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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

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**IGAD BRIEF UPDATE REPORT TO THE SPS COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 2023**

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

The following communication, received on 8 November 2023, 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 eight member States in East Africa (Djibouti, Eritrea, 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 transboundary animal disease control and livestock trade in the region, complementing the national development efforts of member States includes:

1 INTER-REGIONAL JOINT REGULATORY BODIES MEETING OF IGAD EXPORTING AND MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA (MENA) IMPORTING COUNTRIES

3. The 6th IGAD-MENA meeting conducted on 8-9 August 2023 to review the progress made and challenges faced during the export-import process and the status of compliance with sanitary standards by the exporting countries, discuss on the way forward where compliance levels are low and propose actionable interventions to address the gaps so as to enhance transparency and trade between the two regions.

4. Key recommendations were:

- IGAD and MENA countries should strengthen bilateral discussions and undertake missions to particular countries to jointly review progress made in areas of diagnostics, surveillance, disease control following the inter-regional engagement;
- Importing countries need to share updated versions of their import requirements on live animals and meat for the exporting countries;
- Some of the MENA importing countries need to inform exporting countries the reasons, including laboratory results, in a timely manner in case of rejection of a consignment, for subsequent actions.

2 ADAPTATION OF ANIMAL DISEASE INFORMATION SHARING PROTOCOL ALONG THE CROSS BORDERS OF ETHIOPIA-DJIBOUTI; AND KARAMOJA CLUSTER (ETHIOPIA-SOUTH SUDAN KENYA AND UGANDA) AND UPDATE OF VACCINATION CALENDAR

5. The cross-border meeting conducted on 3-5 October 2023 to facilitate the adaptation of the animal disease information sharing protocol for the borders of Ethiopia-Djibouti; and Karamoja cluster (Ethiopia-South Sudan, Kenya and Uganda) using the signed Ethio-Kenya animal disease information sharing protocol.

6. The team drafted two animal disease information sharing protocols for the two clusters for validation and subsequent signing by the countries. Moreover, the team reviewed the existing vaccination calendar for each cluster and updated it in preparation for synchronized vaccination.

7. Key recommendations were:

- Committing resources to achieve the agreed animal health and sanitary measures along the borders;
- Need to establish, prevention; risk-based surveillance systems and quarantine strategies along the borders;
- Need for reporting and timely information sharing for effective and efficient cross border collaboration.

8. Acknowledgement: IGAD/ICPALD is grateful to member States, FAO and AFDB for their collaboration and/or financing the implementation of the above activities.
