



**The summit on the Horn of Africa crisis:**

**Ending drought emergencies:**

**A Commitment to Sustainable Solutions**

8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> September 2011

NAIROBI KENYA

**JOINT DECLARATION**

**PREAMBLE:**

We the Heads of States and Government of the **East African Community(EAC)** and the **Inter-Governmental Authority on Development(IGAD)** and **The Republic of South Sudan**, meeting in Nairobi, Kenya on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2011, at the Summit on the Horn of Africa Crisis;

**DEEPLY CONCERNED** about the severe drought crisis in the Horn of Africa, coupled with the protracted conflict in Somalia;

**CONSIDERING** the devastating impact of the crises on the lives, health and livelihoods of the over 12 million people living in the Horn of Africa, and;

**NOTING WITH CONCERN** that these and many other unpredictable changes in our environment have been caused by the effects of climate change;

**ACKNOWLEDGING THAT** the failure to address desertification, land degradation and drought will hinder developing States from attaining the Millenium Development Goals;

**AFFIRMING OUR COMMITMENT** to attaining a legally binding mechanism as a way of mitigating the effects of climate change;

**RECOGNIZING** that the crisis has the potential to ignite socio-political instability and insecurity in the region;

**FURTHER RECOGNIZING** the challenges facing the affected populations, including the delivery of immediate drought emergency needs, as well as medium and long-term sustainable solutions;

**GRAVELY CONCERNED** about the aggravated spate of violence and insecurity in Somalia that has disrupted normal economic activity and severely limited the delivery of emergency supplies by humanitarian agencies;

**DISTRESSED WITH** the mass exodus of refugees to neighbouring countries as well as the increased number of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) within Somalia;

**ACKNOWLEDGING** the importance of pooling resources together as a region in concert with our development partners in order to develop long-term sustainable solutions to end the drought and famine emergencies;

**CONVINCED** that a pro-active and holistic approach to drought and famine management is critical in preventing the recurrence of drought related disasters;

DO HEREBY SOLEMNLY DECLARE THAT WE:

- i. **STAND** in solidarity with the citizens of the Horn of Africa countries affected by the crises;
- ii. **COMMEND** the governments and people of Djibouti, Ethiopia and Kenya for receiving, hosting and assisting thousands of Somali refugees affected by conflict and famine in spite of these countries facing a similar drought situation;
- iii. **APPLAUD** the AU member states, Development Partners/Donor Community, African Private Sector and Multinational Corporations, Civil Society, Philanthropists and individual citizens of Africa for standing in solidarity with the affected communities/countries and contributing towards mitigating the effects of the drought and famine situation in the Horn of Africa;
- iv. **STRESS THAT** issues of refugees are global in nature and thus require concerted efforts at local, regional and International level; and Call upon the international community to support the host community in environmental conservation and other provisions to avert resource conflict;
- v. **CALL UPON THE** United Nations and International Community to consider enhancing the mandate of AMISOM from peace keeping to peace enforcement and deploying UN Peace Keeping troops to assist in stabilizing Somalia.
- vi. **ENCOURAGE** Humanitarian Agencies to increase humanitarian assistance within Somalia.
- vii. **ENCOURAGE** AMISOM and the TFG to extend the areas of control in which Somalis can live and prosper in safety.
- viii. **TAKE NOTE** that the Nairobi Action Plan shall compliment and support medium and long-term efforts being undertaken by IGAD to mitigate the effects of drought in conjunction with the African Development Bank Group, in the up coming meeting on 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> September 2011, in Djibouti;

- ix. **APPEAL** to our development Partners, the African Private Sector and Civil Society to “walk” and “work” with us and extend material and monetary support to the country-led long-term programmes and strategies in order to fill the resource gap
- x. **IMPLORE DEVELOPED** countries to honour their commitments to the Climate Finances as set out in the UNFCCC in order to facilitate the transfer of technology and building of capacity for developing countries to adapt to climate change.
- xi. **UNDERTAKE TO:**
1. **Enhance** the provision of timely and actionable Early Warning information to all actors by strengthening the IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC);
  2. **Ensure** efficient utilization of water resources in the region under existing and future Co-operative Frameworks;
  3. **Promote** ecosystem rehabilitation and management with a purpose of building natural buffers against disasters specifically identifying common targets on increasing land cover and improved water resource management; in Arid and Semi-Arid Lands. The targeted interventions should at least be 10 per cent forest cover and irrigated land in each country by 2017 as well as control over-grazing;
  4. **Encourage** the shift from reliance on rain-fed agriculture to manage climate change –water-food security nexus as a measure addressing food shortages and improving food security, specifically and including greatly underutilized potential of rain water for harvesting and irrigation;
  5. **Launch** regional projects to address the underlying causes of vulnerability in drought-prone areas, in particular emphasis on

pastoralists and agro-pastoralists to promote disaster risk reduction, ecosystem rehabilitation and sustainable livelihood practices. Such projects could include construction of cross-border infrastructure joint irrigation projects, and development of drought-tolerant crops and water harvesting technologies. We shall endeavor to allocate significant portion of national revenue to fund these projects;

6. **Reform** the system of emergency humanitarian response in the region, aiming to enhance resilience and promote long-term solutions;
7. **Encourage** farmers and investors in agriculture to put more resources to agriculture in the high potential and Arid and Semi-Arid lands to enhance food security;
8. **To support** the Dry land Initiative that has been launched by six Horn of Africa countries namely; Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan and Uganda to promote integrated rural development;
9. **Integrate** drought risk reduction and climate change adaptation into development planning and resource allocation frameworks;
10. **Intensify** cooperation in further promoting cross-border peace, trade, and mobility, and in finding new strategies that mitigate the impact of negative global trends such as instability in international food and fuel prices;
11. **Fully support** the full implementation of the Kampala Accord in accordance with the agreed timetable, including the completion of the draft Somali Constitution to give way to the establishment of a permanent government for the entire Somalia and;
12. **To further mobilize** the international community to increase technical and financial resources to the Transitional Federal

Government (TFG) and the formation of a Joint TFG-Donor Financial Management Board, to manage all financial resources provided to the TFG from both internal and external sources.

13. **Create and support** a Multi-donor Trust Fund for drought and other disasters to be anchored in the IGAD Secretariat;
14. **Develop** the *Horn of Africa Regional Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Strategy Framework* to reduce the impact of disasters in the region considering existing frameworks and programmes of action.

**DONE AT THE UNITED NATIONS, GIGIRI  
NAIROBI, KENYA**