TOPIC: INTRA-AFRICAN MIGRATION: ISSUES AND PERSPECTIVES.

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The 21st century (age of mobility). More people move today than at any other point in human history.

According to IOM, roughly one out of every thirty-five persons in the world is a migrant. This trend is unlikely to be reversed in the foreseeable future.

International migration denotes any movement by humans from one country to another. (Voluntary and Involuntary)

Migration patterns have diversified tremendously in the recent past. Policy makers are developing new ways to understand migratory trends and implement policies aimed at managing movement of persons.

As a consequence of increased global migration flows and diversity, States have developed systems and structures to control the movements.

Migration affects all countries either as countries of origin, transit or destination.
Outline

- Preamble
- Factors Influencing Migration
- Current migration situation in Africa
- Migration trends (Facts)
- Intra-African migration challenges
- Strategies to promote intra-African migration
Factors Influencing Migration

- Socio-political, economic (rural-urban migration)
- Communal violence world-wide, often as a result of ethnic or religious intolerance
- Economic disparity between developing and developed economies (RECs)
- Changes in the ecological environment leads to food and water insecurity in various parts of the continent

Analysis using recent data from the Global Bilateral Migration data base and the migration and visa data bases from the determinants of international migration (DEMIG project) (Flahaux and De Hass, 2016) and census data from 15 ECOWAS countries (Awumbila et al, 2014) confirms that the majority of African migrants continue to move within the continent.

Majority (over 50%) of Africans who migrate do so inside the continent, with only 15 per cent to 20 per cent taking the route to Europe. There are 18.6 million migrants in Africa (of which three million are non-Africans).
How and where are people moving: Focus on the Southern Route (estimations since 2011): Source Regions > Transit – Destination Countries

- **Libya / Europe**
  - unknown number, mainly from Nigeria, Senegal, Mali, Ivory Coast

- **Sudan / Libya / Europe**
  - unknown number (Eritreans Somalilanders, Somalis, Ethiopians)

- **Djibouti / Puntland / Yemen / KSA**
  - at least 320,000 (80% Ethiopian)

- **Horn of Africa**

- **Zambia / Zimbabwe**: 
  - **South Africa** (unknown number) 
  - mainly from DRC

- **Tanzania / Mozambique / Malawi / Zimbabwe / Zambia**: 
  - **South Africa** (and beyond) 
  - estimated 70 – 100,000 (Somali & Ethiopian)

- **West / Central Africa**

- **Sudan / Egypt / Israel / Europe**
  - unknown number, mainly from Eritrea & Sudan
  - (Estimates: up to 5,000 Eritreans per month)

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- The subject of migration, both as a process and a population dynamic cuts across three sustainable development goals, namely: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; Africa’s transformative development plan, and; Agenda 2063.

- In the three development goals, issues of equity, poverty eradication and inclusion are given prominence
Migration patterns and trends in Africa

In Sub-Saharan Africa, intra-regional migration is larger (67 percent) than migration to other regions. Major destination countries within Africa are South Africa, Côte d’Ivoire, Nigeria, Kenya, and Ethiopia.

In West Africa in particular intra-regional movements make up 84% of migration movements making it the region with the largest intra-regional movements (SWAC and OECD, 2012).
Intra-African migration challenges

- Conflict-induced or forced migration has been a long-standing global phenomenon
- Terrorism
- Violent extremists and radicalization
- Youth bulge and Unemployment
- Introduction of visa and other immigration restrictions of traditional destination countries
- Policies of African regional groupings such as EAC, ECOWAS, and SADC
Strategies to promote intra-African migration and their linkages with agenda 2030 on SDGs

National, Regional and International Cooperation/Dialogue on Migration (e.g. National Coordination Mechanisms on Migration, Khartoum Process, Rabat Process and Valetta Summit)

Incorporation of migration into the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, States rectified the failure to acknowledge the linkages between migration and development in the Millennium Development Goals

The Agenda, adopted at the UN General Assembly in September 2015, comprises 17 goals and 169 targets to end poverty, protect the planet, and promote peace and prosperity

The inclusive Agenda, which promises to “leave no one behind”, incorporates migration, mobility and migrants, sustainable development goals (SDGs) and their targets

Migration is no longer seen as a consequence of lack of development

The various goals and targets recognize the multidimensional reality of migration and its ability to contribute to inclusive growth. The 17 SDGs comprise concrete measures to implement the sustainable development agenda

Goal 10 “to reduce inequality within and among countries” calls on countries under target 10.7 to “facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies”; which is also echoed in the Global compact on Migration
Strategies to promote intra-African migration contd......

Implementation of a number of social and economic empowerment programmes to improve migration policies and halt irregular migration, particularly amongst the continent’s youth

Invest in research and data gathering on south-south migration and to continue the design of new educational policies in the light of challenges surrounding high-skilled emigration

Promotion of pan-African labour policy coherence and the implementation of both global (Agenda 2030) and regional (Agenda 2063) development frameworks, both of which recognize the critical role of migration for sustainable development

There is need to promote intra-African movement of labour that will offer durable solution to the migration crisis facing the continent,” said the ministers in a joint statement

All African countries should abolish all visa requirements for fellow Africans by 2018 in order to promote the free movement of people across the continent

Implementation of a joint labour migration program for Africa formally adopted in 2015, it provides a strategic regional intervention to leverage migration for development as well as to protect workers’ rights

Leverage and enhance the opportunities offered by the large flow of intra-regional labour migrants for Africa’s development

Regional bodies such as EAC, COMESA, IGAD, ECOWAS and SADC and destination and origin countries to facilitate intra-regional migration within Africa
Asante