

**Sixteenth Regional meeting and 9<sup>th</sup> General Assembly on  
IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainable Initiative  
(IDDRSI)**

**Entebbe, Uganda, 9 November 2023**

**Statement of Sudan representative the Ambassador in Uganda**

**His Excellency - Worknen Gebeyehu, the IGAD Executive Secretary,**

**Respected honorable ministers, representatives of sister countries,**

**Honorable representatives of development partners,**

**Honorable representatives of organizations,**

**Honorable members of the drought resilience**

**platform,**

**Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,**

السلام عليكم ورحمة تعالى وبركاته الله

It is my pleasure and honor to address you in the important 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of the IDDRSI Platform and the 9<sup>th</sup> General Assembly. Let me also take this opportunity to thank the Government and people of Uganda for hosting this important meeting and for the hospitality rendered to us since our arrival. The welcoming and hosting that we received have been great and expressive of the good nature of the Ugandan people.

Thanks to Alla that this meeting will provide an excellent opportunity for us to review the progress made, and exchange ideas on the way forward and supporting commitment to implement IDDRSI at member states and in the IGAD region. So we are, therefore, in need to set priorities and adopt practical approach to address the challenges that face our region.

**Your Excellency the Chairperson**

**Ladies and Gentlemen**

Sudan is a big country with great resources that we need to tap on and use efficiently for the benefit of Sudan people and the IGAD region in order to enhance drought resilience, secure food and improve development. More than 40 percent of the Sudan land can be classified as arable accommodating agricultural practice, animal husbandry and water uses. Yet Sudan frequently face challenges due to uncertainty of the production systems as a result of

recurrent droughts and lack of technology to mitigate impacts of drought. The country's inherent vulnerability is evident in the fact that food security situation in Sudan is mainly determined by rainfall.

**Excellency Mr. Chairperson**

**Ladies and Gentlemen**

The economic policies and the drought resilience strategies including the CPP in Sudan gave more emphasis to the agricultural sector (agriculture, animal husbandry and water) to mitigate the effects of climbing food prices and reduce climatic change impacts reproduced recurrent droughts leading to declining rainfall and productivity.

Implementation of the strategies and policies and the mainstreaming of the CPP in national planning are targeting sustainable natural resources management in order to enhance increased production, improve food security and resume more concern towards poverty alleviation in order to achieve development at Federal level and rural areas. At the sectoral levels the adoption of policies and strategies is focusing on technology transfer and conservation of the natural resources, within programmes supporting the small producers and strengthening the institutional capacities. That is, to improve the agricultural sector production and productivity. The policies and strategies have been targeting the traditional agricultural sector, where around 70% of Sudan population are mainly small farmers or agro-pastoralists who depend on rain-fed production system. Accordingly, the programme is an important part of the national integrated agricultural development initiative during the last 10 years of the economic reform.

**His Excellency Chairperson**

**Ladies and Gentlemen**

Sudan effort towards such developments is faced by various constraints and challenges that include infrastructures, technology transfer, production inputs, institutional reform and social services.

One of Sudan approaches to face the challenges is reflected in developing a comprehensive coordination mechanism at national and sub-national levels including line ministries and civil society's partnerships. Yet, financial crises and conflicts create problems.

**His Excellency Chairperson**

## **Ladies and Gentlemen**

Let me here indicate the importance of cross-border areas shared by communities that are interconnected through genetic structure and common resources. Livestock movement, informal trade and social events within the cross border areas are important for peace and development. Let us put the cross-borders within our priorities for the eight member states and plan for solving the common challenges the communities are facing.

Let me here raise an important issue that; the Sudan and other member states have diversity of additional sources of food to use and support resilience in addition to the presently used food and nutrition types; examples can be raised as:

1. Increasing utilization of sea and fresh water food based on the Blue economies at states and IGAD region,
2. Promoting dates for diversified food and nutrition types,
3. Promoting forest food (fruits and wild animals).

We urge IGAD to encourage Member States to enter into bi-lateral and multi-lateral relations to develop joint investment in agriculture sector, natural resources and marine resources to enhance food diversification.

## **Excellency Mr. Chairperson**

### **Ladies and Gentlemen**

In conclusion, I would like to state that Sudan needs IGAD support to develop and finance programmes and projects that reduce the effects of degradation caused by various crises and to enhance development. In this respect the Sudan potentialities can assist the region needs for food security and drought resilience.

Let me end up by thanking IGAD Secretariat for organizing the meeting and for the excellent arrangements put in place to make this event successful. I also ensure our Sudan commitment to collaborate and assist your efforts in achieving drought and disaster resilience and sustainable development in our region. Sudan is committed to the outcomes of this meeting and the recommendations.

I wish you a fruitful deliberation and thank you for listening.