



Decisions of the 15th CEWARN Committee of Permanent Secretaries (CPS)

20 November 2019 - Juba, South Sudan

The 15th meeting of the CEWARN Committee of Permanent Secretaries (CPS) representing IGAD Member States convened on 20 November 2019 at Palm Africa Hotel in Juba, South Sudan. The CPS Meeting was preceded by the 14th meeting of the Technical Committee of Early Warning (TCEW) that comprises Heads of national Conflict Early Warning and Response Units (CEWERUs); IGAD Focal Persons and CSO Partners that convened from 18-19 November 2019 in the same venue.

Based on an appraisal of a progress report presented by the CEWARN Unit and the national CEWERUs on the mechanism's activities from 19 July– 18 November 2019, as well as a set of recommendations on CEWARN's planned operations for 2019-2020 that were tabled by the TCEW, the CPS has adopted the following decisions:

On CEWARN analytic products and dissemination

1. Commends the CEWARN Unit's collaborative arrangement with the United Nations Department of Political and Peace building Affairs (UN DPPA) to enhance CEWARN's early warning analysis and dissemination protocols; and further commends the CEWARN Unit on the development of standardized early warning report templates (namely: Implementation Report, Field Assessment Report, Alerts, Situation Report, Overview of Peace and Security in the IGAD region, and Policy Briefs);
2. Encourages national CEWERUs to adapt and utilize the standardized early warning report templates; and calls on the CEWARN Unit to support the utilization of these templates by national CEWERUs;
3. Directs the CEWARN Unit to complete the development of the CEWARN outreach and dissemination strategy towards optimal utilization of CEWARN analytic products and engagement with relevant stakeholders and decision-makers;
4. Instructs the CEWARN Unit and national CEWERUs to commit resources to consistently document and share successes, best practices and lessons learnt from its early warning and response operations across the region;
5. Appreciates CEWARN's first regional scenario building exercise on peace and security; and instructs that it is undertaken regularly and made more robust by better use of statistical data;



6. Further observes that regional scenario building exercises need to be preceded by similar exercises at the national level; and encourages engagement of National Research Institutes (NRIs) and a wider spectrum of stakeholders including CSOs;
7. Welcomes the presentation on CEWARN seminar outcomes on integrating conflict sensitivity to tax governance and administration; and directs the CEWARN Unit and national CEWERUs to identify priority areas of intervention;
8. Commissions the CEWARN Unit and national CEWERUs to identify priority thematic areas for research;

On enhancing capacity of national CEWERUs and the CEWARN Unit:

9. Appreciates the completion of the revitalization of national Conflict Early Warning and Response Units (CEWERUs) in Kenya and Uganda for optimal functioning including the expansion of their steering Committee membership; and directs the CEWARN Unit to support the completion of the exercise in the remaining Member States;
10. Encourages the CEWARN Unit to regularly conduct induction exercises for the mechanism's national and regional structures - given a noted high turnover of officials and the continual expansion of the mechanism's networks;
11. Acknowledges the establishment of the CEWARN Geographic Information System (GIS) and Remote Sensing (RS) platform and directs the CEWARN Unit to support its utilization by all Member States; further encourages national CEWERUs to develop own capacities in GIS and RS;

On strengthening Response initiatives

12. Calls on the CEWARN Unit to complete the development of the CEWARN response framework and support its domestication;
13. Recognizes the Rapid Response Fund (RRF) as an important facility to regularly support national and regional-level response initiatives; urges the CEWARN Unit to expeditiously undertake orientation on the regulations of the revitalized RRF for the Member States; and further directs that RRF projects will be informed and guided by early warning analyses;



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14. Stresses the need to have sustained and well-coordinated cross-border peace initiatives in order to achieve impact as opposed to ad-hoc interventions;

Post-2020 CEWARN strategy framework:

15. Appreciates the completion of the CEWARN Strategy Framework Assessment exercise and notes the reservations expressed by the Technical Committee on Early Warning (TCEW) on some of the conclusions and recommendations contained in the final report; instructs CEWARN to document reservations as an annex to the report before the report's wider dissemination; and
16. Commissions the CEWARN Unit to lead the development of CEWARN's Strategy Framework for the period 2020-2025. **END**