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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

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IGAD REPORT TO THE SPS COMMITTEE**COMMUNICATION FROM THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY ON DEVELOPMENT (IGAD)**

The following communication, received on 13 October 2016, 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 seven member States in East Africa (Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan and Uganda).

2. This region is rich in livestock resources and the home of 8% of the cattle; 10% of small ruminants and 51% of the camel population in the world. Livestock is an important commodity for livelihood, regional and international trade with Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and beyond.

3. Some of the key activities/technical support provided for the member States (MS) by IGAD/ICPALD to enhance trans-boundary animal disease and livestock trade control in the region that complement their national development efforts include:

- SPS management capacity of IGAD MS assessed and Regional SPS Strategy developed. The next step is to support member States (MS) to domesticate;
- Compliance status of OIE animal welfare standards assessed in IGAD MS and Regional Animal Welfare Strategy and action plan developed. Currently support is going on development of national animal welfare strategy;
- Development of regional legal framework on livestock identification and traceability and dissemination;
- Regional PPR control and eradication strategy developed; supported development of national PPR control and eradication strategies for three MS, and for the rest to align to the regional PPR strategy;
- Facilitated cross-border meetings and supported MS to develop bilateral MOU for selected clusters/cross border ecosystems to coordinate animal health and sanitary measures;
- Supported regional animal health networks for Eastern African countries; this includes networks for chief veterinary officers (CVO), laboratory, epidemiology and quarantine networks. The 7th regional network workshop conducted from 4-6 October 2016 in Tanzania and shared ongoing programs on TADs control; lessons and good practises to enhance surveillance and disease control;
- Coordinating regional working group on grades and standards for three commodities; live animal (cattle; small ruminants and camels; meat and hide and skin) and currently harmonization is going on;
- National SPS committees available in all IGAD region except Somalia and there is a also a regional SPS committee; the support to these committees needs to be strengthened;
- Provided training for trade counsellors of IGAD live animal and meat exporting countries based in MENA on import requirements and market promotion.

4. Acknowledgement : IGAD/ICPALD is grateful for collaboration and/ or finance for undertaking the above activities from member States, African Union, USAID, European Union, Italian government and FAO.