



# **IGAD Animal Health Policy Framework In the context of trade and vulnerability of the member states**

**IGAD/ICPALD**

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# The member states



IGAD Nations

# **IGAD livestock resource base and opportunities**

- The region is endowed with substantial natural resources ; livestock resources is one the major resources (about 336 million ruminants)
- Some 80% of the region is made up of arid and semi arid lands (ASALs) dominated by livestock
- There are demand for livestock and livestock products in the region, in other regions within Africa and in Middle East countries.
- Proximity to the Middle East countries and adaptation to the taste of our animals
- Some IGAD countries are only covering 40% of live animal and 6.4% of the meat required annually by the Middle East

# Background for the development of the regional policy framework

- The livestock sector in the region face **common challenges such as TADs** that require coordinated response
- Coordinated approach at regional level would enhance the influence of IGAD member states on the development of international rules and standards
- That IGAD secretariat play the **coordinating role and assist** in the development of regional capacity to address animal health challenges at national level
- The commitment in IGAD strategy (2011) which gave high priority to economic cooperation and integration particularity in livestock and grain

## **The agreed regional animal health policy framework**

**Article 1: Trans boundary Animal diseases (TADs), diseases of production, Animal welfare and livestock related emergencies**

- States agreed to launch a process of **harmonization of livestock policies and regulations** at the IGAD level
- Pool expertise at the regional level, through IGAD, to guide decision making on such measures and on prioritization of resource allocation
- At the national level, enhance the system of animal diseases surveillance and reporting

## Contd.

- **Coordinate**, where appropriate synchronize and standardize surveillance and collection of animal health data
- Complement investment in national veterinary infrastructure with networking mechanisms between laboratories and other institutions in the region to share experiences, resources, training , expertise and access to medicines and biologicals
- Work through IGAD to raise funds for improved institutional and laboratory capacity at regional and national levels

## contd

- Collaborate to identify priority interventions and disease control measures; in order to use limited resources for maximum regional impact
- **Coordinate and harmonize disease control and prevention programs across the region**
- Develop regional standards and guidelines for animal welfare based on relevant OIE instruments
- Institute sustainable mechanisms for regular and timely coordination

## **Article 2; IGAD representation and participation in international standards setting institutions**

- Mobilize national expertise in the form of ***ad hoc working group*** that identify the most relevant international standards, assess extent to which IGAD member states comply with them and make recommendations
- Encourage and support the accession to the WTO of those MS that have yet to join the trading system



## contd

- **Establish a regional forum** which supports MS to develop harmonized positions on sanitary issues of common interest in order to better influence the development of relevant international standards

# contd

- Develop a **core team of negotiators** with a view to improving the region's institutional capacity to negotiate and strengthen MS representations at international bodies such as OIE, Codex and the WTO
- With other interested parties such as AUIBAR, COMESA, promote acceptance of risk management approach to meeting sanitary requirements for trade such as commodity based trade and compartmentalization

## **Article 3; Regional and national capacity building and provision of livestock services**

In order to enhance the regional capacity **to assist national compliance** with international standards, MS agreed to

- Devise strategies on how to **strengthen national capacities**, both technically and with respect to effective legal and regulatory framework
- Uphold the principle that initiatives to strengthen national capacities should be strategically allocated in order to respond to the specific weakness of any of its MS and respect the principle of intra regional equity in any allocation of resources

# contd

- Develop a regional framework to define, enhance and enable the respective roles of private and public sector actors in the supply of animal health and related services
- Work ,under the facilitation of IGAD, towards establishing regionally acceptable levels of risk and harmonize sanitary standards with which to achieve them
- Establish minimum standards for veterinary services provision across the region, which will be implemented through a combination of training and regulation

## contd

- Agree and adopt common definitions, standards, qualifications, selection criteria, training and regulation for the various cadres of paraprofessionals operating in the IGAD region
- Ensure that in strengthening capacities to deliver animal health and related services, **due consideration** is given to the specific needs of poor, women and vulnerable livestock keepers

## **Article 4; Intra-regional trade in livestock and livestock products, inputs and services**

- In line with the respective countries' rules and regulations, remove tariff and non-tariff barriers to intra-regional trade in livestock, livestock products, livestock inputs and services, subject to meeting animal health and safety standards
- Harmonize national regulation on livestock trade including standardization of **cross border trading** procedures and documents
- Ensure , at the national level, that no trade -and competition distortive practices such as subsidies and monopoly operations undermine the economic interests of the other members

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# Article 5 ; Institutional provisions

**IGAD secretariat, in line with the decision by the IGAD Council of Ministers (2012), established the IGAD Centre for Pastoral Areas and Livestock Development (ICPALD) to serve as:-**

- Technical arm of the secretariat for the development of dry-lands and livestock sector in general, with a particular focus on wealth and employment creation and livelihood security in the ASALs

# contd

- To provide technical support to MS multidisciplinary and multi-agency **livestock policy hubs** in support of inclusive, evidence based and poverty and gender focused policy processes
- To coordinate relations with relevant technical institutions in the field of livestock including the AUIBAR, FAO, the OIE and Codex
- To undertake regular studies of relevant international standards, reviewing **MS approaches, strategies and capacities** and recommending appropriate steps to achieve compliance



## Contd

- ICPALD Strategic plan for 2013-2017 is underway, we will validate it with partners
  - Priority regional focus /interventions
  - Collaboration/coordination/partnership mechanisms are among the issues to be discussed

**Thank you all**