



21 June 2021

(21-5057)

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

**IGAD BRIEF UPDATE REPORT TO THE SPS COMMITTEE
JULY 2021**

**COMMUNICATION FROM THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL
AUTHORITY ON DEVELOPMENT (IGAD)**

The following communication, received on 18 June 2021, is being circulated at the request of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD).

1. The IGAD Center for Pastoral Areas and Livestock Development (ICPALD) is a regional technical center of IGAD (Intergovernmental Authority on Development), a regional economic community serving the seven member states in East Africa (Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan, South Sudan, Somalia and Uganda).

2. Technical support provided for the above member states by IGAD/ICPALD during the reporting period to enhance trans-boundary animal disease (TAD) control and livestock trade in the region, complementing the national development efforts of member states, includes:

1 REGIONAL TRAINING PROVIDED ON TRANSPARENCY PROVISIONS OF THE WTO SPS AGREEMENT FOR IGAD COUNTRIES

3. The IGAD Center for Pastoral Areas and Livestock Development (ICPALD), in collaboration with the African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR), organized a regional face to face training in Entebbe, Uganda on 24-28 May 2021 with a focus to the National Notification Authorities (NNAs) and the National Enquiry Points (NEPs). The training was to help them acquire the necessary knowledge and skills on the transparency provisions of the World Trade Organization (WTO) Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) Agreement with the end goal of helping them efficiently and effectively deliver their services.

4. The regional SPS Transparency training was aimed at enhancing the knowledge and skills on enforcing SPS obligations of Members, sharing best practices and learning the use of the various transparency tools available at the WTO for both Members and countries holding observer status. The training aimed to provide support in ensuring full compliance of IGAD member countries, both with the WTO and the AfCFTA on SPS transparency.

2 NATIONAL SPS STRATEGIES FOR SUDAN AND SOUTH SUDAN DRAFTED

5. IGAD Center for Pastoral Areas and Livestock Development (ICPALD), in collaboration with AU-IBAR, have drafted the two national SPS strategies. The strategies are aligned with the IGAD regional SPS strategies. There is a plan to organize national stakeholders workshop to validate the strategies, as well as promoting them for national coordinated efforts while implementing.

6. Acknowledgement: IGAD/ICPALD is grateful for member states, AU-IBAR, European Union and FAO for collaboration and/or financing the implementation of the above activities.
