

## Talking Points – High Level Event – IGAD

Delivered by Jos Verbeek, Special Representative for the World Bank to the UN and WTO in Geneva

- 1) The World Bank congratulates the IGAD member states on sustained commitment to and progress made under the Nairobi Declaration.
- 2) It is a sign of strength of the process that today we see the launch of the Regional Support Platform for the IGAD Nairobi Declaration. This regional support platform is an important tool to ensure that regional commitments are furthered at a domestic level.
- 3) The World Bank has long been a partner to the Nairobi Declaration. Through 14 projects being financed under the IDA18 sub-window for refugees and host communities, the World Bank is partnering with the Governments of Djibouti, Ethiopia and Uganda to implement their commitments under the Nairobi Declaration, Djibouti Declaration on Education and Kampala Declaration on Self-reliance, Jobs and Livelihoods.
- 4) In Somalia, as across the region, The World Bank as a development agency knows that addressing the poverty, exclusion and vulnerability of displaced persons and their host communities is a key part of overall development of a hosting country.
- 5) As the World Bank reaches a point of ‘normalization’ with the Government of Somalia, we are pleased that one of the first IDA projects for Somalia recently approved by the Board of Directors will be an Urban Support Program with especially attention to the inclusion of IDPs in urban planning and benefits.
- 6) The Nairobi Declaration sets a highly successful global example for how to pursue such an approach – mainstreaming of a focus on displaced persons and host communities within broader development strategies.
- 7) We wish IGAD Members States the very best with the continued work on the Nairobi Declaration and stand ready to continue our support.