Eastern Africa Dialogue Platform

IGAD

Transforming Risk into Resilience

MOMBASA MINISTERIAL DECLARATION ON ANTICIPATORY ACTION

Second Eastern Africa Dialogue Platform on Anticipatory Action Institutionalizing Anticipatory Action for a Resilient Eastern Africa

October 2026

PREAMBLE

We, the Ministers responsible for Disaster Risk Management and Humanitarian Affairs of the Member States of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)—Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda—meeting during the Ministerial Segment of the Second Eastern Africa Dialogue Platform on Anticipatory Action, held in Mombasa, Kenya, on 30 October 2026;

Recognizing that Eastern Africa remains one of the world's most climate-vulnerable regions and is increasingly affected by recurrent droughts, floods, disease outbreaks, conflict-related risks and other transboundary hazards, which continue to undermine humanitarian gains and sustainable development and disproportionately affect women, children, youth, older persons, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups; Recognizing that comprehensive disaster risk management requires a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach, with coherent mandates and effective coordination across ministries, sectors, levels of government and non-state stakeholders to manage interconnected and cascading risks and strengthen resilience;

Recognizing further that comprehensive, inclusive and well-implemented disaster risk management laws, policies and institutional arrangements provide the foundation for assigning responsibilities, engaging communities and local actors, coordinating early warning and early action, and securing the resources required to operationalize anticipatory action at scale;

Acknowledging that anticipatory action has emerged as an effective and efficient approach to reducing the humanitarian impacts of predictable hazards and shocks, including in education, health and well-being, and to protecting lives, livelihoods and development gains through interventions undertaken before crises unfold, based on forecasts, early warnings and predictive risk analysis, and enabled by pre-agreed plans, coordinated multisectoral action and pre-arranged financing;

Recognizing IGAD's leadership in advancing regional cooperation on climate services, disaster risk management, multi-hazard early warning systems and anticipatory action, including through the development and implementation of the IGAD Regional Roadmap for Anticipatory Action, the Regional Technical Working Group on Anticipatory Action, and support to Member States in implementing their National Anticipatory Action Roadmaps and establishing national technical working groups;

Recalling our commitments under the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, Agenda 2063, the Africa Climate Change and Resilient Development Strategy and Action Plan 2022–2032, the Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Agreement, the Early Warnings for All Initiative and relevant IGAD policy frameworks;

Recognizing that effective anticipatory action requires strong governance, reliable early warning systems, accessible risk information, sustainable pre-arranged financing, pre-agreed triggers and decision-making protocols, operational readiness to act before disasters occur, coordinated institutions, regional solidarity, and meaningful community participation in the co-design, implementation and evaluation of anticipatory action;

Reaffirming our collective commitment to strengthening resilience and protecting lives, livelihoods and development gains across the IGAD region;

Reaffirming the central role of communities as first responders and partners in building resilience, and our collective commitment to ensuring that anticipatory action is locally led, people-centered, gender-responsive, disability-inclusive and informed by local and traditional knowledge;

Acknowledging the continued commitment and efforts of IGAD and its Member States to advance disaster risk management, multi-hazard early warning systems and anticipatory action across the region;

We hereby commit to:

1. Institutionalize anticipatory action within disaster risk management and relevant sectoral laws, policies, strategies and plans, with clear institutional mandates, responsibilities and decision-making authority for setting triggers, activating anticipatory action and implementing measures across sectors and levels of government.
2. Operationalize National Anticipatory Action Roadmaps through nationally led and financed implementation plans that define clear priorities, timelines, measurable targets, implementation responsibilities and accountability arrangements.
3. Establish or strengthen multi-stakeholder national coordination mechanisms for anticipatory action to support joint risk analysis, planning, implementation, monitoring and learning among government institutions, humanitarian and development partners, scientific institutions, local actors and the private sector.
4. Strengthen people-centered, gender-responsive, disability-inclusive and multi-hazard early warning systems that provide accessible, timely and actionable information to at-risk communities, including through effective last-mile communication.
5. Link early warning systems to early action through predefined triggers, protocols and standard operating procedures, supported by clear decision-making authority and the use of climate services, risk analytics, impact-based forecasting, scientific evidence, and local and traditional knowledge.
6. Strengthen coherence among anticipatory action, disaster risk reduction, climate adaptation, social protection, resilience-building and development planning to reduce future humanitarian needs and protect development gains.
7. Strengthen innovative financing mechanisms to support the implementation of disaster risk management frameworks, enabling the pre-arranged allocation, timely release and accountable use of resources for anticipatory actions before a disaster or emergency is declared.
8. Increase predictable, sustainable and pre-arranged financing for anticipatory action, including through dedicated national, sectoral and subnational budget allocations, contingency financing, disaster risk financing instruments such as risk transfer, blended finance and partnerships.
9. Progressively increase domestic investment in disaster risk reduction, preparedness and anticipatory action; establish national financing targets; and regularly report on allocations, releases and expenditure, while improving access to financing for subnational authorities, communities and eligible local actors.
10. Strengthen regional cooperation and programming through IGAD to address transboundary, cascading and systemic disaster risks, including by developing coordinated cross-border anticipatory action plans for hazards such as droughts, floods, disease outbreaks, forced displacement and desert locusts.

11. Develop interoperable regional and national early warning–early action systems, including common data standards, forecasts, triggers, alert levels and operating procedures, as well as mechanisms for cross-border risk-information exchange.

12. Promote the timely sharing of risk information, forecasts, vulnerability data and impact analyses across sectors and borders, in accordance with national legal frameworks, to strengthen coordinated anticipatory action and collective decision-making.

13. Strengthen inclusive partnerships and capacities among governments, regional institutions, humanitarian and development partners, financial institutions, research institutions, the private sector, civil society, National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, local communities and other local actors. Invest in local leadership, institutional capacity, workforce and volunteer development, research and knowledge exchange to advance disaster risk management and anticipatory action.

14. Invest in monitoring, evaluation, research and learning to generate evidence on the effectiveness, cost-efficiency, equity and long-term impacts of anticipatory action, and to continuously improve policies, trigger mechanisms, financing arrangements and operational approaches.

15. Monitor implementation of this Declaration and strengthen accountability for its commitments and for the National Anticipatory Action Roadmaps through measurable indicators, nationally agreed targets, inclusive community feedback mechanisms, IGAD regional platforms, annual progress reviews, peer learning and periodic reporting on the institutionalization and financing of anticipatory action and the localization of early warning and early action.

16. Call upon IGAD and its Member States, development partners, humanitarian organizations and international financial institutions to scale up coordinated humanitarian and resilience support for conflict-affected populations in Sudan, including internally displaced persons and refugees in neighbouring countries, while increasing assistance to host communities through investments in their resilience, essential services and livelihoods, and ensuring timely, inclusive and dignified support for both displaced populations and host communities.

To support the implementation of these commitments, we:

17. **Request IGAD,** through the IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC), in collaboration with Member States and partners, to support the implementation of this Declaration by: developing a regional monitoring and reporting framework; coordinating interoperable regional and national early warning–early action systems and transboundary risk-information exchange; convening annual progress reviews through the Regional Technical Working Group on Anticipatory Action; promoting peer learning, innovation and technical exchange; mobilizing technical and financial support for Member States; facilitating regional dialogue on anticipatory action financing; and strengthening Member States' legal, policy, institutional, coordination and operational capacities for anticipatory action.

18. Call upon development partners, humanitarian organizations, international financial institutions, regional organizations, the private sector and philanthropic organizations to align their support with nationally led and regionally coordinated priorities for anticipatory action; increase predictable, flexible and pre-arranged financing; support legal and policy reform, institutional capacity strengthening, innovation, evidence generation, technology transfer and knowledge exchange; strengthen collaboration across the humanitarian–development–peace nexus; and invest in locally led anticipatory action and community resilience, including through National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and other local actors.

19. Commit to transitioning disaster risk management from a predominantly reactive approach to one that prioritizes anticipatory action by establishing, by 2027, nationally agreed anticipatory action protocols for priority hazards. These protocols should include trigger thresholds that enable risk layering across different financing instruments and mechanisms, pre-agreed multisectoral actions, clear institutional responsibilities and pre-arranged financing. We further commit to operationalizing these protocols through regular simulation exercises, monitoring and activation when predefined thresholds are reached.

20. Express our gratitude to the people and Government of the Republic of Kenya for hosting this regional platform and for their warm hospitality.