

REPORT OF THE 1ST EXTRAORDINARY ASSEMBLY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF EASTERN AFRICA REGION HELD IN ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA ON THE 28TH JANUARY 2007

1. The 1st Extraordinary Meeting of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Eastern Africa Region was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on the 28th of January 2007 on the sidelines of the 8th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Yoweri Museveni, the President of the Republic of Uganda and attended by H.E. Omar Guelleh, President of the Republic of Djibouti, H.E. Meles Zenawi, the Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, H.E. Mwai Kibaki, the President of the Republic of Kenya, H.E. Paul Kagame, the President of the Republic of Rwanda, H.E. Abdullah Yusuf, the President of the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia and H.E. Omar El Bashir, the President of the Republic of Sudan.

2. The Meeting was also attended by Amb. Said Djinnit, Commissioner for Peace and Security, who represented the African Union Commission and Dr. Attala Hammad Bashir, the Executive Secretary of IGAD.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

3. The Agenda was adopted. (See Annex A).

STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF IGAD

5. Dr. Attala, the Executive Secretary of IGAD, welcomed all to the Meeting and informed them that the Meeting was being held to consider the operationalisation of the Independent Coordination Mechanism to replace IGAD in coordination of EASBRIG affairs.

6. He reported that IGAD had established an EASBRIG Fund and transferred funds to both the PLANELM and Brigade HQs which are now fully operational. He informed the Meeting that IGAD had serviced all meetings of EASBRIG including the Extraordinary

Meeting of the Assembly. He thanked them for their confidence in IGAD in its Interim Coordination role of EASBRIG.

7. Dr. Attalla assured the Assembly that since the Council of Ministers has decided to replace IGAD, it was ready to hand over to the new Coordination Mechanism as soon as possible.

REPORT OF THE 4TH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF DEFENCE AND SECURITY

8. The Chairperson of the Council of Ministers of Defence and Security, Honourable Ruth Nankabirwa, Minister of State for Defence of Uganda presented the Report of the 4th Meeting of the Council of Ministers to the Assembly. The Report highlighted four important issues for which the Council sought approval of the Assembly:

a. **Operationalisation of the Independent Coordination Mechanism for EASBRIG.** The Chairperson of the Council informed the Assembly of the urgent need to operationalise the Independent Coordination Mechanism to strengthen and own up the EASBIRG as a regional standby Brigade. After discussion, the Assembly approved the immediate operationalisation of the Independent Coordination Mechanism.

b. **Amendment of the MOU and Policy Framework.** The Chairperson reported that consequent to the establishment of the Independent Coordination Mechanism, provisions in the MoU establishing EASBRIG, which mentioned IGAD as the interim coordination body had been amended. The Council also informed the Assembly that the relevant parts in the Policy Framework will be amended to delete IGAD. The Assembly concurred with the decision of the Council.

c. **Financial matters.** The Council informed the Assembly that the financial situation of EASBRIG is presently unhealthy due to non-payment of assessed annual contributions by some Member States. The Assembly appealed to Members States to meet their financial obligations to EASBRIG.

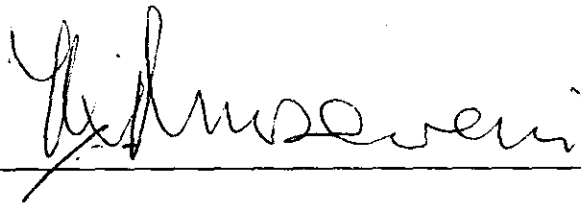
d. **Rules of Procedure for Meetings of the Council.** The Assembly approved the Rules of Procedure for the meetings of the Council of Ministers and they were subsequently signed.

9. The Report of the Council was adopted by the Assembly. The full Report is attached as **Annex B.**

CLOSING REMARKS

10. In his closing remarks, the Chairperson thanked the Meeting for conducting its business in a consensual and constructive manner from which a lot of gains are expected.

Signed for the Extra-Ordinary Assembly Meeting,
this.....28th.....Day of JANUARY.....2007



Chairperson of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of Eastern Africa Region

**AGENDA AND PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE 1ST
EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY OF HEADS OF
STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE EASTERN AFRICA REGION
HELD IN ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA, ON THE 28TH JANUARY,
2007**

1900 HRS: STATEMENT OF BY THE EXECUTIVE
SECRETARY OF IGAD

REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF
MINISTERS OF DEFENCE AND SECURITY OF
EASTERN AFRICA.

CLOSING REMARKS BY THE CHAIR

**REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF DEFENCE AND SECURITY TO THE
FIRST EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY OF HEADS OF STATE
AND GOVERNMENT OF THE EASTERN AFRICA REGION HELD ON 28TH
JANUARY 2007 ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA**

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The last meeting of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Eastern Africa Region was held in April 2005 in Addis Ababa and since that time the region has made considerable progress towards operationalising the organs of Eastern Africa Standby Brigade (EASBRIG). Three meetings of Chiefs of Defence Staff and two Council meetings have been held. However, EASBRIG has been faced with various challenges. Consequently, the Council, based on advice of the Committee of Eastern Africa Chiefs of Defence Staff (EACDS), has made certain decisions. The Planning Element (PLANELM) and the Standby Brigade Headquarters are now fully functioning.

2. The Fourth Meeting of the Council in April 2006, which was held in Nairobi, Kenya, resolved to request for an Extra- Ordinary meeting of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Eastern Africa Region in order to bring to its attention the progress so far achieved and the challenges faced.

II. PROGRESS OF ACTIVITIES.

3. IGAD Secretariat:

a. IGAD, which has been the interim coordinating body, has undertaken the following activities:

- i. Established EASBRIG Fund
- ii. Serviced meetings of EASBRIG organs
- iii. Transmitted funds to the Brigade Headquarters and the PLANELM
- iv. Employed Accountants at the PLANELM and Brigade Headquarters

b. However, the following tasks are yet to be undertaken and enhanced:

- i. To facilitate a study, by Experts, to eliminate duplications of functions and inconsistencies in EASBRIG organs.
- ii. To facilitate the development of three policy documents, namely; Procurement Manual, Financial Regulations and Employment Policy.

- iii. To further sensitize Members to participate actively in EASBRIG affairs and inform the Assembly of their membership obligations.

4. The Brigade Headquarters

- a. The Brigade Headquarters has been able to accomplish the following:
 - i. Operationalised the Brigade Headquarters, in Addis Ababa, including, receiving skeleton staff of four officers and employing support staff.
 - ii. Participated in training of officers in Peace Support Operations (PSO), organised training in staff procedures and Map Exercises (MAPEX), French language and Information Technology (IT).
 - iii. Hosted the Council of Ministers Meeting, preceding the First Extra-Ordinary Summit of EASBRIG.
- b. However the following are yet to be undertaken:
 - i. In conjunction with PLANELM, to build a data base for pledged troops and equipment
 - ii. Carry out visits to mission areas and other regions for experience

5. The Planning Element (PLANELM)

- a. The PLANELM has undertaken the following:
 - i. Operationalised the Headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya, including, receiving eight seconded officers and employing support staff.
 - ii. Trained officers in Peace Support Operations.
 - iii. Participated in the drafting of the basic African Standby Force (ASF) policy documents including doctrine, Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), Command, Control, Communication and Information Systems (C₃IS), Training Evaluation and Logistics.
 - iv. Hosted the Workshop on ASF Logistics and generated a draft ASF Logistics Concept.
- b. The PLANELM is yet to carry out the following:
 - i. Verification of pledged Units
 - ii. Training of the Command and Staff of the units
 - iii. Visit to Mission Areas
 - iv. Participation in operational planning with the Multinational UN Standby Forces High Readiness Brigade (SHIRBRIG)
 - v. Harmonisation of training doctrine

III. OPERATIONALISATION OF THE INDEPENDENT COORDINATION MECHANISM

6. The Council agreed on the operationalisation of a new Coordination Mechanism with full consensus. However one Member State registered a reservation citing the following reasons:

- a. Creation of a new mechanism when the ones in existence are yet to be fully operational,
- b. There are budgetary constraints.
- c. The mandate to replace IGAD should come from an amendment of the MoU by the Assembly.

7. The Council resolved that there be an Independent Coordination Mechanism for EASBRIG to replace the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), which has been coordinating EASBRIG activities on an interim basis.

8. The Council by consensus, with the exception of one Member State, amended Articles 1 and 12(6) of the Memorandum of Understanding, as per the proposal by Rwanda, to take effect after the next meeting of the Assembly. The amendment is to replace IGAD's interim coordination role and assign the same to an independent coordination Mechanism. The Amendment is hereto annexed as **Annex A**.

9. The Council, in its decision, was guided by the following considerations:

- a. Some members declining to honor invitations by IGAD to attend EASBRIG meetings because they are not members of IGAD. Consequently, of the 13 original EASBRIG members, only 7 are active.
- b. Non IGAD Member States reservations on remitting money to a body that they are not members of.
- c. IGAD, in its interim coordinating capacity, does not have the legal capacity to enter into contract on behalf of non IGAD members of EASBRIG.
- d. Lack of Command and control structures necessary for effective management of EASBRIG.
- e. Enhancing regional cooperation and harmony which includes countries of Eastern Africa who are not Members of IGAD.

IV. FINANCIAL MATTERS

10. **Budgets for Organs of EASBRIG.** The 2006 approved annual budget for organs of EASBRIG is shown as follows:

1	BRIGADE HQ	451,792.04
2	LOG BASE	-
3	PLANELM	698,382.55
4	PROGRAM AND COORDINATION ACTIVITIES	889,078.97
	GRAND TOTAL	2,039,253.56

11. The detailed 2006 budget for the organs of EASBRIG is annexed to this report as **Annex B**.

12. Annual Contributions. The total assessed annual contribution of Member States for the years 2005 and 2006 is US\$4,600,232.52 was based on the 11 Member States. The total contribution received is US\$1,501,870.33. **The outstanding amount** for the Years 2005 and 2006 is US\$3,098,362.19.

13. Appeal. The Council requests the Assembly to note the serious financial constraints faced by EASBRIG and to urge Member States to expeditiously make their assessed contribution.

V. **RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS**

14. The Council of Ministers presents the Rules of Procedure for the Council Meetings for approval by the Assembly. (**See Annex C**).

VI. **HOSTING AGREEMENTS**

15. The Hosting Agreements for the PLANELM and Brigade Headquarters have been finalised and signed by EASBRIG with the Host Countries.

Signed for the Council of Ministers for Defence and Security,
this.....27th.....Day of JANUARY.....2007



Chairperson of the Council of Ministers of Defence and Security of Eastern Africa Region