

Sweden Statement 14th IDDRSI Steering Committee Meeting Addis Abeba

20 July 20, 2022

Senait Regassa

Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentle Men

Around a decade has passed since the launching of IDDRSI. Sweden joined the initiative in 2018 and since then has witnessed the efforts being made by MSs, IGAD secretariat and Development Partners to coordinate and harmonize their interventions.

We also commend the efforts made to build the capacity to monitor and evaluate.

Unfortunately, the situation is getting worse because of the multiple shocks and protracted crises the region is facing.

Consequently, the number of people affected by food insecurity has gone up substantially.

However, we need to ask ourselves this question – What would have been the situation if we have not coordinated our efforts under the IDDRSI umbrella.

That is how we can see if the initiative has made an impact

In any case, the challenges the region is facing require us to think differently.

I would like to repeat what H. E. Dr Workneh Gebeyehu said this morning -He was challenging us all to be innovative to tackle the deteriorating situation.

I believe thinking differently and being innovative is the only way to rise to the challenge.

In conclusion, I would like to reconfirm Sweden's commitment to work with you all to realize the vision of ending drought emergencies in the region.