



REPORT OF MINISTERIAL MEETING

ON

**THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DIRECTIVES OF THE 5TH SUMMIT ON THE CLUSTER OF
IMMIGRATION, TOURISM, TRADE, LABOUR AND SERVICES**

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KIGALI, RWANDA

28th May 2014

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1. Background

The Ministerial meeting on the implementation of the directives of the 5th summit on the cluster of Immigration, Tourism, Trade, Labour and Services and took place from 28th May 2014 in Kigali, Rwanda.

The meeting was attended by delegates from the Republics of Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan and Uganda. The list of participants is appended as *Annex I*.

2. Welcome and Opening Remarks

The Head of Rwanda delegation, **Hon. Francois KANIMBA**, Minister of Trade and Industry, on behalf of the Government of Rwanda, welcomed his counterparts and especially the Republic of Burundi and Republic of South Sudan who are participating as full participants in the projects for the 1st time.

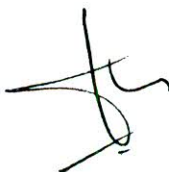
He noted the importance of facilitating the free movement of people, labour and services in the region which will attract global investors to invest in the region. He wished the meeting fruitful deliberations.

The Head of delegation of the Republic of Burundi, **Amb. SINKAZI Remy**, Ambassador of the Republic of Burundi to Rwanda, extended his appreciation to the Government of Rwanda for hosting the meeting and Partner States to have allowed the Republic of Burundi to join the initiatives. The Republic of Burundi promise will not delay the implementation of agreed projects.

The Head of delegation of the Republic of Kenya, **Hon. Joseph Ole LENKU**, Cabinet Secretary, Interior and Coordination of National Government, expressed his sincere gratitude to the Government of Rwanda for the kind hospitality accorded to his delegation. He noted that the current borders drawn by colonial masters have been our points of divergence. He therefore proposed that they should be turned into points of convergence since the current march towards integration in the region is unstoppable.

The Head of delegation of the Republic of South Sudan, **Hon. Ngor Kolong Ngor**, Minister of Labour, Public Service and Human Resource Development, thanked the Republic of Rwanda for hosting the cluster meeting of Ministers. He expressed his gratitude to counterpart Ministers for their commitment in working hard to achieve and advance dreams of the Northern Corridor countries. He stated further that the Republic of South Sudan reiterates its commitment to work hand in hand with members states towards realization of the Integration Projects, and will double its efforts to catch up with the rest of Partner States to promote the agreed projects for the mutual benefits of our people in the region.

The Head of delegation of the Republic of Uganda, **Hon. Amb. James BABA**, Minister of State for Internal Affairs, extended his sincere gratitude to the Government of Rwanda for the warm welcome accorded to the Ugandan delegation. He expressed his appreciation to the technical committee for the focused and action oriented report. He reiterated Uganda's commitment to the full implementation of the directives of the 5th Summit. He further noted that implementation of directives will go a long way in allowing free movement of labour and services; and reduce the cost of doing business within Partner States.



3. Adoption of the Agenda

The Agenda was adopted with no amendments.

4. Discussion and decisions

The meeting considered the recommendations of the Technical Committee report and made the following decisions:

4.1. Implementation of use of Interstate Passes by 1st July 2014

- a. The Partner States reported that they are ready to use the passes by 1st July 2014.
- b. The meeting noted that the draft Border Procedure Manual on the use of Interstate Passes is ready to be signed by Heads of Immigration of Partner States during the next summit, as herewith attached as *annex II*.

4.2. Sensitization of operationalization of Immigration officials on use of ID/Voter/Student Cards as travel documents

The Republic of Uganda proposed a plan that was adopted on the sensitization program and the starting date is 16th June 2014. The team will meet in Uganda and start with the borders with Kenya and follow the borders with Rwanda. The plan herewith attached as *Annex III*.

4.3. Sharing of alert lists

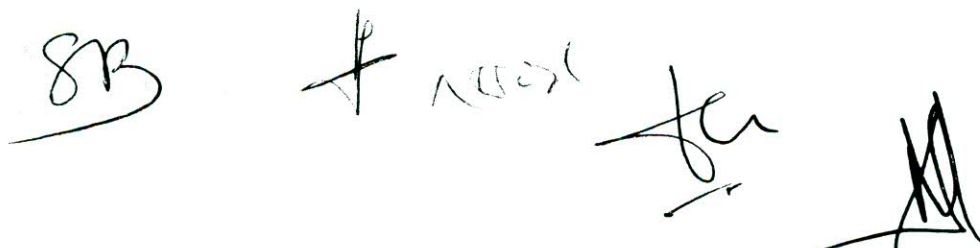
- a. The Partner States agreed to share the alert lists and recommended a joint meeting between Security organs and Immigration departments to discuss practical modalities of sharing alert lists, before the next Summit.
- b. The meeting noted the format to be considered in adding or removing a person on the alert list, and promised to provide inputs before the next summit. The draft formats are herewith attached as *annex IV*.

4.4. Operationalization One Stop Border Post along common borders

- a. The Republic of Rwanda and Republic of Uganda agreed to start the operationalization of One Stop Border Post effective the 1st June 2014.
- b. The meeting further recommended that the operationalization be rolled out to other common border before the next Summit.
- c. Partner States approved the One Stop Border Post Procedure Manual, herewith attached as *annex V*.
- d. The Republic of Uganda reported that it is consulting with the Ministry of ICT and Ministry of Lands on allowing Rwanda to extend fibre optic to Uganda.

4.5. Standard Student card

Partner States are ready to implement the use of Standard Student Card by 1st July 2014.

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