





# REPUBLIC OF KENYA THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT – FOURTH SESSION – 2025	
DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON D	EFENCE, INTELLIGENCE AND FOREIGN
REL	ATIONS

#### **REPORT ON:**

THE CONSIDERATION OF THE RATIFICATION OF THE TREATY ESTABLISHING THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY ON DEVELOPMENT (IGAD)

CLERK'S CHAMBERS
DIRECTORATE OF DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEES ED
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS
NAIROBI.

CLERK-A

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
PAPERS LAID

DAY.
DATE: 01 APR 2025 Tuesday

OTTEESED Vice-Chairpers on
BY: Hon Abdullahi, Bashir
CLERGAT
THE-TABLE: Cutndy Chebet



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS	2
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS	
LIST OF ANNEXURES	4
CHAIRPERSON'S FOREWORD	5
PART I	7
1.0 PREFACE	7
1.1 Introduction 1.2 Mandate of the Committee 1.3 Oversight 1.5 Committee Secretariat	7 7
PART II	10
2.0 BACKGROUND TO THE TREATY ESTABLISHING THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY ON DEVELOPM	IENT (IGAD)10
2.1 ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY ON DEVELOPMENT (IGAD)  2.4 OUTLINE OF THE TREATY ESTABLISHING INTER-GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY ON DEVELOPMENT (IGAD)  2.5 POLICY ASPECTS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY ON DEVELOPMENT (IGAD)	13
PART III	20
3.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION	20
3.1 CALL FOR MEMORANDA FROM THE PUBLIC	20
PART IV	23
4.0 COMMITTEE OBSERVATIONS	23
PART V	25
5.0 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION	25

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AU African Union

EAC East African Community

IGAD Intergovernmental Authority on Development

UNGA United Nations General Assembly

UNDP United Nations Development Programme

IGADD Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development

COMESA Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa

AEC African Economic Community

UNCCD United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

ASALs Arid and Semi-Arid Lands

REC Regional Economic Community

SADC Southern African Development Community

FTA Free Trade Area

AfCFTA African Continental Free Trade Area

#### LIST OF ANNEXURES

- Annexure 1: Signed list of Members who attended the sitting which considered and adopted the Report
- Annexure 2: Minutes on sittings of the Committee on consideration of the agreement
- Annexure 3: Copy of newspaper advertisement on public participation and submission of memoranda
- Annexure 4: Copy of the Treaty Establishing the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD)
- Annexure 5: Copy of the Parliamentary Memorandum on Kenya's Ratification of the Treaty Establishing IGAD

#### CHAIRPERSON'S FOREWORD

This report details the consideration by the Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations of the Treaty Establishing Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD). IGAD was established pursuant to the *Declaration of IGAD Heads of State on the Revitalization of IGADD and on Expanded Co-Operation Among Member States* and the *Agreement Establishing the Inter-Governmental Development Authority on Development (IGAD)*, 1996 as a successor to the Inter-Governmental Authority on Drought and Development (IGGAD), established in 1986 to mitigate and combat the effects of recurring severe droughts and other natural disasters that resulted in widespread famine, ecological degradation, and economic hardship in the region. The revitalization of IGGAD was on account of the realization that the Authority provided a valuable platform for addressing broader political and socio-economic challenges in the region.

IGAD was formed with expanded mandate including agriculture, environmental protection, economic cooperation, political and humanitarian affairs, health and social development, and to foster regional integration. The institutional and organisational structure of IGAD comprises the Assembly of Heads of State, the Council of Ministers, the Committee of Ambassadors, and the IGAD Secretariat. The Assembly of Heads of State sets policies, oversees the organization's functions, and addresses political issues, particularly conflict resolution. The Council of Ministers ensures the efficient functioning of IGAD, approves the budget, monitors operations, and oversees the work of the Secretariat. The Committee of Ambassadors advises the Executive Secretary, while the IGAD Secretariat implements decisions, prepares proposals, coordinates development programmes, and services meetings. The Executive Secretary manages IGAD's finances, fosters cooperation with member states and organisations, and implements policies and programmes.

During the 12<sup>th</sup> IGAD Summit of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government that was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in 2008, IGAD directed the Secretariat to:

- (a) Undertake an inventory of what has been achieved so far in terms of harmonization and regional integration, and make recommendations on the way forward;
- (b)Develop and implement regional integration policies and programs to make IGAD relevant as a building block of the AEC; and
- (c) Develop a draft Treaty reviewing the Agreement Establishing IGAD to ensure that IGAD's mandate and method of implementation are spelled out in the legal instrument.

The Secretariat developed a Draft Treaty Establishing IGAD which was subjected to all IGAD policy organs for review before it was adopted at the IGAD Assembly of Heads of State and Government during the 14<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session held in Djibouti in 2023. During the Session, six (6) Heads of State and Government including H.E. William Ruto PhD, the President of the Republic of Kenya, signed the Treaty. The Treaty is subject to ratification and requires two-thirds of the Member States to ratify it before entering into force.

Pursuant to section 8(1) of the Treaty Making and Ratification Act Cap 4D, the Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs submitted the Parliamentary Memorandum on

Kenya's Ratification of the Treaty Establishing IGAD together with the Treaty Establishing IGAD to the Speaker of National Assembly, laid on the Table of the House and committed to the Committee in line with Standing Order 170A(1).

The purpose of the Treaty is to replace the Agreement Establishing the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development dated 21<sup>st</sup> March 1996 to widen and deepen cooperation to achieve sustainable development. The aims and objectives of the revitalized IGAD are to accelerate regional economic, social, environmental and political integration, and cross border cooperation among Member States.

In considering the Treaty, the Committee pursuant to Article 118(1)(b) of the Constitution, section 8(3) of the Treaty Making and Ratification Act Cap 4D and Standing Order 170A(2) held parliamentary held popularization meetings with the IGAD Secretariat between 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2024 in Naivasha. The Committee also placed advertisements in two local dailies on 29<sup>th</sup> August, 2024 calling for submissions of memoranda on the subject matter. Further, the Committee, through letter dated 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2024, sought the views of the Office of the Attorney General, and the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs.

Having considered the Treaty and analyzed the submissions made, the Committee observed that the Treaty aligns with Kenya's constitutional values, and its ratification does not necessitate amendments to the Constitution or existing laws. The Committee also observed that IGAD's focus on regional peace and security supports Kenya's objectives and align with Kenya's environmental priorities. It further observed that the Treaty reinforces regional economic integration by reducing trade barriers, harmonizing regulations, and supporting cross-border infrastructure projects. The Committee also noted that ratification of the Treaty positions Kenya as a leader within IGAD, and does not impose significant financial burdens on Kenya, as the implementation costs will be covered under existing budgetary provisions. The Treaty introduces a structured dispute resolution framework to address disagreements arising from its interpretation. The Treaty reinforces IGAD's role as a foundational pillar of the AEC and AfCFTA, contributing to the broader goals of the African Union for continental integration. The Treaty shall enter into force sixty days after the deposit of the instrument of ratification of two-thirds of the Member States of IGAD with the Executive Secretary.

Having examined the Treaty Establishing Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) against the Constitution, the Treaty Making and Ratification Act (Cap 4D) and Standing Order 170A of the National Assembly Standing Orders, the Committee recommends that the House adopts this report and **approves** the ratification of the Treaty Establishing the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD).

Pursuant to Standing Orders 199(6) and 170A (4) it is my pleasant duty to present to the House the Report of the Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations on its consideration of the Treaty Establishing the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD).

Hon. Nelson Koech, M.P. Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations

#### PART I

#### 1.0 PREFACE

#### 1.1 Introduction

- 1. This report outlines the consideration by the Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence, and Foreign Relations of the Treaty Establishing the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD). The establishment of IGAD was driven by a vision to foster regional identity, peace, security, and poverty alleviation through sustainable development programmes. This vision aligns with the goals of other Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and supports the African Union's aspirations for an integrated, prosperous, and peaceful Africa.
- 2. IGAD's vision is to create a resilient, peaceful, prosperous, and integrated region where citizens enjoy a high quality of life. Its mission is to promote regional cooperation and integration, adding value to Member States' efforts to achieve peace, security, and prosperity. IGAD's overarching goal is to drive transformation towards sustainable development, resilience, and stability within the region.
- 3. At the 12<sup>th</sup> IGAD Summit of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, held on 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2008 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, the Secretariat was directed to develop a Draft Treaty to review the 1996 IGAD Agreement. The aim was to clearly define IGAD's mandate and methods of implementation within a legal framework. Subsequently, the IGAD Secretariat, in consultation with experts from Member States, prepared the Draft Treaty Establishing IGAD.
- 4. The Draft Treaty was adopted during the 14<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the IGAD Assembly of Heads of State and Government on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023 in Djibouti. During the session, six Heads of State and Government, including the President of the Republic of Kenya, signed the Treaty. The Treaty is subject to ratification by two-thirds of IGAD Member States before it can enter into force.

#### 1.2 Mandate of the Committee

- 5. The Committee is established under the National Assembly Standing Order No. 216. The mandate of the Committee includes, among others, "to examine treaties, agreements and conventions".
- 6. The Committee's subject matters are stated in the Second Schedule of the National Assembly Standing Orders and are as follows: Defence, intelligence, foreign relations, diplomatic and consular services, international boundaries including territorial waters, international relations, and veteran affairs.

## 1.3 Oversight

7. In executing its mandate, the Committee oversees the following MDAs: The Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, the State Department for East African Community (EAC) Affairs, the National Intelligence Service (NIS).

## 1.4 Committee Membership

8. The Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations was constituted by the House on 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2022 and comprises the following Members:

Chairperson
Hon. Koech Nelson, M.P.
Belgut Constituency
UDA Party

Vice-Chairperson Hon. Maj. (Rtd.) Sheikh Abdullahi Bashir, M.P.

Mandera North Constituency

## **UDM Party**

### **Members**

Hon. Wanjira Martha Wangari, M.P, Gilgil Constituency UDA Party

Hon. Hassan Abdi Yusuf, MP Kamkunji Constituency **Jubilee Party** 

Hon. Odhiambo Millie G. Akoth,MP Suba North Constituency **ODM Party** 

Hon. Kanchory Elijah Memusi, MP Kajiado Central Constituency **ODM Party** 

Hon. (Dr.) Kasalu Irene Muthoni,MP Kitui County WDM-K

Hon. Kirima Moses Nguchine, MP Imenti Central Constituency UDA Party

Hon. Luyai Caleb Amisi, MP Saboti Constituency **ODM Party**  Hon. Joshua Kandie, MP Baringo Central Constituency UDA Party

Hon. Kwenya Thuku Zachary, MP Kinangop Constituency **Jubilee Party** 

Hon. Logova Sloya Clement, MP Sabatia Constituency UDA Party

Hon. Ikana Fredrick Lusuli, MP Shinyalu Constituency ANC Party

Hon. Mohamed A. Hussein, MP Lagdera Constituency **ODM Party** 

Hon.Teresia Wanjiru Mwangi, MP Nominated Member UDA Party

## 1.5 Committee Secretariat

9. The Committee is facilitated by the following staff:

## Mr. Dennis Mogare Ogechi First Clerk Assistant/Head of Secretariat

Mr. Lenny Muchangi Legal Counsel II

Mr. Daniel Ominde Research Officer III

Ms. Noelle Chelagat Media Relations Officer I

Mr. John Nga'ng'a
Audio Recording Officer

Mr. Benard Njeru Clerk Assistant III

Mr. Edwin Machuki Fiscal Analyst III

Mr. Salat Ali

Principal Serjeant-at-Arms

#### PART II

## 2.0 BACKGROUND TO THE TREATY ESTABLISHING THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY ON DEVELOPMENT (IGAD)

## 2.1 The Geographical and Socio-Economic Context of IGAD

- 10. The IGAD region covers an area of 5.2 million square kilometres, encompassing the countries of Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Uganda. It shares 6,910 kilometres of borders with non-IGAD states, including Egypt, Libya, Chad, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, and Tanzania. The region has a 6,960-kilometre coastline along the Indian Ocean, the Gulf of Aden, the Gulf of Tadjourah, and the Red Sea, a clear indication of potentials in sea transport and fisheries. Approximately 70% of the IGAD region consists of ASALs that receive less than 600 mm of annual rainfall. The remaining 30% of the region features diverse climates and landscapes, from cool highlands and tropical rainforests to swamp areas and equatorial environments with unique agricultural potentials, depending on altitude. The Region's altitudes vary widely, ranging from 150 metres below sea level at Dalul to approximately 4,600 metres above sea level at Mount Kenya.
- 11. The IGAD region is home to over 271 million people, marked by high natural population growth rates. The average population density is approximately 30 persons per square kilometre, though this varies significantly between countries, from 14.5 persons per square kilometre in Somalia to over 95 persons per square kilometre in Uganda. These differences are even more pronounced across various ecological zones. The region also experiences a high rate of urbanisation, driven largely by rural-to-urban migration, with an average urbanisation rate of 4.1 per cent. Major capital cities such as Addis Ababa, Nairobi, and Khartoum each population exceeding three million. 6
- 12. Socio-economically, most IGAD Member States constitute some of the world's least developed countries, sharing similar economic growth rates and cross-border ethnic groups, which, if effectively harnessed, could present a significant opportunity for regional integration. Agriculture, encompassing both crop production and livestock, is the economic backbone of the region, providing food supplies, export earnings, and employment for over 80% of the population. Besides economic growth, IGAD Member States also focus on front-loading industrialization to tap natural resources through value addition, mineral beneficiation as well as expansion of technology facilitated services sectors. Industrial contributions to national economies are relatively modest, averaging 15–20%. Due to the production of similar commodities and limited infrastructure

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> IGAD, IGAD Regional Strategy: The Framework, (IGAD, 2020) https://igad.int/download/igad-regional-strategy-the-framework/#.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> IGAD, Handbook of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), (2020, IGAD) <a href="https://igad.int/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/IGAD-Handbook-2020.pdf">https://igad.int/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/IGAD-Handbook-2020.pdf</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> IGAD, IGAD Regional Strategy: The Framework, (IGAD, 2020) https://igad.int/download/igad-regional-strategy-the-framework/#

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> IGAD, Handbook of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), (2020, IGAD) <a href="https://igad.int/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/IGAD-Handbook-2020.pdf">https://igad.int/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/IGAD-Handbook-2020.pdf</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> IGAD, IGAD Regional Strategy: The Framework, (IGAD, 2020) https://igad.int/download/igad-regional-strategy-the-framework/#-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> IGAD, Handbook of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), (2020, IGAD) <a href="https://igad.int/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/IGAD-Handbook-2020.pdf">https://igad.int/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/IGAD-Handbook-2020.pdf</a>.

GAD, IGAD Regional Strategy: The Framework, (IGAD, 2020) https://igad.int/download/igad-regional-strategy-the-framework/#.

development, inter-state trade remains low, with markets neither interdependent nor interconnected.8

## 2.1 Establishment of the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD)

- 13. The establishment of IGAD can be traced back to UNGA Resolution 35/90 of 1980, which addressed assistance to drought-stricken areas in Djibouti, Somalia, Sudan, and Uganda. The Resolution expressed concern over the severe effects of consecutive years of drought, leading to acute shortages of food, livestock, fodder, and water in these countries. It recommended that the governments of the affected nations consider establishing an intergovernmental body to coordinate and support efforts to combat the effects of drought and other natural disasters, and to address medium- and long-term recovery and rehabilitation challenges. This call was further reinforced by UNGA Resolution 35/91 of 1980, which focused on assistance to Ethiopia's drought-affected regions and called for international aid to support relief and recovery efforts.
- 14. Subsequently, UNGA Resolution 36/221 of 1981 extended this focus to Kenya, adding it to the list of drought-stricken countries in the region. It urged the governments involved to continue consultations and finalize the necessary arrangements for the establishment of the proposed intergovernmental body. The Resolution also invited the UN Secretary-General, in close collaboration with the Administrator of UNDP, to assist in the formation of the body within existing resources.
- 15. Additionally, UNGA Resolution 37/147 of 1982 reaffirmed the need for continued consultations among the governments of Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan, and Uganda, urging swift finalization of arrangements to establish the intergovernmental body. <sup>10</sup> This momentum was sustained through UNGA Resolution 38/216 of 1983, which reiterated the ongoing consultations and called for the prompt establishment of the body to combat the effects of drought and other natural disasters.
- 16. In 1983 and 1984, the six countries initiated steps through the United Nations to establish an intergovernmental body for development and drought control in the region. <sup>11</sup> UNGA, in its Resolution 39/205 of 1984 on Assistance to the Drought-Stricken Areas of Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan, and Uganda, noted with satisfaction the decision by the governments to establish such a body to combat the effects of drought and other natural disasters. The Resolution further acknowledged the decision to meet in Djibouti on 15th January 1985 to finalize arrangements for the establishment of the body.
- 17. Subsequently, the Assembly of Heads of State and Government convened in Djibouti and signed the Agreement Establishing IGADD. Following this, UNGA, in Resolution 40/40 on Assistance to the Drought-Stricken Areas of Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan, and Uganda, commended the governments for their decision to establish an IGGAD. It also noted with

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> IGAD, Handbook of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), (2020, IGAD) <a href="https://igad.int/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/IGAD-Handbook-2020.pdf">https://igad.int/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/IGAD-Handbook-2020.pdf</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> UNGA Resolution 35/90 of 1980 on Assistance to Drought Stricken Areas in Djibouti, Somalia, the Sudan and Uganda <a href="https://documents.un.org/doc/resolution/gen/nr0/391/09/pdf/nr039109.pdf">https://documents.un.org/doc/resolution/gen/nr0/391/09/pdf/nr039109.pdf</a>.

<sup>10</sup> UNGA Resolution 37/147 of 1982 are Arrived to Drought Stricken Areas in Djibouti, Somalia, the Sudan and Uganda <a href="https://documents.un.org/doc/resolution/gen/nr0/391/09/pdf/nr039109.pdf">https://documents.un.org/doc/resolution/gen/nr0/391/09/pdf/nr039109.pdf</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> UNGA Resolution 37/147 of 1982 on Assistance to the Drought-Stricken Areas of Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, the Sudan and Uganda <a href="https://documents.un.org/doc/resolution/gen/nr0/426/25/pdf/nr042625.pdf">https://documents.un.org/doc/resolution/gen/nr0/426/25/pdf/nr042625.pdf</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> IGAD, Handbook of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), (2020, IGAD) <a href="https://igad.int/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/IGAD-Handbook-2020.pdf">https://igad.int/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/IGAD-Handbook-2020.pdf</a>.

- satisfaction the decision to hold a meeting at the level of Heads of State to endorse the Agreement and adopt a regional plan of action for the implementation of medium- and long-term recovery and rehabilitation programmes for the member states. <sup>12</sup> Eritrea was admitted as the seventh IGADD member at the 4<sup>th</sup> Summit of Heads of State and Government in Addis Ababa in September 1993.
- 18. While IGADD was initially established to coordinate efforts among member states in combating drought and desertification, it soon became evident that the Authority provided a valuable platform for addressing broader political and socio-economic challenges in the region. Recognising this potential, the Heads of State and Government of Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan, and Uganda, at an Extraordinary Summit on 18<sup>th</sup> April 1995, resolved to expand IGADD's mandate.
- 19. The Extraordinary Summit adopted the *Declaration of IGGAD Heads of State on the Revitalization of IGADD and on Expanded Co-Operation Among Member States*, to revitalise IGADD and transform it into the IGAD vide the *Agreement Establishing the Inter-Governmental Development Authority on Development (IGAD) in 1996*, to promote joint development strategies and gradually harmonizing macro-economic policies and programmes in social, technological, and scientific fields. Member states also sought to harmonise policies related to trade, customs, transport, communications, agriculture, and natural resources, while promoting the free movement of goods, services, and people, alongside the right of residence. IGAD aimed to create a conducive environment for foreign, cross-border, and domestic trade and investment, achieve regional food security, and support member states in collectively combating drought and other natural or manmade disasters.
- 20. Further objectives included initiating sustainable development programmes for natural resource management and environmental protection, improving coordinated infrastructure—particularly in transport and energy—and promoting peace and stability within the region. IGAD committed to establishing mechanisms for the prevention, management, and resolution of inter- and intra-state conflicts through dialogue. The Authority also aimed to mobilise resources for implementing emergency, short-, medium-, and long-term programmes within the framework of sub-regional cooperation. Moreover, IGAD sought to promote and support the objectives of COMESA and AEC. The organisation was also tasked with facilitating and strengthening cooperation in research, development, and the application of science and technology, as well as engaging in other activities as determined by member states in furtherance of the objectives of the Agreement.
- 21. The institutional and organisational structure of IGAD comprises the Assembly of Heads of State, the Council of Ministers, the Committee of Ambassadors, and the IGAD Secretariat. The Assembly of Heads of State sets policies, oversees the organization's functions, and addresses political issues, particularly conflict resolution. It appoints the Executive Secretary and approves the budget based on recommendations from the Council of Ministers.
- 22. The Council of Ministers ensures the efficient functioning of IGAD, approves the budget, monitors operations, and oversees the Secretariat's work. It also promotes peace, security, and humanitarian activities, and implements Assembly decisions. The Committee of Ambassadors advises the Executive Secretary, while the IGAD Secretariat implements decisions, prepares proposals, coordinates development programmes, and services meetings. The Executive Secretary manages

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> IGAD, Handbook of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), (2020, IGAD) <a href="https://igad.int/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/IGAD-Handbook-2020.pdf">https://igad.int/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/IGAD-Handbook-2020.pdf</a>.

- IGAD's finances, fosters cooperation with member states and organisations, and implements policies and programmes.
- 23. In addition, IGAD has specialized institutions like IGAD Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism (IGAD CEWARN), IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC), IGAD Foreign Service Institute, IGAD Security Sector Program (IGAD SSP), IGAD Centre for Pastoral Areas and Livestock development (ICPALD), IGAD Centre for Excellence for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (ICEPCVE), IGAD Centre for Excellence for Climate Adaptation and Environmental Protection (IGAD CAEP), IGAD Sheikh Technical Veterinary School (IGAD STVS), IGAD Centre of Excellence in Nutrition (ICEN) and the IGAD Leadership Academy (ILA). Four of the institutions, ICPAC, ICPALD, ICEN and ILA are domiciled in Kenya and their operations governed by the Agreement between Kenya and IGAD that was signed on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2008 and reviewed on 8<sup>th</sup> August 2022.
- 24. IGAD is also one of the eight (8) recognised Regional Economic Communities (RECs) of the African Union, which serve as the building blocks of the Union.
- 25. During the 12<sup>th</sup> IGAD Summit of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government that was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in 2008, IGAD directed the Secretariat to:
  - (d)Undertake an inventory of what has been achieved so far in terms of harmonization and regional integration, and make recommendations on the way forward;
  - (e) Develop and implement regional integration policies and programs to make IGAD relevant as a building block of the AEC; and
  - (f) Develop a draft Treaty reviewing the Agreement Establishing IGAD to ensure that IGAD's mandate and method of implementation are spelled out in the legal instrument.
- 26. IGAD Secretariat developed a Draft Treaty Establishing IGAD which was subjected to all IGAD policy organs for review before it was adopted at the IGAD Assembly of Heads of State and Government during the 14<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session held in Djibouti in 2023. During the Session, six (6) Heads of State and Government including H.E. William Ruto PhD, the President of the Republic of Kenya, signed the Treaty. The Treaty is subject to ratification and requires two-thirds of the Member States to ratify it before entering into force.

## 2.4 Outline of the Treaty Establishing Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD)

- 27. Article 1 comprises various definitions applying to the Treaty. Article 2 provides that the purpose of the Treaty is to replace the Agreement Establishing the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development dated 21<sup>st</sup> March 1996 to widen and deepen cooperation to achieve sustainable development.
- 28. Article 3 provides that the aims and objectives of IGAD shall be to accelerate regional economic, social, environmental and political integration, and cross border cooperation among the Member states.
- 29. Article 4 provides for the fundamental principles governing IGAD which include—
  - (a) Sovereign equality of all member states;

- (b) Peaceful co-existence, good neighborliness, non-interference in the internal affairs of member states and peaceful settlement of inter and intra state conflicts through dialogue;
- (c) Maintenance of regional peace, stability and security;
- (d) Mutual and equitable distribution of benefits accruing from cooperation under the Treaty; and
- (e) Good governance including adherence to the principles of constitutionalism, democracy, rule of law, accountability, transparency, social justice, equal opportunities, gender equality as well as recognition, promotion and protection of human and people's rights.
- 30. Article 5 provides for the operational principles of IGAD which include—
  - (a) Mutual trust, and political will of all member states;
  - (b) Provision by member states of an adequate and appropriate enabling environment, such as conducive policies and basic infrastructure;
  - (c) The principle of subsidiarity with emphasis on multilevel participation and the involvement of a wide range of stakeholders in the process of integration including cross border cooperation, community participation and bottom-up approach;
  - (d) The principle of flexibility and variable geometry which allows for progression in co-operation among groups within IGAD for wider integration schemes in various fields and at different pace;
  - (e) The equitable distribution of benefits accruing or to be derived from the operations of IGAD;
  - (f) The principles of asymmetry and complementarity;
  - (g) A people-centred and market driven co-operation.
- 31. Article 6 provides for a general undertaking on implementation where member states shall plan and align their policies and resources with a view to creating conditions favourable for the achievement of the objectives of IGAD and the implementation of the provisions of the Treaty. Member states shall also coordinate, through the organs of IGAD, their policies to the extent necessary to achieve the objectives of IGAD. Further, member states shall take all necessary measures, including the enactment of legislation, to effectively implement the Treaty.
- 32. Article 7 provides for specific undertakings for member states in the implementation of the treaty.
- 33. Article 8 provides for the membership of IGAD, which includes the Republic of Djibouti, the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, the State of Eritrea, the Republic of Kenya, the Federal Republic of Somalia, the Republic of South Sudan, the Republic of the Sudan and the Republic of Uganda. The member states may by unanimous decision admit any African state as a member on certain conditions.
- 34. Article 9 provides that IGAD shall have the capacity of a legal person to perform any legal act.
- 35. Article 10 provides for the organs of IGAD which include—
  - (a) The Assembly;
  - (b) The Council;
  - (c) The Committee of Ambassadors;
  - (d) The Secretariat;
  - (e) Such other organs as may be established by the Assembly.
- 36. Article 11 provides that the Assembly is the supreme organ of IGAD. It consists of Heads of State and Government of the member states or their duly accredited representatives. The Assembly determines the common policies and oversees the functioning of IGAD, oversees the

- implementation of policies, gives directions to the Council or other organs of IGAD for implementation of the Treaty, establishes organs of IGAD; grants membership to IGAD to any county, appoints the Executive Secretary and approves the annual budget of IGAD.
- 37. Under Article 12, the Assembly shall meet at least once a year in an ordinary session and may hold extraordinary meetings at the request of a member state. Quorum is 2/3 of the total membership. Decisions of the Assembly are by consensus and where it fails, by simple majority on procedural matters and by two-thirds majority on substantive matters.
- 38. Article 13 provides for the Chairperson of the Assembly on a rotational basis amongst the Heads of State and Government. The tenure of office of the Chairperson shall be one year.
- 39. Article 14 provides for the Council of Ministers which shall be the policy organ of IGAD and is composed of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs or any other minister designated by the member states or their duly delegated representative.
- 40. Article 15 provides for the functions of the Council which include formulating recommendations to the Assembly on policy matters pertaining to the efficient function and development of IGAD in accordance with the treaty.
- 41. According to Article 16, the Council shall meet at least twice in an ordinary session, one meeting of which shall be held immediately preceding the Assembly. The meetings shall be chaired by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the country chairing IGAD or by any other minister designated by the same country.
- 42. Article 17 establishes the Committee of Ambassadors which comprises of the member states' ambassadors or plenipotentiaries accredited to the country of the headquarters of the organization. The Committee reports to the Council.
- 43. Article 18 provides for the functions of the Committee of Ambassadors which include, advising the Secretariat on action plans of programs and in different sectors of cooperation and integration through analysis proposals initiated by the Secretariat and ensuring they are consistent with the strategic objectives of IGAD.
- 44. Article 19 provides for the Secretariat which is the executive organ of IGAD and is comprised of the Executive Secretary, Two Deputy Executive Secretaries and other officers, units or institutions as may be deemed necessary by the Council.
- 45. Article 20 mandates the Secretariat to initiate policies, legal instruments, programmes and projects and prepare recommendations to the Council for policy decisions or directives.
- 46. Under Article 21, the Executive Secretary is appointed by the Assembly for a four-year term renewable once on a rotational basis. The Executive Secretary shall be the Chief Executive of IGAD.
- 47. According to Article 22, the two Deputy Executive Secretaries shall be appointed by the Council for a four-year term renewable once and in accordance with the principle of equitable distribution. The Deputy Executive Secretaries shall not be from the same country or the same country as the Executive Secretary.

- 48. Article 23 provides for the appointment of other staff of the Secretariat, which shall be on contract and in accordance with the IGAD Service Regulations and due regard given to securing the highest standards of integrity, efficiency and technical competence, gender equality, equality of opportunity and an equitable distribution of appointments to such offices among citizens of all member states.
- 49. Article 24 lists the areas of cooperation of the member states which include, trade liberalization and development, transport and communications, tourism, energy, agriculture and food security.
- 50. Articles 24-41 address the specific areas of cooperation.
- 51. Article 42 provides that towards the achievement of the objectives of the Treaty Establishing African Economic Community, IGAD shall cooperate with regional, continental and international organizations.
- 52. Article 43 provides for cooperation between IGAD and the member states with the United Nations and its specialized agencies.
- 53. Articles 44 & 45 provide that the Executive Secretary shall prepare and submit the annual budget in consultation with the Committee of Ambassadors for consideration by the Council and approval by the Assembly. The budget shall be funded by member states' assessed contributions and donations from regional and international donations and any other sources as approved by the Council. The budget and accounts of IGAD shall be expressed in United States dollars.
- 54. Article 46 provides that an external Auditor shall be appointed by the Council to audit the accounts of IGAD and shall submit the audit reports to the Council through the Audit Committee annually which shall cause the same to be submitted to the Assembly.
- 55. Article 47 provides that the Council shall approve financial rules and regulations of IGAD in accordance with internationally accepted principles.
- 56. Article 48 states that the headquarters of IGAD shall be in Djibouti, the Republic of Djibouti.
- 57. Article 49 lists the official languages of IGAD as English, French and Arabic.
- 58. Article 50 provides that IGAD shall enjoy international legal personality.
- 59. Article 51 provides for sanction for various omissions including default in meeting financial contributions and complying with decisions and policies.
- 60. A member state may be expelled under Article 52 from IGAD for a consistent pattern of gross violation of principles and objectives of the Treaty after giving such member state twelve months' written notice.
- 61. Article 53 of the Treaty provides for the suspension of a member state by the Assembly for a period not exceeding 18 months or until the member state fulfils the fundamental principles and objectives of the Treaty including its financial commitments.
- 62. Article 54 allows a member state to withdraw from IGAD by giving the Executive Secretary twelve months' notice of its intention to withdraw.
- 63. Article 55 provides for amendment of the Treaty by the member state or the Council.

- 64. Article 56 provides for protocols and annexes to the treaty which shall be subject to signature and ratification by the member states.
- 65. Article 57 provides that disputes arising from the interpretation of obligation contained in the Treaty shall be settled amicably by the Council of Ministers through negotiations. A dispute resolution mechanism shall be constituted by way of a protocol between the member states.
- 66. Article 58 provides that the Treaty shall be open to signature, ratification and accession by member states.
- 67. Article 59 provides that the Treaty shall enter into force 60 days after the deposit of the instrument of ratification of two-thirds of the Member States of IGAD.
- 68. Article 61 provides that the Treaty shall remain valid unless otherwise terminated by the Assembly on the recommendation of the Council.
- 69. Article 62 provides for saving provisions for the operations of the existing institutions of IGAD.
- 70. Article 63 provides that English, French and Arabic versions of the Treaty are equally authentic.

## 2.5 Policy Aspects and Implications of the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD)

- 71. The IGAD Vision 2050 envisions a region with a conducive social, macroeconomic, and political environment that fosters rapid, equitable growth and sustainable development. This vision aligns with national, continental, and global development agendas, aiming for a high quality of life for all citizens, including women, youth, the elderly, and people with special needs. The Vision envisions a peaceful, secure, and stable region where good governance, democracy, human rights, and the rule of law are the norm. It also promotes resilience to climate change, sustainable resource management, environmental protection, and the advancement of cultural heritage, research, science, technology, and innovation.
- 72. While IGAD has made significant progress in mitigating the effects of drought, desertification, and food insecurity, and has implemented successful cross-border initiatives, challenges remain. The region's economy is heavily dependent on agriculture and livestock, with minimal value addition, despite the abundance of natural resources. Many well-intentioned IGAD regional policies remain unimplemented due to inadequate national capacities. Furthermore, despite IGAD's broad range of activities supporting vulnerable groups, there is a lack of visibility and appreciation from both public and private sector stakeholders.
- 73. Since its establishment, IGAD has been recognised as a Regional Economic Community (REC) by the African Union (AU). Meanwhile, EAC has evolved into a Customs Union, COMESA has progressed further in its integration efforts, and SADC has launched a Free Trade Area (FTA). The AU has also adopted the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) as a significant step towards economic integration. The Treaty Establishing IGAD acknowledges the recognition of and cooperation with COMESA and the African Economic Community, though it omits direct promotion and realisation of their objectives among its aims. The broader aims and objectives of IGAD are designed to expand its mandate and strengthen cooperation, positioning IGAD as a building block for regional economic integration and supporting sustainable economic development.

- 74. Unlike other RECs, IGAD does not restrict its membership based on geographical location. The Treaty Establishing IGAD broadens the criteria for admitting African States, requiring adherence to principles of good governance, democracy, rule of law, and respect for human rights and social justice. Additionally, membership eligibility includes a demonstrated potential to strengthen economic cooperation and integration within the IGAD region, geographical proximity and interdependence with Member States, and compatibility of economic and social policies with those of IGAD.
- 75. The Treaty expands the principles governing IGAD to include both fundamental and operational principles. The operational principles encompass mutual trust and political will among all Member States, alongside the requirement for Member States to provide an adequate and conducive enabling environment, including appropriate policies and basic infrastructure. Additionally, the principles include subsidiarity, emphasising multi-level participation and the involvement of diverse stakeholders in integration processes. Other principles are flexibility and variable geometry, equitable distribution of benefits, asymmetry and complementarity, and people-centred, market-driven cooperation. The Treaty also outlines the general and specific undertakings by Member States to achieve the aims and objectives of IGAD.

## Organs and Institutions of IGAD

- 76. The Treaty retains the Assembly, Council, Committee of Ambassadors, and the Secretariat as the principal organs of the organisation, while granting the Assembly the authority to create additional Organs. The Treaty expands the mandate of the Assembly to include oversight of policy implementation and its decisions, as well as ensuring Member States' compliance. Unlike the Agreement, the Treaty empowers the Assembly to delegate specific tasks from its functions to the Council. It also requires the issuance of acts and decisions of the Assembly under the signature of the Executive Secretary and that the decisions of the Assembly are binding on all Member States.
- 77. The Treaty establishes the quorum for meetings of the Assembly as two-thirds of the total membership. For decision-making, it provides that the Assembly make decisions by consensus and, failing that, decide by a simple majority on procedural matters and a two-thirds majority on substantive matters, or by such other methods as the Assembly may agree. This marks a departure from the previous Agreement, which was limited to decision-making by consensus. The Treaty also provides for the Chairperson of the Assembly, to be held on a rotational basis in alphabetical order among the Heads of State and Government of Member States, with a tenure of one year, with the Head of State or Government of the next Chairperson in alphabetical order serving as Vice-Chairperson.
- 78. The Treaty expands the functions of the Council to include issuing regulations, directives, and decisions to ensure the implementation of policies, protocols, strategies, and programmes essential for the proper functioning and development of IGAD. Additionally, the Council is enjoined to consider measures for Member States to promote the attainment of the aims and objectives of IGAD, appoint the Deputy Executive Secretary or Secretaries, and implement the decisions and directives of the Assembly. The Treaty further provides that Council meetings shall be chaired by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Member State chairing IGAD or by another Minister designated by the same country.

- 79. The Treaty also increases the functions of the Committee of Ambassadors beyond advising the Executive Secretary on implementing work approved by the Council and interpreting policies and guidelines. The mandate of the Committee now includes advising the Secretariat on action plans for programmes across various sectors of cooperation and integration, recommending actions in all sectors of cooperation, and guiding and making recommendations to the Secretariat on the implementation of the Treaty.
- 80. For the Secretariat, the Treaty provides that the Secretariat is composed of the Executive Secretary, two Deputy Executive Secretaries, and other offices, units or institutions as may be deemed necessary by the Council.

## Areas of Cooperation

81. The Treaty extends IGAD's areas of cooperation beyond addressing severe droughts and other natural disasters in the Horn of Africa to encompass broader developmental objectives. These include trade liberalization and development, transport and communications, tourism, energy, creating an enabling environment for the private sector, civil society, and professional bodies, promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, fostering investment, facilitating the free movement of goods, persons, labour, services, and capital, and advancing the development and utilisation of human resources.

## **Dispute Resolution Mechanism**

82. The Treaty provides that disputes arising from the interpretation of its obligations shall be resolved amicably through negotiations facilitated by the Council of Ministers. It further mandates the Assembly, upon the recommendation of the Council, to establish an *ad hoc* Dispute Resolution Mechanism to address any such disputes. Additionally, the Treaty provides for the formalization of a Dispute Resolution Mechanism through a protocol agreed upon by Member States.

#### PART III

#### 3.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

#### 3.1 Call for Memoranda from the Public

- 83. Pursuant to Article 118(1)(b) of the Constitution on Public Participation and Section 8(3) of the Treaty Making and Ratification Act, 2012, the Committee placed advertisements in two local dailies, on Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> August, 2024 calling for submissions of memoranda on the subject matter. By the close of the deadline, the Committee had not received any Memorandum on the Treaty.
- 84. Further, the Committee sought the views of the Office of the Attorney General, and the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs through a letter dated 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2024.

## 3.2 Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs

- 85. The Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, vide Memorandum Ref: MFDA/CONF/IRO/9/VOL.6 (30), observed as follows on the consideration of the Treaty Establishing IGAD: -
- 86. Kenya stands to gain significantly from ratifying the Treaty Establishing IGAD, given its strategic location and active role in regional issues within East Africa and the Horn of Africa. The benefits include enhanced security, economic growth, diplomatic influence, and environmental cooperation.

## **Enhanced Regional Security and Stability**

- 87. IGAD's focus on regional peace and security directly supports Kenya's security goals. The organization facilitates intelligence sharing, joint counter-terrorism efforts, and conflict mediation, addressing regional security threats such as terrorism, piracy, and organized crimes. Kenya has been affected by the spillover of regional conflicts, especially in Somalia; thus, IGAD's peace-building role is critical for stability within Kenya's borders.
- 88. As a key player in IGAD's peace processes, Kenya will continue to influence conflict resolution initiatives, particularly in neighboring countries like South Sudan and Somalia. Peace in these regions reduces the likelihood of refugee influxes, cross-border crime, and illegal arms trafficking, contributing to Kenya's internal stability.

#### **Economic Integration and Trade Benefits**

- 89. Through IGAD, Kenya will continue to strengthen its economic ties with other member states, boosting trade, investment, and market access. IGAD supports regional integration efforts that reduce trade barriers, streamline cross-border procedures, and harmonize regulations, making it easier for Kenyan businesses to expand across East Africa and the Horn of Africa.
- 90. IGAD promotes large-scale infrastructure projects in transport, energy, and telecommunications, benefiting Kenya by improving connectivity and reducing logistical costs. Projects like cross-border roads, railway networks, and energy corridors facilitate trade, reduce transportation costs, and increase economic opportunities for Kenyan businesses.

91. With a strong agricultural sector, Kenya will continue to benefit from IGAD's focus on agricultural development, food security, and drought resilience. Collaboration in these areas helps stabilize food supplies, enhance productivity, and provide a platform for sharing agricultural innovations and best practices across member states.

## **Environmental Sustainability and Resource Management**

- 92. IGAD's original mandate focused on addressing drought and environmental degradation, which remain significant challenges in Kenya. By ratifying the Treaty, Kenya can actively participate in IGAD's initiatives for climate resilience, drought management, and sustainable use of natural resources. IGAD's climate and environmental programs help Kenya address challenges related to water scarcity, desertification, and soil degradation.
- 93. IGAD supports joint efforts to manage shared resources, such as rivers and ecosystems, which are crucial for countries like Kenya that rely on transboundary resources. Cooperation on water and environmental management can help mitigate regional disputes and ensure the sustainable use of resources.
- 94. Kenya can access funds and resources aimed at climate adaptation and resilience. IGAD provides a platform for attracting international funding for environmental projects, which is beneficial to Kenya given its climate vulnerabilities.

### Increased Diplomatic Influence and regional Leadership

- 95. As a prominent member of IGAD, Kenya gains an influential position within the organization, allowing it to shape regional policies on issues like security, economic integration, and environmental management. Active involvement in IGAD enhances Kenya's diplomatic clout and its ability to advocate for national interests within a multilateral setting.
- 96. IGAD aligns with the African Union's goals of promoting peace, security, and economic integration, bolstering Kenya's standing within the AU and supporting its aspirations for greater influence in African affairs. This alignment strengthens Kenya's position in global forums where regional stability and development are on the agenda.

#### Social and Human Benefits

- 97. IGAD's peace-building efforts can help reduce displacement caused by conflict, particularly from countries like Somalia and South Sudan. A more stable region can reduce the refugee burden on Kenya, easing pressure on social services and allowing for more sustainable community development.
- 98. By participating in IGAD's initiatives for education, health, and labor mobility, Kenya can foster a more integrated region with improved opportunities for its citizens. Cross-border mobility programs provide Kenyan professionals with more employment and educational opportunities across member states, strengthening people-to-people connections and regional social cohesion.

## Access to Regional and International

99. IGAD often receives funding from international donors for programs focused on peace-building, infrastructure, and climate resilience. Ratifying the Treaty allows Kenya to access these funds for

- national and regional development projects. Such funding supports initiatives crucial for Kenya's growth, such as building climate resilience in agriculture or developing cross-border infrastructure.
- 100.IGAD works closely with the UN, AU, EU, and other international bodies, allowing Kenya to benefit from partnerships that fund regional projects. Participation in IGAD's donor-backed programs strengthens Kenya's ability to secure international support for national priorities.

## Strengthened Institutional Capacity and Governance

- 101.IGAD offers capacity-building programs, including training in governance, security, and disaster management. These programs benefit Kenya's institutions by enhancing technical expertise, enabling better policy formulation, and strengthening governance in areas like security and climate resilience.
- 102.IGAD facilitates coordination among member states on regional issues, improving Kenya's ability to address transnational challenges effectively. Collaborative governance strengthens institutional capacity to handle issues that transcend national borders, such as cross-border trade, migration, and health crises.
- 103. Therefore, ratifying the Treaty Establishing IGAD offers Kenya multiple strategic advantages, including bolstered security, economic growth through regional integration, access to funding, and strengthened diplomatic influence. Kenya's active role in IGAD enhances its national interests while contributing to a more resilient and prosperous East African region.

### 3.3 Submissions from the Office of the Attorney-General and Department of Justice

104. Through a letter Ref. AG/CONF/3/B/123/VOL. VIII (47) dated 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024, the Office of the Attorney General submitted that it was involved in the preparation of the Cabinet Memorandum forwarding the Treaty to Cabinet for consideration. The Office of the Attorney General further submitted that the Cabinet approved the ratification of the Treaty based on the Cabinet Memorandum, which mirrors the Parliament Memorandum forwarded to the National Assembly by the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs. The Office of the Attorney General, therefore, associated itself with the contents and recommendations contained in the Parliament Memorandum forwarded by the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs.

#### **PART IV**

#### 4.0 COMMITTEE OBSERVATIONS

- 105. Having considered the Treaty and analyzed the submissions made, the Committee observed as follows:
  - (1) The Treaty aligns with Kenya's constitutional values, including good governance, democracy, the rule of law, accountability, and respect for human rights. The fundamental and operational principles of the Treaty are consistent with the Constitution and existing statutory frameworks. Ratification of the Treaty does not necessitate any constitutional amendments or changes to current laws but may require adjustments to policy frameworks for effective implementation.
  - (2) The Treaty seeks to enhance IGAD's capacity to address critical regional security threats such as terrorism, piracy, and cross-border crimes. The focus of IGAD on peace-building and conflict resolution, particularly in Somalia and South Sudan, directly supports Kenya's security objectives. Kenya stands to benefit from improved regional stability, reduced risks of refugee influxes, curbed illegal arms trafficking, and strengthened mechanisms for intelligence sharing and joint operations. IGAD's role in fostering dialogue and peaceful co-existence is critical to regional stability, which in turn reinforces Kenya's internal security.
  - (3) The Treaty's emphasis on regional economic integration directly benefits Kenya's trade and investment landscape. By reducing trade barriers, harmonising regulations, and facilitating cross-border infrastructure projects, IGAD seeks to enhance the ease of doing business in the region. Kenya's strategic location and robust agricultural sector position it to benefit significantly from initiatives aimed at improving market access, reducing logistical costs, and promoting large-scale infrastructure projects, such as transport and energy corridors. The facilitation of free movement of goods, services, labour, and capital is expected to stimulate economic growth and create employment opportunities in Kenya and the wider region.
  - (4) IGAD's expanded mandate includes promoting climate resilience, drought management, and sustainable resource use. This aligns with Kenya's national environmental priorities and offers a platform for addressing transboundary resource management challenges, such as shared water resources and ecosystems. The Treaty provides Kenya access to regional and international funding for environmental projects, particularly those targeting climate adaptation, desertification control, and agricultural sustainability.
  - (5) Ratification of the Treaty positions Kenya as a prominent leader within IGAD, enabling it to influence regional policies on key issues such as security, economic integration, and environmental management. The Treaty will bolster Kenya's standing within AU and support its aspiration to play a leading role in shaping continental and global agendas. IGAD's alignment with the AU's goals will further enhance Kenya's diplomatic reach and strategic positioning in multilateral forums.
  - (6) The Treaty's peace-building initiatives are anticipated to reduce displacement caused by regional conflicts, thereby lessening the burden of refugees on Kenya's resources. IGAD's focus on health, education, and labour mobility provides opportunities for Kenyan citizens to access services, employment, and education within the region. The facilitation of people-to-people connections fosters social cohesion and supports the integration of communities across borders.

- (7) Ratification of the Treaty does not impose significant additional financial burdens on Kenya, as the associated costs will be accommodated within existing budgetary provisions. IGAD's reliance on member contributions and external funding will ensure the sustainability of its operations. Kenya's participation in donor-supported IGAD programs will further reduce the financial burden on national resources.
- (8) The Treaty seeks to strengthen IGAD's organisational structure by enhancing the roles and functions of its principal organs—the Assembly, Council, Committee of Ambassadors, and Secretariat. The Assembly is mandated to provide policy direction, oversee implementation, and establish additional organs as required. The Council's expanded functions include issuing regulations, appointing Deputy Executive Secretaries, and implementing decisions of the Assembly. The Committee of Ambassadors now advises on action plans and monitors programme implementation. The Secretariat is tasked with developing policies, coordinating programmes, and managing financial and human resources. These enhancements will ensure a robust institutional framework for achieving IGAD's objectives.
- (9) The Treaty seeks broaden IGAD's areas of cooperation to include trade liberalisation, transport and communications, tourism, energy, agriculture, gender equality, investment, and the free movement of goods, labour, and capital. The emphasis on human resource development and private-sector participation is expected to spur innovation and economic diversification in member states, including Kenya.
- (10) The Treaty introduces a structured dispute resolution framework to address disagreements arising from its interpretation. Disputes are to be resolved amicably through negotiations facilitated by the Council of Ministers. An ad hoc Dispute Resolution Mechanism may also be established by the Assembly upon the Council's recommendation. This framework will ensure transparency and fairness in resolving conflicts, promoting harmony among member states.
- (11) The Treaty reinforces IGAD's role as a foundational pillar of the AEC, contributing to the broader goals of the African Union for continental integration. Its alignment with continental initiatives like AfCFTA underscores its importance in advancing regional and continental economic development.
- (12) The Treaty shall enter into force sixty days after the deposit of the instrument of ratification of two-thirds of the Member States of IGAD with the Executive Secretary. Currently, the Republic of Djibouti, the Federal Republic of Ethiopia and the Republic of South Sudan have ratified the treaty.
- (13) The Committee ensured compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements for public participation, although no public memoranda were received. Stakeholders, including the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs and the Office of the Attorney General, expressed unanimous support for the Treaty. Their submissions highlighted the strategic benefits of ratification for Kenya's national and regional interests.

#### **PART V**

#### 5.0 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

85. The Committee, having reviewed the Agreement and considered the submissions made, recommends THAT:

Pursuant to Section 8 of the Treaty Making and Ratification Act, 2012, the House approves the Ratification of the Treaty Establishing Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD).

SIGNED: DATE: 14/3/7025

THE HON. NELSON KOECH, M.P.

CHAIRPERSON, DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE, INTELLIGENCE AND FOREIGN RELATIONS