Most Member States have systematically identified and documented information on major hazards and related disasters (a good example in this regard is a comprehensive risk assessment being conducted to prepare a risk profile at the lowest administrative level in Ethiopia);

- Most countries are in the process of establishing National Disaster database, including on disaster losses;

- IGAD is in the process of launching country and regional Hazard Maps and Atlas for major prioritized hazards of regional nature to establish and strengthen regional capacity for the assessment and monitoring of trans-boundary hazards and related disasters. Similar efforts are underway in most countries both in IGAD and EAC;

- National early warning system is in place in most Member States (though not focusing on all prevailing hazards) with defined indicators, baselines, tools, systems and processes for regular monitoring;

- National Meteorological Services and IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Center (ICPAC) have been providing weather and climate related information for DRR/DRM purposes; and

- Risk transfer mechanisms connected to the national early warning systems are also being introduced in some countries though, in most cases, still at micro level and without clear policies and legal frameworks.

HFA priority 3: Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels

PoA 3: Increase public awareness of disaster risk reduction

- A number of trainings, workshops, meetings, and events (commemoration of the international DRR day) as well as exposure visits through South South Cooperation have been organized in Member States and at IGAD and EAC to create and/or raise awareness among policy and decision makers and the public at large for DRR/DRM.

- IGAD has developed a comprehensive DRM training toolkits which is being used both at regional and country levels for capacity building of DRM institutions;

- Some higher learning institutions in some Member States (e.g. Bahrdar University in Ethiopia, Makerere University in Uganda, Masinde Muliro and Nairobi University of Kenya, Ardhi and Dodoma University of Tanzania) are offering undergraduate and post graduate as well as short courses in DRR/DRM contributing substaantially towards the professionalization of the DRR/DRM workforce.

- The DRM Resource Center (which potentially could serve the sub-region too) is being set up in Ethiopia under the Addis Ababa University with support from the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), UNDP CO, and IGAD with the view to accelerate the advancement of DRR/DRM in Ethiopia and beyond (identified as good practice example to be scaled up in other member states).

- IGAD and EAC Member States supports in principle the integration of DRR/DRM into education and in some Member States (Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, and Ethiopia) there is noticeable progress. However more effort is needed as of now.

HFA priority 4: Reduce the underlying risk factors

PoA 4: Improve governance of disaster risk reduction institutions and reduce the underling risk factors

- Platforms for coordination of DRR/DRM efforts exist in most Member States. At the IGAD level, at the technical level, the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) comprising members from Member States is being serving as the regional platform for coordination of the implementation of IGAD's DRM programme and tracking progress while at the policy level such responsibility rests with the Ministerial Committee composed of Ministers in charge of DRM institutions.

- In EAC, coordination is carried out through the National Platforms. However, recently EAC has established and operationalized a Sub-Regional DRR Platform.

- Efforts have been made to harmonize DRR/DRM policies, strategies, plans, mechanisms and institutions across the IGAD sub-region.

- There have been some attempts in integrating DRR/DRM and climate change adaptation efforts in some countries in IGAD and EAC regions.

- Encouraging progress is also being observed with respect to the integration of DRR/DRM into development policies, plans and programmes of relevant sectors such as agriculture, health, and water and energy.

- IGAD provided support to Member States not only to formulate National Social Protection Policies and strategies, but also to put in place national platforms for coordination. Most Member States have Social Protection related programmes under implementation with the Ethiopian

Productive Safety Net Programme being the largest in Sub-Saharan Africa in terms of its number of beneficiaries and budget size.

- IGAD is currently coordinating the Drought Resilience and Sustainability Initiative that aims at ending drought emergencies through addressing underlying factors and building resilient communities in the Sub-Region.

HFA priority 5: Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels

PoA 5: Integrate Disaster Risk Reduction in emergency response management

- In collaboration with Member States, IGAD is in the process of establishing and operationalizing *__regional disaster response fund (IGAD Disaster Response Fund)__* to strengthen preparedness for timely response to disasters of national and regional nature.

- EAC has also created a Climate Change Adaptation Fund.

- Most Member States have food, non-food and cash reserves for use in times of disasters, which facilitate integration of DRR into emergency management.

- As part of efforts to strengthening national preparedness, with support from partners, including IGAD an Emergency Coordination Center is being set-up and expected to be fully operational soon in Ethiopia (identified as good practice example to be scaled up in other member states);

- IGAD provided support to Member States to promote and integrate Contingency Planning Process as a tool to integrate DRR into emergency response plans. Risk profile-based contingency planning process is being introduced and rolled out in few Member States (e.g. Ethiopia) to help link early warning and post disaster assessment findings with timely and appropriate responses and integrate DRR/DRM into emergency response plans. A guidelines for integrating DRR/DRM into response plans through proper contingency planning exist and being practically applied in Ethiopia.

- In most Member States Emergency Contingency Plans are in place and are being tested through simulation exercises.

- Ethiopia has established a multi donor trust fund to implement multi-sectoral climate resilient green economy.

PoA 6: Support overall coordination and monitoring of the implementation of the strategy

- Technical and financial supports received from partners, especially from EU and UNISDR enabled IGAD, especially its Humanitarian Affairs Section to strengthen regional capacities for coordination and monitoring of the implementation of IGAD DRM programme and hence HFA and PoA in the sub-region. GFDRR, WMO, and USAID have also provided support to ICPAC.

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- EAC has also received similar support from ECHO, JICA, and UNISDR for the implementation of HFA and PoA.

- A range of partners provided similar supports to Member States which enabled them further enhance their coordination and monitoring capabilities.

3. Major Challenges:

1. Awareness and commitment for DRR amongst policy/decision makers and legislators have not reached the desired level yet, limiting progress in DRR/DRM and hence HFA and PoA implementation (PoA 1,3);

2. Not all Member States have policies, strategies, plans and programmes and proper and fully functional institutional frameworks, mechanisms and capacities in place for DRR/DRM (PoA ,1,2, 4, 5,6);

3. There is still inadequate allocation of human and financial resources for DRR/DRM both at sub-regional and national levels and DRR/DRM systems/programmes in both sub-regions are heavily dependent on external resource, posing a great challenge to sustainability (PoA 1);

4. Standardized tools and approaches for systematic collection, analysis, documentation (using proper database format), and dissemination of data and information on disaster risks across the IGAD and EAC sub-regions (PoA 1,2,3,4,5,6);

5. Capacity for systematic collection, documentation, and analysis of data/information about losses caused by disasters associated to natural hazards across the region is not yet fully built (PoA1,2,3,4,5,6);

6. Data sharing protocol for facilitating access to and exchange of DRR/DRM related information across the region is missing (PoA 2);

7. Capacities for DRR/DRM implementation are not yet fully built and standardized at the sub-regional and country levels (PoA 2,4,5);

8. There is limited progress in the integration of DRR/DRM in urban settings (PoA 2);

9. Sustainable mechanisms for developing and disseminating of advocacy materials among policy and decision makers and the public at large are inadequate (PoA 1,3);

10. A regional strategy for integrating DRR/DRM into school curricula is not in place (PoA 1,3);

11. There has been limited engagement of media, private sector, and civil society in DRR/DRM (PoA 1,3,4).

12. DRR/DRM responsibilities and resources are not yet fully decentralized (PoA 4);

13. DRR/DRM, Climate Change Adaptation and Social Protection initiatives are not fully integrated (PoA 4);

14. There has been limited focus on community Based DRM (PoA3); and

15. Mechanisms and capacities for systematic integration of DRR/DRM into emergency response management are not fully developed (PoA 5).

4. Identified priority areas for accelerating the implementation of PoA and HFA in the IGAD and EAC Sub-Regions by 2015 and beyond, HFA 2 (Post HFA 2015 DRR Framework):

In order to increase the level of progress and achievements recorded to date and be able to fully implement the DRM programmes in these sub-regions and hence HFA and the extended PoA for the implementation of ARSDRR, the following priority areas have been identified for the remaining period of HFA 1 and beyond, HFA2-Post 2015 DRR:

4.1 For the remainder period of HFA 1:

1. Increasing and sustaining public awareness and political commitment for DRR/DRM with particular emphasis on addressing underlying causes of disaster risks (relating to PoA 1,2,3,4,5,6);

2. Harmonize and operationalize policies, strategies, plans, institutional, and legal frameworks for DRR/DRM across IGAD and EAC Sub-Regions (PoA 1,4);

3. Enhance national and sub-regional capacities for standardized disaster risk identification, assessment and database development (including losses caused by disasters) and application (PoA 2);

4. Establishing sub-regional multi-hazard early warning and response system that is linked to early action-(PoA 2,5);

5. Supporting Member States in establishing and/or strengthening national multi-hazard and multi-sectoral early warning and response systems incorporating traditional knowledge and improve outreach to communities using modern information and communication technologies-(PoA 2);

6. Developing and operationalizing data sharing protocol for improving access to and exchange of DRR/DRM related data and information(PoA 2);

7. Supporting the mainstreaming of DRR/DRM and CCA into primary, secondary, and tertiary school curricula (PoA 3);

8. Supporting the integration/mainstreaming of DRR/DRM into concerned secoral development policies, plans and programmes at all levels of governments (PoA 4);

9. Supporting the integration of DRR, Climate Change Adaptation, Social Protection and poverty reduction initiatives and programmes at all levels of governments (PoA 4);

10. Establishing/strengthening in country and sub-regional disaster contingency funds and other food and non-food reserves and risk financing and risk transfer mechanisms (PoA 5);

11. Strengthening national and sub-regional capacities for DRR/DRM implementation, coordination, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting on progress (PoA 6); and

12. Enhancing engagement of private sector, civil society and other relevant actors in DRR/DRM (PoA 4).

4.2 HFA 2-Post HFA DRR Framework

1. DRR/DRM policy, legislation, and institutions to be fast trucked, operationalized, and devolved to the grassroots;

2. Increase and sustain investment in DRR/DRM, especially at the community level with emphasis on building resilience;

3. Enhance regional and national capacities for implementation of DRR/DRM with strong accountability and enforcement mechanisms;

4. Balance humanitarian and development approach and investment in addressing the underlying causes of disasters;

5. Accelerate the integration of DRR, Climate Change Adaptation, Social Protection and poverty reduction initiatives and programmes at all levels of government;

6. Increase investment in research, education, and knowledge management in DRR/DRM;

7. Need for DRR/DRM to be one of the pillars in the African Union's peer review mechanisms for regular monitoring, evaluation and reporting of progress based on measurable and verifiable indicators; and

8. Increase focus and investment in urban disaster risk management.