



MARRAKECH COP22|CMP12
UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE 2016
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IGAD statement at the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA 1) and the High-Level Segment of COP22/CMP 12/CMA 1

17 November 2016, Marrakech Morocco

***Your Excellency Salaheddine Mezouar, President of COP22
Miss Patricia Espanola, Executive secretary of UNFCCC
Excellencies', Heads of State,
Honourable Heads of delegations,
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,***

On behalf of the Executive Secretary of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) H.E. Eng. Mahboub M. Maalim, one of regional economic blocks of the Africa Union located in Greater Horn of Africa region with 8 member states, I am honoured to deliver this statement.

The IGAD region is largely arid and semi-arid with highly variable inter-annual rainfall with most people of the region dependant for their livelihoods on rain-fed agriculture. Unfortunately we are witnessing in our region an increase both in the frequency and magnitude of the rainfall extremes. Those climate extremes impact negatively not only the regional food security; but health, wildlife, tourism, infrastructure, conflicts and security among many others. In summary, the region is a climate hotspot where all types of adverse climate impacts are evident with an increasing population and an alarming rate of environmental degradation.

As a region, we welcome the ratification and coming into force of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. We call upon all parties to begin taking concrete action to deliver on their national climate goals. IGAD is taking a lead role and has developed a Regional Climate Change Strategy (IRCCS) that awaiting approval by the policy organs of the member states for its implementation. In addition, through the IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Centre (ICPAC) climate information on mitigation and adaptation, high quality climate data, scientific information, early warning, decision support tools and policy advice are provided to our member states in efforts to support their initiatives towards attaining a low carbon and climate resilient sustainable development.

We believe that regional bodies such as IGAD have a key role to play in addressing the current climate challenges and in moving forward the climate change agenda in the Horn of Africa.

In conclusion, we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the leadership and the people of the Kingdom of Morocco for successfully hosting COP22 and to wish the incoming COP23 host country and president the very best.

STATEMENT BY Guleid Artan, Director ICPAC