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ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY; Collage of Social Science, Center for African Studies,

**The Role of Regional Economic Blocs in African Integration: the case
of Inter Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD)**

By: Ketema Dinka

Advisor: Dr Yasin Mohammed

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ACRONOMYS

ACBF: African Capacity Building Foundation

ACP: African Caribbean and Pacific

CENSAD: Community of Sahel-Saharan States

CET: Common External Tariff

COMESA: Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa

CUs: Customs Union

ECOMOG; ECOWAS Monitoring Group

EPAs: Economic Partnership Agreement

FTAs: Free Trade Agreements

GATT :General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

GDP: Gross Domestic Production

IOC; Indian Ocean Commission

LDCs; Least developed Countries

NAFTA: North American Free Trade Agreement

PTA :Preferential Trade Area

SADCC: Southern African Development Coordination Conference

SSA: Sub-Saharan African

ASAL: Arid and Semi-Arid Land

AU: Africans Union

BRICS: Brazil, Russia, India, China and Republic of South Africa

CEN-SAD: Community of Sahel-Saharan States East African Community

CIDA: Canadian International Development Agency

COMESA: Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa

EAC: East African Communities

ECCAS: Economic Community of Central African States

ECOWAS: Economic Community of West African States

EU: European Union

FDI; Foreign Direct Investment

HSIC: Heads of State Implementation Committee

IDDRSI: IGAD Drought Disaster Reliance and Sustainability Initiative

IGAD: Inter-governmental Authority on Development

IGADD: Inter-governmental Authority on Drought and Desertification

IGASOM: IGAD Somalia Mission

IMF: International Monetary Fund

LPA: Lagos Plan for Action

MDGs: Millennium Development Goals

NEPAD; New Partnership for African Development

NGO: Non Governmental Organizations

OAU; Organization of Africans Unity

OPEC: Organization of Petroleum Export Countries

PAP: Pan African Parliament

RECs: Regional Economic Communities

REM: Regional Economic Mechanisms

RIA: Regional Integration Area

RTA; Regional Trade Areas

SADC: Southern Africa Development Community

UMA: Arab Maghreb Union

UNDP: United Nations Development Programmes

UNECA; United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

USAID: United States Agency of International Development

WB: World Bank

ABSTRACT

The concept of African regional integration is intended to solve the economic, political and social problems of African countries by coordinating the efforts of all African countries through regional and continental integration. The motives of regional economic communities have the prospect of enhancing continental development and integration in Africa under the umbrella of African Union. The theoretical and empirical back-ground of regional integrations are also examined to bring out the importance of regional blocs in African development and integration. In addition, based on thou, the progresses and challenges for African regional integration have discussed. There are visible progresses on IGAD cooperation and integration programmes implementation but, those changes are characterized by low span and uneven because of economic, social, political, environmental and security challenges at all regional of the continental including the IGDA region. Finally, this study strongly recommends that, there is needs of improve the institutional capacities of the IGAD and the member states to solve the rest of developmental challenges in the region such as; economic instability, security threat, financial constraint, external interference, less development of infrastructures and environmental challenges. However, IGAD and the rest of RECs are remaining as the central nerves for African development and continental integration.

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CHAPTER ONE: Back-ground of the Study

1.1 Introduction

The initiative for African integration has a long history, dating back to the foundation of the African association in London in 1897, which was followed by the first Pan-African conference held in London, in 1900 (Shivji, 2005). One of the demands of Pan-African movement was to end colonial rule and racial discrimination. It was against imperialism and it demanded human rights and equality of economic opportunity. The manifesto the Pan-African Congress used for the continental integration was given for a new world context for international and regional cooperation however it was for Africans or black cooperation at a time.

According to Madyo (2008), regional integration is very pertinent issue in Africa, in light of the economic weakness, political instability and social vulnerability in the continent. The continent has been infested with deep rooted poverty, lowest share of world trade, weakest human development and infrastructure in comparison with the other continents. Because of this, regional economic integration is more needed in Africa to enhancing sustainable development through solving the above problems and to speed up the pre-aimed continental integration.

Since the 1970s and especially after the Lagos Plan of Action (1980), a number of regional blocs were formed across the continent. But eight of them have recognized by AU as regional representatives. Today there is no country in Africa that is not a member of at least one regional economic group. As reflected in the number of regional agreements both in the continent and world- wide, therefore, the issue continues to occupy a center-stage in the economic and political agendas of Africa countries (Alemayehu and Hayile, 2002).

In recent decades, the urgency for African regional integration has been underscored by the combination of external and internal factors. The challenges for African development and continental integration are many and regional integration has great potential to weed-out Africans from these problems. But it need great take care in the regional cooperation and integration areas identification, operation and implemented as well as evaluation. This will be possible by ensuring that the role of regional blocs and understood by all the necessary stakeholders. As justified by Sarbo (2010), African regional blocs are increasingly being viewed as important mechanisms of interstate cooperation in the environmental, political, security and

economic spheres. Today, there is no country of the world that is not encompassed by one or more regional groupings. There are not just expectations and opportunities from regionalism, but also fears. While some see it as a potential to enhance their position, provide economic benefits, protect their national identity and values against western dominated globalization, others may consider it a mechanism that might dilute their identity and weaken their newly achieved sovereignty.

According to Dima(2013), within the OAU, various resolutions and declarations adopted by specifically the Summits in Algiers in September 1968, in Addis Ababa in August 1970 and May 1973, identified the need for the regional integration as the pre-condition in African integration. In addition, these resolution and declaration on the need for regional integration used as a pre-request for the formation of RECs to solve the untimed African economic and social problems and to the realization of the long stand Africans integration of OAU.

According to Medhane (2003) and Dima(2013), the 1980 Lagos Plan of Action for the Development of Africa, followed by the 1991 Abuja treaty to establish the African Economic Community, proposed the creation of regional economic communities (RECs) as the basis for African integration, with a timetable for regional and then continental integration. Based on this many RECs were formed and currently, there are eight RECs recognized by the AU, each established under a separate regional treaty. They are: Arab Maghreb Union (UMA), Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD), East African Community (EAC), Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and Southern Africa Development Community (SADC).

The general mission of RECs is to assist and complement the efforts of the member states to achieve food security and environmental protection, maintain peace and security and humanitarian affairs through creating economic cooperation and integration in the regions, sub-region and in the continent as well as by having positive relation with all partners.

Many scholars and leaders have believed the notion that: without regional and continental cooperation and integration, African will remain permanently weak and vulnerable to economic, environmental, social and political crisis. This study is concerned about the role of regional economic communities in the process of African integration focusing on Inter-

governmental Authority on Development. The study is based on the assumption of Regional Economic Communities are the nerve system in the realization of African economic development and political integration.

IGAD is an economic block of East Africa which consists of Ethiopia, Kenya, Djibouti, Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda and Somalia as member states. The strategic location of the region, its size, ecological diversity, vast resources and people who are naturally integrated by culture and trans-boundary resources are among the main advantages that the IGAD possesses.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Through regional integration states can pool their efforts and resources together to offset their marginal position through a coordinated approach for a stronger bargaining position in the global arena. Regional integration and common institutions can also help in preventing, managing and resolving conflicts between and within states. The corresponding gain from political stability and regional security can have positive impact on economic activities, social and economic progress.

As stated in Sarbo(2013),in the post-colonial period, political and economic integration has viewed in Africa as mechanism to overcome underdevelopment, marginalization and fragmentation as well as improve the continent's position in the global political economy systems. The creation of a vast Continent with common market by opening up of African economies through the effort of RECs is a prerequisite for Africa's economic development and integration. It must, therefore, be re-emphasized here that Africa either unites or perishes, and there is no other choice.

RECs are expected to act as the nerve centers of the continental integration process which is very important for the sub-regional/regional or continental development and integration. African Regional Economic Communities are the bases for creating continental integration and they have great probability and possibility in fostering the continental economic, social, cultural and political development and integrations.

This study assuming that regional economic communities are very important for Africa particularly to enhancing and realize the continental sustainable economic development and in creating conducive environment for continental integration. The idea of Africans integration had

aimed by the Pan-Africanism movement, the OAU and later the AU. Regional blocs are very crucial instrument in the continent because, they can use as the roadmap and nerve system of AU in the process of development and political integration. This study is focused on the role of IGAD in the process of African integration by identifying the institution policy areas and examine some remarkable achievements have made by IGAD in the past few years in the member countries.

IGAD is a regional bloc of East Africa which consists of Ethiopia, Kenya Djibouti, N. Sudan and S. Sudan, Uganda and Somalis as member states. The overarching vision of IGAD is to be the premier regional organization for achieving peace, prosperity and regional integration in the sub-region. Its mission is to assist and complement the efforts of member states to achieve, through increased cooperation, food security and environmental protection, promotion and maintenance of peace and security and humanitarian affairs, and economic cooperation and integration (HBF, 2006).

To improve the implementation of IGAD programs, having information about the ongoing achievement and the role that IGAD can play in the process of African integration is very important.

So far, comprehensive study was not conducted on the role of IGAD in the process of African integration. This study is conducted to assess what roles IGAD can play in the process of African integration based on the major progresses/ achievements that made by the institution in the preceding decades. By assessing the challenges of the institution in over all regional economic integration policies and programmes implementation, the study also intends to examine the key challenges of IGAD has faced. The study also strives to suggest alternative approaches to improve IGAD role in the efforts to realize regional cooperation and continental integration.

Since the major purpose of this research is to assess the role of IGAD in the process of Africans integration, it endeavors to answer the questions like: what roles IGAD can play in the process of Africans integration? What were the major achievements of IGAD since its establishment and what are the alternative approaches in the process of transforming IGAD in to a viable regional as well as in the continental integration?

1.3. Objective of the Study

1.3.1. General Objective of the Study

The general objective the study is to assess the major roles of IGAD in the process of African Development and integration with some main achievements that the institution brought in the member countries.

1.3.2 The Specific Objectives of the study

Specifically the study is intended to;

Identify the major cooperation and integration areas of IGAD region

Determine the main roles of IGAD in the process of African development and integration

Describe major achievements facing IGAD toward its development Policy

Elaborate the key challenges of IGAD in the process of policy implementation

Forward some recommendations that will help to enhance the roles of IGAD in regional/continental development and Integration

1.4. Methodology and Procedure of the Study

The study employed qualitative research and the specific research design was descriptive research approach based on document analyses. The data for the study were gathered from official documents and recorded materials which are related with the topic under study as well as feeling and understanding of concerned bodies was also surveyed. The population of the study is IGAD institution and its member states. More qualitative and the study employed more secondary data from the existing IGAD related documents and primary data also obtained from the focal persons of the institution in Ethiopia. Secondary data this study were collected from books, published materials of IGAD, related studies and web site.

1.5 Significance of the study

The result of this study could provide understanding about the role of regional organization in continental development and integration, help to differentiate strengths and weaknesses of IGAD

in its past achievements; could be used to extend the past experiences of the institution in the future IGAD activities, identify challenges that have hindered the implementation of IGAD development plans in the region and alternative solutions for better implementation of IGAD development plan. The result of this study could be show the gaps and stimulate individuals/institutions for further studies in the area and also use as literature for who want to conduct study on the related topics.

1.6 Scope of the Study

Since it is too difficult to study the role of all RECs and strategic location of the region could attracting the international and continental communities attention, ecological diversity, vast resources and people who are naturally integrated by culture, experienced by rapid inter and intra states conflicts and trans-boundary resources are among the main reasons which embraced the researcher to select IGAD from the rest of RECs. In the first place, the study is only concern on IGAD, this is because of the content of the study is limited to the main roles of IGAD in the process of Regional Economic integration based on the information which obtained from IGAD and its member countries.

1.7 Limitations of the Study

During the study under taking, the researcher has faced the following limitations: shortage of time, lack of sufficient finance to take physical observations as put in the proposal of this thesis, unavailability of up-to-date data on the achievements of the institution since the head quarter of IGAD is located in Djibouti.

1.8 Organization of the Study

This study is consists of five chapters include the above chapter. The chapter two of the study deals with review of related literature on the study. It tries to defining the conceptual framework of the study and analyzes theories of regional integration. The perspective of Africa regional integration and general overview about regional integration in Africa as well as the formation, progresses and challenges of RECs in the process of African developments and integration also deal in this chapter. Chapter three deals with historical back-ground of IGAD, with its cooperation areas as well as the institutional strategies in policy implementation and chapter four is about the institutional role of IGAD in the African development and integration, achievements

of IGAD as well as key challenges facing IGAD in the implementation of its development plans. In the last chapter efforts are made to forward conclusion and some recommendations.

CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1. Introduction

This chapter deals with conceptual and theoretical aspects of the topic at international, continental, and regional levels. Basically, the study starts with supporting the ideal; regional blocs can play crucial role in the process of African development and integration through the cooperation and integration of the member states at both regional and continental levels. The literature review part of the study starts by defining regional integration and goes through theoretical origin, development, benefits and stages of regional integration as well as the perspective of regional integration in African with its historical overviews and progresses. The last section of this chapter deals with the formation of African Regional Economic Communities/RECs/ with its benefits as well as the common challenges of integration in Africa at both regional and continental levels.

2.2. Conceptual Framework of the Study

Regional integration is the process in which two or more states enter in to a regional agreement in order to enhance their common benefits through the regional institution and rules. The objectives of regional agreement could range from economic to political as well as environmental although it has typically taken the form of a political economy initiative where commercial interests have been the focus for achieving broader socio-political and security objectives, as defined by each national government.

Regional integration refers to the process by which states within a particular region increase their level of interaction with regard to economic, security, political, social and also cultural issues. African Regional Economic Communities (RECs) is the group of individual countries in regions for the purposes of achieving greater economic development and political integration. They are described as the 'building blocks' of the African Union. The literature on regional integration initiatives clearly distinguishes between regional economic integration and regional economic cooperation. Regional economic cooperation is seen more as ad hoc and temporary scheme, which is mainly based on contractual agreements with regard to projects of mutual interest

between member states, while regional economic integration the coming and working together of two or more states in regional trading agreements for more permanent duration.

RECs is the crucial tool in the processes of creating continental integration, in addition to fostering regional economic development and integration, it can also bring peace and security with in and out of the member states through developing the sense of harmonization and integration. There are a number of theoretical studies that have addressed the importance/benefits of regional integration in their regions or nations rather than their contribution in the continental or international levels.

2.3 Theoretical Literature on Regional Integration

As previously noted, theories of regionalism can be divided into regional cooperation, market integration, development integration, and regional integration. This part of the study is examine and analyzes the theories of regional integration: origin, benefits and stages of regional economic integration. It also further reviews the written documents on African regional economic integration in order to determine what could be understood, concluded and recommended.

2.3.1 Origin and Developments of Regional Integration

Integrationist policies are still actively implemented in much of Sub-Saharan Africa and Asia and are considered crucial for nation/continental-building and for overcoming .problems, (Colchester, 2000). To Colchester, the traditional realist school argues that as the international system is characterized by anarchy and competition among states, what determines the behaviors of states are security, power, and self interest rather than the common good.

On the one hand, as stated by (Keohane, 1984; and Hoffmann, 1993) in Colchestr study (2000), there is a school of thought in international relations associated with institutionalism that argues that institutional arrangements can promote cooperation among states. While the post Second World War period witnessed the emergence of multilateral institutions like UN and its organs, EU. From its inception in 1945 the United Nations itself recognized the role of regional organizations, acknowledging them as efficient mechanisms of dealing with regional conflicts and the maintenance of international peace and security in (UN Chatter, Article 52). However, regional groupings were considered as auxiliary to the central role of the United Nations.

Regional organizations are increasingly being viewed as important mechanisms of interstate cooperation in the political, security, social and economic spheres.

The traditional theories of trade, which assume constant returns to scale and focus on static gains, provide a limited practical insight to regional integration policy issues, in particular in developing countries such as in Africa. Even the theoretical insights of the more recent trade theories do not fare better. According to Alemayehu (2002), the basic idea of Krugman's hypothesis is that under assumption of increasing returns to scale, economies of scale and trade cost considerations determine the location of economic activity.

According to Madyo(2008), Marxist- Leninist theories, who believe in that integration emerges as a reflection of the internationalization of capital, and it's intrinsic to capitalist economy. In this theory, the views move toward the creation of single market is being the connection of capital and internationalization of firms, rather than the desire of maximizing welfare in order to rationalize the allocation of scarce resources among countries of the world. However, regional groupings were considered as auxiliary to the central role of the United Nations in this regard, which remains the premier institution of global governance. With the collapse of European colonial empires, the new states also sought to assert their position in the world through regional groupings.

As stated on NAM conference (2004), the Non-Aligned Movement, the OAU, and the League of Arab States, and similar groupings soon similar emerged to speak for the least development and powerless countries of the world. In other hand, the successes of the European Union, and the collapses of colonialism were inspired the world and after that many regional organizations were established in different parts of the world. Gradually, regional organizations are considered as important elements in the global political economy and they have taken as mechanisms of interstate cooperation in the political, security and economic spheres. There were 194 agreements ratified in 1999 and it contained 94 agreements form the early 1990s. The last few years have experienced huge qualitative as well as quantitative changes in the agreements related to the Regional Integration Scheme.

The change from a system of closed regionalism to a more open Model had arisen out of the fact that the section of trading blocs that were created among the developing countries during the

1960s and 1970s were based on certain specific models such as those of import substitution as well as regional agreements coupled with the prevalence generally high external trade barriers. These agreements tend to be more forward in their outward approach as well as show commitment in trying to advance international trade and commerce instead of trying to put a cap on it by way of strict control (Ibid).

The concept of equal partners grew out of the concept of providing reinforcement to the economies to all the member countries. Under this section the various countries agree upon the fact that they will help economies to maintain the balance of trade between and prohibit the entry of other countries in their trade process. An important example of this would be the NAFTA, formed in 1994 when the Canada- USA Free Trade Agreement was extended to Mexico. Another vibrant example would entail as to how EU has formed linkages incorporating the transition economies of Eastern Europe through the Europe agreements. It has signed agreements with the majority of Mediterranean countries by highly developing the EU-Turkey customs union and a Mediterranean policy.

Recently, regional integration has come with new modes. The regional integration in Europe took place in the Treaty on the European Union (the Maastricht Treaty) in November 1993. There was also a formation of the European Community. There was also formation of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA). There was also the formation of NAFTA which is a free trade arrangement of North America formed in January 1994, subsequently there was formation of the Latin America initiated the Southern Common Market Treaty in January 1995. In The Pacific there was the Asian Free Trade Area (AFTA) in 1993 which looked into reducing the tariffs.

The corresponding gain from political stability and regional security can have positive impact on economic activities and social and economic progress. In line to this, the common objectives of regional integration is enhancing the political, economic and social capacity of the given region to increase the within and to decrease outside influences in the global socio-political system through cooperation and collaboration efforts of member states.

Generally, there are clear gains for all the countries involved in regional cooperation in infrastructure, irrespective of their size and level of economic development. By contrast, regional cooperation in infrastructure and natural resources is far less demanding. This is may be true for advanced region or sub-region like EU zone but in the case of African regional integration, like political, economical and security, regional cooperation and integration in infrastructure development and natural resources managements have been highly demanded. Regional integration can be takes place at international, continual and regional or sub- regional levels to the seek of keep common interests, maximize the political, economical, social, and environmental benefits of the communities/nations at any level. It can assume that, today, there is no country of the world that is not encompassed by one or more regional groupings.

2.3.2 Needs and Benefits of Regional Integration

Regional integration arrangements are a part and parcel of the present global economic order and this trend is now an acknowledged future of the international scene. It has achieved a new meaning and new significance. Regional integration arrangements are mainly the outcome of necessity felt by nation-states to integrate their economies in order to achieve rapid economic development, decrease conflicts and build mutual trusts through integrated efforts (http://www.alternative-regionalisms.org/?page_id=2).

According to the first United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) study on regional integration¹, perceived benefits of integration include: sustainability; increased foreign and domestic investment; increased global competitiveness; promotion of regional public goods; prevention of conflict; consolidation of economic and political reform and economies of scale. Most arguments usually cited the European Union as the most successful effort at regional integration and the maintenance in line with the above regional integration benefits.

At regional level, following the Rio summit on environment, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe representing a gathering of European states - adopted a convention on access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice on environmental matters at Aarhus in Denmark on 25th June 1988, (UNDP, 2004). As justified in UNDP, however the EU is a typical regional organization in the international system which can be emulated by others or an exceptionally successful integration as a result of a specific

historical circumstances and political conditions, currently, the Euro-zone has been suffered by financial crisis and dissatisfaction of their citizens. On the other hand, the traditional realist school argues that as the international system is characterized by anarchy and competition among states, what determines the behavior of states are security, power and self interest rather than the common good.

Closer integration of neighboring economies has often been seen by governments as a first step in creating a larger regional market for trade and investment. This is claimed to spur greater efficiency, productivity gain and competitiveness, not just by lowering border barriers, but by reducing other costs and risks of trade and investment.

Bilateral and sub-regional trading arrangements have been advocated by governments as economic development tools, as they were designed to promote economic deregulation. Such agreements have also aimed to reduce the risk of reversion towards protectionism, locking in reforms already made and encouraging further structural adjustment. However, as justified in Sarbo(2010), integration can be complicated by perceived or real gains or losses among the members that may lead to disputes and a sense of loss of national sovereignty. For success, integration thus requires strong commitment in implementing the agreed arrangements, fair mechanisms to arbitrate disputes and equitable distribution of the gains and costs of integration. The benefits of regional integration have been measured by the effectiveness of the institution, unless, it may be changed in to challenges.

Some claim the desire for closer integration is usually related to a larger desire for opening nation states to the outside world, or that regional economic cooperation is pursued as a means of promoting development through greater efficiency rather than as a means of disadvantaging others. It also claimed that the members of these arrangements hope that they will succeed as building blocs for progress with a growing range of partners and towards a generally free and open global environment for trade and investment and that integration is not an end in itself, but a process to support economic growth strategies, greater social equality and democratization.

Regional Trade Agreements is one of the crucial tool and mechanism in the process of regional integration. There are two necessary conditions for an RTA to serve as a commitment mechanism. One is in Polachek, 1992, Conflict and Trade: and the other is an Economics

Approach to Political Interactions. Economics of Arms Reduction and the Peace process, he found that a doubling of trade between two or more countries lowers the risk of conflict between member states by around 17%. However, this may not hold in cases where conflicts are often non-economic and intra national, although with significant spill over. The benefit of continued membership is greater than the immediate gains of exit and the value of returning to alternative policies.

The other use of Regional Trade Area in peace building is that the punishment threat is credible. Regional integration arrangements work best as a commitment mechanism for trade policy. But RTAs can also serve to lock the country into micro and macroeconomic reforms or democracy if those policies or rules are stipulated within the agreement (deeper integration arrangements) and the underlying incentives have changed following the implementation of the RTA. Regional Integration Areas may be an instrument for joint commitment to a reform agenda, but their effectiveness may be limited by the low cost of exit and difficulties in implementing rules and administering punishment.

With respect to other macroeconomic reforms, one may argue that the degree of openness of RTAs may help discipline in macro policies especially in the zone shares a common exchange rate. Regionalism, as defined in this paper, encompasses efforts by a group of nations to enhance their economic, political, social and cultural interaction. Such efforts can take on different forms, including regional cooperation, market integration, development integration, and regional integration.

Regional cooperation is a collaborative venture between two or more partners, with common interests in a given issue; market integration consists of the linear progression of degrees of integration. Regional integration is defined as a process by which a group of nation states voluntarily and in various degrees have access to each other's markets and establish mechanisms and techniques that minimize conflicts and maximize internal and external economic, political, social and cultural benefits of their interaction. As point out in Madayo(2008), regional integration is characterized by joint institutional mechanisms by sharing sovereignty. Although this may be true in theory, in practice this is very difficult, particularly in Africa as if involves ceding a percentage of countries power to, when he arouse that the existing of regional

integration schemes in Africa function in a governmental rather than supranational mode, and actual share of severity is minimal.

The theories of regional integration more or less assumed the economic cooperation (trade, market, investment) between or among the member countries based on the sense of economic scale, production diversifications and specialization. In this assumption, inefficient production and nonproduction are unacceptable and can be cut by trade creation as well as there is great expectation to create strong trade relations interactions among member states of a given region rather than with the rest. However, counter to this assumption, African countries or regions are experienced by mono and low quality of production as well as they are enforced to create more trade partners with the advanced world, because of global influences and least level of development (Ibid).

The difficulty of regional economic integration theories to the less developed regions especially to African regions is at the first and second stages (FTA and CU) on regional integration not at common market, economic union and complete integration, but to reach at the more beneficiary stages (3rd, 4th and last stages) need great efforts and take a time. Regional economic integration succeeds is very important in Africa, not only because of the mentioned above but also because the policies that are required to insure its successes are the same as those needed of Africa is to benefit from the processes of regional integration it will be create opportunity to be benefited from globalization and world economy.

At the literal definition, the concept of regional integration may be antagonized the contemporary issue of globalization but in practice both ideas have been aimed to bring sustainable development by compiled effort of the member states. As indicated in the above theoretical part of this study regional integration has both benefits and effects, but the success of regional integration can be determined by the strangeness of the institution and its member countries. This argument can be evidenced by the success of EU and the failures of developing country regional integration however the current reality may be going to reverse the EU achievements by worldwide financial crisis and development achieved in developing world.

The issues of regional economic integration is universal, but currently, it is very crucial in 3rd world countries include Africa, because of it has the benefit to weed out African countries from weak economic development, instable political condition and social marginalization. Africa look

up to the EU as a model of regional economic integration as it has been successful and can be taken experiences from it in this regard. If placed within the context of African realities, regionalism in Africa can certainly be part of the solution instead of part of the problem, but Africa will need to be careful and selective in the areas that it wants to replicate, due to the differences in situations of countries on both continents.

2.3.3 Stages/Phases of Regional Integration

According to Lee (2002), African leaders have long envisaged regionalism as a viable strategy to pursue with a view to uniting the development and integration theory was developed in response to problems created by the inefficiency of market integration. All organizations that aim to integrate regional economies in Africa have adopted market integration as a component of their strategy, with a view to increasing intra-regional trade. Market integration is the linear progression of degrees of integration beginning with a free trade area and ending with total economic integration. The model for such integration is the EU.

By definition, regional integration entails the coming together of two or more states, normally through reciprocal preferential agreements, based on one or more of the following successively more integrating cooperation arrangements: Preferential Trade Area (PTA) or Agreement, where member states charge lower tariffs to imports produced by fellow member countries than they do for non-members; Free Trade Area, a PTA without any tariffs on fellow members goods; Customs Union, an FTA using the same or common tariffs on imports from non-members; Common Market, a customs union with free movement of the factors of production; Economic Community, a single-currency common market or monetary union in which fiscal and monetary policies are unified. If political sovereignty is given up an economic community becomes a federation or political union with common legislation and political structures.

Regarding to this (Madyo2008) has justified regional economic integrations have five stages based on the level and degree of integration. There are stage one; create free trade area, stage two: formation of customs union, stage three; having common market; stage four create economic union or macroeconomic; stage five; complete regional integration. The first stage has suggested to create satisfactory trade and tariff rulings as well as an attitude of cooperation, and one in which trade income would be used to form an atmosphere of comparative rather than

competitive advantage. The hope was that more nations would join; giving what would appear to be a united front against what was perceived as a Communist threat in the region.

Most regional blocs are using this mode in their quest for regional economic integration, even though not all have been successful. For instance, EU had been succeeded through the above stages even if, it has been challenged by financial crisis since from 1998, and in other hand, SADC schedule is to be achieve a free trade area by 2008, custom union by 2010, the common market by 2015 the monetary union by 2016 and the single currency complete integration by 2018. However, some critics have however said that SADC integration targets are too ambitious and might not be meeting, even EU is one example of succeeds in this mode in line with the theory.

Parallel to the above five stages, complete regional integration can be also create through the following dimensions of developments: geographic scope illustrating the number of countries involved in an arrangement (variable geometry) the substantive coverage or width that is the sector or activity coverage (trade, labor mobility, macro-policies, sector policies and social) and the depth of integration to measure the degree of sovereignty country is ready to surrender, that is from simple coordination or cooperation to deep integration.

As justified in recent African continental and regional cooperation documents, the end point of African regional cooperation and integration is continental development and integration. African regional integration can be classified as the following: illustrating the number of countries involved in an arrangement based on geographical scope, identify the substantive coverage or the regional and continental cooperation areas (trade, labor mobility, macro-policies, sector policies, and social issues), and the last level is the depth of integration to measure the degree of sovereignty a country is ready to surrender.

The ultimate goal of regional integration is to merge some or all aspects of the economies concerned. This usually evolves from simple cooperation on and coordination of mutually agreed aspects amongst the number of countries to full integration or merger of the economies in question. This shows that the theoretical and practical by which continental or regional cooperation can be came from simple coordination or cooperation to deep integration.

2.3.4 Pre-conditions for the Success of Regional integration

As it was justified in the above section, regional integration is a process in which states enter into a regional agreement in order to enhance regional cooperation through regional institutions and rules. The objectives of the agreement could range from economic to political to environmental, although it has typically taken the form of a political economy initiative where commercial interests have been the focus for achieving broader socio-political and security objectives as defined by national governments. Regional integration has organized either supranational institutional structures or through intergovernmental decision-making, or a combination of both.

According to Sarbo(2010), the preconditions for success or failure of regional integration depend on these as well as other factors. These include, among others: the existence of interstate and internal conflicts, state capacity and cohesion among member states, organizational mandates and geographical coverage, and whether there have overlapping memberships and duplication of mandates, the existence or lack of a regional hegemonic power or dominant state, the existence of extra regional actors with their role in relation to regional politics, the regional economy, the strength of member states and the extent of regional integration in trade, investment and infrastructure, the domestic politics of member states; the role of member states and the regional organization leaders.

Pan-Africanism began as a protest movement against the racism endured by black people in the New World, slowly evolved into an instrument for waging an anti-colonial struggle dedicated to bringing about African rule in Africa, and ended up as a dream or inspiration for African leaders and intellectuals who hoped that perhaps in the future, African states might be federated as the United States of Africa (Clark1988).

As justified by Clark, Biney and in others studies, Nkrumah, Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia, and Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt were instrumental in founding the Organization of African Unity a meeting forum for all newly independent African nations. Many ideological obstacles had to be overcome. There were conservatives and radicals among independent African leaders; there were those who wanted a very strong organization that would be a foundation for continental government and those who were interested only in a much weaker association of

sovereign states. Lastly, major compromises had to be made and the OAU ended up being not quite the strong continental organization that some wanted, but certainly an important symbolic step toward the dream of a Pan-African unity. Much has happened in the last forty years to dull the optimism about eventual unification of the African continent.

The OAU remained a weak organization until it was replaced in 2001 by the AU. OAU was, therefore, composed of a number of different elements, representing sometimes interlocking, but often divergent, economic interests, which united temporarily in an anti-colonial struggle. In any event, more than forty years of independence show that winning freedom from European colonial powers was but the beginning of a long tortuous process of liberation, nation-and institution-building, consolidation, and economic development, a process which began with one-party systems and socialist economies. At the beginning of the twenty-first century, African countries have been faced economic globalization and multiparty political systems (Ibid).

As justified in UN-SC and AU –PSC (2011), an important aspect of the AU design is the significance of the African Regional Economic Communities and Mechanisms, or RECs/REMs. They differ in structure, scope and intensity of activities. Some have overlapping memberships. Some focus strictly on economic and development activities, but a few play critically important and active roles in political activities on peace and security issues. In addition to reorienting the emphasis of regional integration from trade to macroeconomic coordination, others also argue in favor of focusing on cooperation in infrastructural and natural resource development (Robinson, 1996). Robinson argues that; the requirements for making reasonably complete forms of regional integration work are demanding: the distribution of gains has to be carefully enumerated, compensation mechanisms established to make the distribution equitable and a degree of national sovereignty surrendered should put in order to achieve the necessary harmonization at the regional level.

According to WB (2005), when a state/government seeks to attract foreign investment or tries to export to other countries, it has to address some external expectations, such as compliance of major WTO rules and others. Addressing these demands also enables a country to participate in various bilateral and multilateral trade negotiations and to obtain membership of different global trade bodies and regional trade blocs. Conversely, internally-oriented capacity building relates to

developing domestic supply-side for provisioning of public goods, development of human resources, firing effect to enabling responsive civil service and creation of legal and judicial framework which is supportive of trade and investment. Since internally oriented capacity depends on the in-house competence of the state's internal organs, it can be called the supply-driven capacity.

As explained by Abdulhamid(2008), the success and failure of any institutional can be determined by political power to take decisions; managerial and technical skill of that institutions personel; the institutional capacity to coordinate, control, and integrate the work and decisions of the its self and the member unities; the strength of stakeholders participation in all institutional activities; and method of monitoring and evaluation.

Regional Integration has the potential to strengthen the process of globalization and develop international sense by filling the gaps which is beyond the capacity of a single state or continent. Enlarging market, enhancing industrialization and specialization of production, expanding investment, and ensuring sustainable development through minimizing security and environmental threats require regional, continental and international integration.

As it is possible to understand from the experiences of only region in the world it is impossible to test the benefit of regional integration with in a short period of time. To be that, it needed to pass through different stages and fulfill pre-condition for the success of regional integration. However, the idea and practices of regional integration is found in every part of the world, the model of African regional integration is some-what different from the other in its nature and goals.

2.4. Perspective and Rationale of African Regional Integration

As it is possible to understand from Africa history, started from 15th century and until the second half of 20th century, African had been negatively affected by European slave trade, colonialism and neo-colonialism operations. This sense of shared identity is a collective desire to maintain one's own cultural, social, and political values as well as to create continental union through enhancing national and regional integration.

As stated in Bahru(2008) by the beginning of World War I in 1914, all of Africa, with the exception of Liberia and Ethiopia, had been colonized and initial African resistance overcome by the colonial powers. Over the next decades as colonial rule became institutionalized, African resistance to colonialism became more focused and intense. By the 1950s, there were organized nationalist parties that demanded political independence in almost every colony in Africa. In fact, almost all nations struggled for their own national independence rather than for the continental ones. On the other hand, there was the movement which encompassed the spirit of the continent and blackness in its struggle to end slave trade, white operation and letter the colonialism which is called Pan-Africans movements.

Pan-Africanism goes back to the writings of ex-slaves and the movement had gained legitimacy with the founding of the African association in London in 1897, also the first Pan-African conference held, in London, in 1900. Some of its leaders (Pan-Africanists, such as Edward Wilmot Blyden,) were call for African unity and promoted the return of Africans Diaspora to the continent, whereas others, such as Frederick Douglass, called for rights of African people in their adopted countries or continent (Biney, 2008). As Shivji (2005), Pan-African movement which started in the 1900s won the reputation of being a pace setter for the decolonization of Africa. It was against imperialism and it demanded human rights and equality of economic opportunity. The manifesto given by the Pan-African Congress was for a new world context for international cooperation whatever was at that for Africans or black cooperation.

After the Second World War, Pan-Africanist interests once more returned to the African continent, with a particular focus on African unity and liberation. A number of leading Pan-Africanists, particularly George Padmore and Du Bois, emphasized their commitment to Africa by emigrating (in both cases to Ghana) and becoming African citizens. Gradually, a new group of Pan-Africanists arose amongst the nationalists; such as Kwame Nkrumah, Sékou Ahmed Touré, Ahmed Ben Bella, Julius Nyerere, Jomo Kenyatta, Amilcar Cabral, and Patrice Lumumba (Ibid).

As one of the pan-Africanists, at the eve of Africans independence, Nkrumah said, “We are today the richest and yet the poorest of continents, but in unity our continent could smile in a new era of prosperity and power. Fundamentally, African unity was the only solution by which Africans could regain their respect, dignity and equality in the world.” As Nkrumah it is difficult

to bring development in African without the creation of united African government and he urged that the process towards continental government should begin with a nucleus of a few states committed to the objectives of political and economic unity and leave the door open for the attachment of others as they desire to join or reach the freedom which would allow them to do (Franke, 2008). As some scholars and leaders criticized Nkrumah he had great interest to assign Ghana as a center and he him-self as a president of new African government what they called self centered approach whatever Nkrumah was not a petty nationalist.

International Pan-Africanism had probably reached its high point by the end of World War II and based on directions which set up by Pan- Africanist movement and through enforcement made by young Pan-Africanists, the Organization of African Unity was founded May 1963 with different objectives including to bring sustainable development and political integration in the continent.

The context of Pan-Africanism in contemporary times stems from the fact that the movement should incorporate the intellectual, political and economic cooperation that should lead to political and economic unity of Africa. The Pan-African alternative provides a framework for African unity and integration (NYNC, 2012). Just as African nationalism could only be expressed in Pan Africanism so, for Nkrumah, Pan-Africanism could only be expressed in the formation of a political union of Africa which he variously called the United States of Africa or the African Union. In April 1958, Nkrumah with the help of his Pan-Africanist mentor George Padmore organized the conference of independent African states in Accra. In the same year, Accra organized the all African People's Conference of delegates from national political parties and trade unions (Ibid).

The Second Conference of the Independent States took place in 1960 in Addis Ababa. Fifteen states attended it including Nigeria and the Provisional Government of Algeria. In the same year again there was the All Africa People's Conference held in Tunis. The Third All Africa People's Conference was held in Cairo in March, 1960. In the same year in May, 32 independent African states met in Addis Ababa and adopted the Charter of the Organization of African Unity.

According to Adogamhe(2008), there was a debate between the two groups on African integration whether the objective of building the United States of Africa should support the processes of socioeconomic and political transformation of African states and societies either

through a process of immediate creation of a central government or through 'gradual instrumentalism' or functional evolution of African state-system. Nkrumah's position on the need for a political union of African states as an urgent task and the fundamentalist or Nkrumah group called as Casablanca group and the gradualist called as Monrovia group.

Nkrumah believed, not unreasonably, that regional groupings and associations would make continental unity even more difficult while Nyerere seemed to the gradualist approach holding that any form of unity among any number of African states was a step in the direction of African unity. Later on the untimed Ethiopian president came with the consolidated ideas negotiated the two groups and OAU was established in May 5 1963 in Addis Ababa. However there were two groups with different assumptions on the process of African developments and political integration both groups had believed in the African development and political integration though they differ on its process and timing. Gradualism was finally inscribed in the OAU Charter.

In process of struggle to African independence and its achievement, many organizations, institutions, groups, parties, and individuals as well as events had been contributed at various levels. African countries were and remain fully cognizant of the benefits of regional cooperation and integration. In other hand, regional groupings on political and economic integration has been part of African strategy to overcome fragmentation, marginalization and improve the continent's position in the global political economy.

As it was explained in Kifle (2008), AU needs to strive to achieve greater unity and solidarity between African Countries and the people of Africa, promote and defend African common position on the issue of interest to the continent and its people; promote sustainable development of the economy, social and cultural aspects as well as the integration of African Economies through coordinate and harmonize the policies of the existing and future RECs for the gradual attainment the objective of AU long stand African political integration.

From its establishment in 1963, OAU identified the need for the economic integration of the continent as a prerequisite for continental economic development and political integration. The early twenty century witnessed remarkable attempts by Africa's political leadership to promote regional integration as a means of fast-tracking economic progress, facilitating peace and security, consolidating democratic gains, and promoting the general welfare of the African people.

The first liberation struggle led to the independence of most African countries mainly, in the 1960s and 1970s. During these two decades, the ideas of Pan-Africanism and hope had gained ascendancy. This new historical epoch was aimed at the achievement and consolidation of Africa's independence and for its development. As stated by Sako (2004), Africa has no choice but to integrate into world economic and financial systems, if it is to grow sustainably and reduce extreme poverty. This is a major challenge that is being addressed through the New Partnership for Africa's Development a vision and strategic framework for Africa's renaissance.

Africa is one of the most varied regions in the world in which layers of strong and underlying unity cross or intertwine with other layers of diversity and disunity. These differing lines of force are known to constantly pull the continent in several directions, *and this* had resulted to the formation of several regional or sub-regional organizations. In fact, given the aforementioned increase in organizations, the intensification of the Cold War divisive grip on Africa as well as the destructive logics of nationalism and neo-colonialism, it was almost to be expected that some of these organizations would end up as rivals.

The success of the EU since the 1950s bears a strong testimony to the potential benefits of regional integration. But, there are a number of theoretical studies that have addressed the importance of regional integration, but most of them are too cussed on regions rather than contribute in the continental development and integration. In addition as Cheung (2010) Africa offers good market opportunities and has abundant natural resources - both energies and minerals and the economic cooperation can create strategic partnership for Africa that matches the comparative advantages of the continent with the new order world. While, in order to attract market and investment opportunists from new world, there is a need of bring political stability, investment environment and security conditions in African through more integration and collaboration at all levels.

Africa's sheer immensity and the nature of its countries' political, economic, and social relations seemed to favor regional over continental cooperation as ties did generally not extend much beyond neighboring states. Consequently, the cohesion needed to ensure effective and meaningful cooperation was more likely to be found on a regional level and most initiatives promised greater chances of success if undertaken in smaller groupings.

Most relevantly, the past few years have seen important changes and the increasing sense of urgency arising from the developmental failures and humanitarian catastrophes of the recent past seems to have

had a muting effect on many of the traditional intra-regional rivalries. This sense of urgency is also increasingly felt by outside actors and has led to a more constructive approach by many international institutions such as the European Union, China and India. All these developments have substantially increased the chances for effective inter-African cooperation through the formation of new regional economic communities.

The concept of integration in Africa has continental and regional perspectives. The imperatives of continental integration were influenced by the dynamics of several factors. There were two main factors behind the thinking. The first was the fact that at independence, small and weak states were coming into statehood. This was considered as the balkanization of the continent at the time, thought as a deliberate attempt by the departing colonial powers to weaken Africa and the second factor was the need to pull together resources and coordinate African action to push out the remaining pockets of colonialism and racism from the continent. The theory of regional integration is more discussed about the issues of socio-economic cooperation and integration rather than the contribution of regional integration in the continental integration.

Regional integration is also taken as a core element for the Continent's development and integration agenda and the end goal of both continental and regional dimensions is to achieve sustainable economic development and achieve continental integration through the effects of African countries with the collaboration of the partners. Moreover, since African continent is too vast and difficult to manage the problems at the continent level, one should acknowledge that the process of African economic development and political integration has been led by AU and should practice at regional level.

However, there were pre-existing regional organization in Africa like (COMESA, SADC, ECA), OAU decided to promote regional cooperation and development for continental integration and UNECA had been enforced the development of regional economics, integration and development there was no progress in African economic development and continental integration rather than regressive.

2.4.1 Challenges to African Development and Integration

The establishment of the OAU in 1963 by the newly emerging states was inspired largely by the determination to promote the unity of African countries and coordinate their cooperation efforts for the achievement of improved living conditions for the people of the Continent. However, once independence was achieved the objectives of Pan-Africanism to continental integration were generally domesticated as national integration and development took precedence over the concern for inter-African

cooperation. Because of understandable that, the newly-independent leaders quickly became preoccupied with more immediate problems such as the unification of ethnic and religious groups, the consolidation of their own parties and power over the masses, and the fight against poverty as well as the defense of internal *coups d'état*.

As indicated in Beers (1991), immediately after independence, African countries had challenged by coups d'état, managing ethnic diversity, economic straggle, shaping political course and debt crisis. Realize African as black homeland and opposing apartheid as well as the influences of cold war also make African economic development and integration more difficult. In other hand, Post independence period, relatively most African economies were registering growth with average annual average of 4.5 percent between 1960 and 1975. Even more importantly, united political will, is directly related to the aforementioned tendency of many states to prioritize nationalism over regionalism in order to prevent their populaces' fragmentation along ethnic or other lines. These states believed that they had more to lose than to gain from increasing integration and consequently did not put in any more effort than was absolutely necessary in order to maintain influence and credibility on the African stage.

As maintained by Ndamo(2009),Alemeyehu(2002) and AU (2009), the existed RECs within the continent were perceived as the main building blocs for such a continent-wide integration initiative. But most of African countries joint to the economic blocks in their region mainly to obtain economic benefit rather than creating regional integration. The interests of RECs as institution as well as member countries as individual to create regional integration are there, but there are also costs of integration as much as there are benefits, while member states wanted to obtain benefits of integration.

However, by the end of the 1970s African economies started stagnating, and in some regions, even began showing negative rates of growth, because of rising energy costs following the OPEC price increases of the early 1970s, and falling African commodity prices and these factors left African economies unable to pay their debt. Since the early 1960s, UNECA has encouraged African states to combine their economies into sub-regional markets that would ultimately form one Africa-wide economic union. Within the OAU various resolutions and declarations adopted by specifically the Summits in Algiers in September 1968, in Addis Ababa in August 1970 and May 1973, identified the need for the economic integration of the Continent as a pre-requisite for the realization of the objectives of the organization (Katutua, 2011).

To overcome this and other problems of the continent, African leaders have started to search the solution through collective efforts. The 1980 Lagos Plan of Action for the Development of Africa is the part of the solution and followed by the 1991 treaty to establish the African Economic Community (also referred to as the Abuja Treaty), which proposed for the creation of RECs as the basis for African integration, with a timetable for regional and then continental integration. This treaty came into force in 1994. Following the Lagos Plan of Action (1980) and Abuja Treaty (1991), various regional arrangements on policy coordination, cooperation or integration have been initiated and re-aligned the pre-existed and the new created regional blocs. Despite many regional organizations have been formed on the above assumptions, only eight of them recognized by the AU as the representatives of regional economic communities in the continent.

On the basis of the above agreement, the previous regional blocs have got legal ground and many additional RECs were formed in the continent. Regional bargaining power and pooling of expertise are crucial to Africa in terms of a meaningful contribution to reshaping the global economic order and protecting the interests of its peoples. Since the African Union is the lead organization in all the efforts at continental and regional integration in the continent, it is pertinent to look at its evolution, its policies and some of its activities, as well the road map it has charted for the realization of the African Economic Community.

As explained in ECA (2012), in the 1950s and 1960s, development mainly focused on economic growth and increases in outputs based on efficiency theories. In the 1970s, the growing gap between rich and poor within and between countries resulted in a shift to addressing social development and regional integration as key elements. Post independence (1970s-1990s) Africans experienced more fragmentation, severe economic crises and abandoned the spirit of pan-Africanism. Rapid inter and intra conflicts, cold war, overlapped national regional and continental assignment in Africa, ideological divergence and struggle for power control deep poverty and international crisis (oil and food prices) were some responsible factors for African problems b/n 1970s to 1990s.

As Sarbo (2013), African continent needs regional integration to broaden its market and attract foreign investment. Africa's failure to attract a fair share of global investment, in spite of its rich endowment of natural resources has been due largely to the perception of the Continent as the

world's riskiest place to do business. The high risks of doing business derive not only from the high incidence of conflicts and political instability, and the good governance deficit, but also from high business costs associated with the inadequacy of transport, communications and power infrastructure. A well-designed and effectively implemented regional integration process can help to address these problems.

2.4.2 Formation and Benefits of RECs in African Development and Integration

As Chimutengwende (no. date), the history of regional integration in Africa shows that the reasons or objectives for integrating have been evolving over time. These have shifted from the initial focus on the political decolonization of Africa to the current emphasis on socio-economic integration in the post independence era for stronger bargaining base in global fora and for mutual benefits in the process of accelerating economic growth and development.

As stated in Akokpari (2009), decades after independence African countries had been facing seemingly intractable development challenges. The impacts of cold war and the acceleration of the globalization process have placed Africans at further marginalization from world economic and political system which dominated by North American, Europe which latter encompassed South Asian and China. The external pressures on African developments were facilitated by the balkanization of the continent, the prevalence of conflicts, the imbalance economic power between Africa countries and the advanced world and more the all, the extreme poverty.

These factors along with African's precarious depend on the international market response; have left regional integration as the crucial alternative road map to wide out African from such problems and to realize the continental development and integration. The Economic Commission for Africa became the champion of regional integration, already in the mid-1960s proposing the division of Africa into regions for the purposes of economic development. Current African regional integration arrangements can be divided into two broad groups: those that fit into the LPA adopted in April 1980, and those that were either in existence or came about outside the Lagos Plan of Action.

As already noted, the acceleration of moves towards integration in recent years has been engendered by a number of national, regional and global factors. Post independence, most African economies were registering growth. Average annual GDP growth was 4.5 percent between 1960 and 1975. However, by the end of the 1970s African economies started stagnating,

and in some regions, even began showing negative rates of growth. Two main factors are blamed for precipitating the crisis: rising energy costs following the OPEC price increases of the early 1970s, and falling commodity prices. The combined effect of these factors left African economies unable to pay their debt.

To cover these and others shortfalls, as mentioned in different literatures, African states resorted to taking new loans to service their outstanding debts as well as meeting their domestic import needs, thus entering a vicious cycle of indebtedness. African States had begun rethinking about how to get out of the vicious cycle of economic stagnation, high import costs, declining commodity prices and growing indebtedness. In 1979, at an extraordinary session of the summit meeting of the OAU exclusively devoted to Africa's economic problems, the continent's leaders made a collective assessment of the continent's economic situation and came up with a plan of action, called the Lagos Plan of Action in 1980.

The plan was a collective response to the deteriorating economic situation, laying out a twenty years plan that was aimed at reversing Africa's economic crisis by building a self reliant, integrated and sustainable development through the establishment of the African Economic Communities by the year 2000. For the same goal and line with the LPA (1980), the OAU in 1991 launched the Abuja Treaty to provide a framework for the gradual establishment of the AEC, which was to culminate in the free movement of people and goods within the continent([web eprints.lancs.ac.uk/30779/3/AJICL](http://web.eprints.lancs.ac.uk/30779/3/AJICL)).

In 2007 and 2008, the AU adopted two protocols that are significant for economic integration in Africa. These are the Protocol on the Relations between the African Union and the Regional Economic Communities [Protocol on Relations] and the Protocol on the Statute of the African Court of Justice and Human Rights [Protocol on the African Court of Justice]. The former aims at addressing a difficult problem with Africa's economic integration, which is the multiple regional economic integration organizations with overlapping memberships, and no clear principles of co-ordination among them. The latter establishes a court with jurisdiction over issues that potentially encompass those arising under the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community.

The AEC Treaty is the foundation of an attempt to create an economic community covering the whole of Africa as continent with 54 sovereign states. If successful, the African Economic

Community will be the largest economic integration organization (in terms of membership) in the world (Ibid).

As Adogamhe(2008), the apparent weakness of these regional economic communities (RECs) is that they have operated as independent entities rather than building-blocks of the same corporate body to AEC. The continued dependence of African states on foreign trade taxes as a source of government revenue has made them reluctant to lower their trade barriers, which make the continent to reflect an early stage of economic community.

The 1980 Lagos Plan of Action for the Development of Africa, followed by the 1991 treaty to establish the African Economic Community (also referred to as the Abuja Treaty), proposed the creation of regional economic communities (RECs) as the basis for African integration, with a timetable for regional and then continental integration.

According to ADB (2010), the slow pace of continent-wide integration, the creation of man-made and natural disasters in some African countries and regions which has been beyond the capacity of single state to overcome, the initiations made by UN for the creation of economic integration, the needs of integration in the global economic have contributed for the formation of Regional Economic Blocs in some African regions. As GTZ (2009), this revitalized regional integration offers the most credible strategy for tackling Africa's development challenges because of the many weaknesses that overwhelm the limited capacities and resources of individual countries. Collective efforts with dynamic political commitment to integration can help to overcome the daunting challenges.

As UASID (2009) Madyo(2008) and Madine (2008), the eight RECs recognized in the Abuja Treaty as the building blocks for stronger economic integration and an eventual AEC Arab Maghreb Union (UMA), Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD), COMESA, EAC, ECOWAS, Economic Community of Central Africa States (ECCAS), Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), and SADC have strengths and weaknesses. For example, COMESA has built a reasonably strong Secretariat, EAC and ECOWAS have made headway on free movement of people, and SADC has made notable accomplishments in the area of transport corridors. But all RECs face a common challenge in their need to increase capacity to implement integration mandates and programs, monitor integration, and measure resulting benefits. Also, the capacity to prepare for and conduct negotiations must be strengthened at the regional and member state level, as evidenced by the failure of the RECs.

According to Kiefe(2008), the transition of the Organization of Unity (OAU) to the African Union (AU), as well as the foisting of a new economic blueprint for the continent-the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), combined with the growing role of the regional economic communities (RECs) in harmonizing and creating sub-regional norms and standards in the political and economic arena suggests a new trend towards regionalism in Africa. Indeed, in the new regional integration architecture, the RECs are considered to be the building blocks of the integration process led by the African Union.

According to ACBF (2006), Africa has no choice but to integrate into world economic and financial systems, if it is to grow sustainably and reduce extreme poverty. This is a major challenge that is being addressed through the NEPAD a vision and strategic framework for Africa's renaissance. A program of the AU, NEPAD is leading the Continent's efforts to address core development challenges. Within the framework offered by the initiative, African regional economic communities have a significant role to play, as they are the main institutions expected to implement NEPAD's programs.

As it is possible to understand from the literature, because of the general objectives of OAU/AU create regional economic integration as pre-condition for continental political integration, some imitative made by UN for global economic integration by enforcing regional economic integration, the creation of some natural and man-made disasters in some African regions, the temporarily success made by EU in the field of economic integration, the rising up of awareness on the importance of integration in sustainable economic development and with anther factors had enforced the formation of African Economic Communities started from the mid- of 1960s and latter the idea and practices of regional economic communities have been expanded in to all parties of the continent.

In the other hand, the institutional policies and programmes of OAU/AU should implement in the continent at different levels such as at continental, regional/sub-regional and at individual countries levels through the partner and participation of vary stakeholders. The key institutions which AU has been using them as instruments in the process of implementing its policies and programmes are: the institution organs, an individual African countries, Regional/sub-regional African Economic Communities and Civil societies and private sectors. Above all, RECs are

very essential and preferable in the implementation of AU policies and programmes implementation.

As indicated in Madyo (2008), African countries have reported many benefits from regional coordinated and integration policies. It is therefore an accurate observation that monetary union generates potentially large benefits for African countries through increased trade flows, macroeconomic stability, and economic growth. Two AU convened conferences of ministers in charge of regional integration; held since 2006, acknowledged the significance of RECs as central pillars for achieving continental integration and emphasized the need to rationalize and harmonize their policies, activities, and programs with a view to accelerating the broader integration process.

As ECA (2012) analysis, the concept of sustainable development is generally based on three component Pillars, namely, economic, social and environmental sustainability. In Acknowledging the importance of regional economic integration for accelerating growth and development one should appreciate the existence of RECs, which potentially apply for African economic development and integration, environmental protection and social development. As UN (2006), Social integration is a dynamic process of fostering unity among diverse members of society, including various identity-based and geographically-based groups.

As stated in Cheung(2010), one of the major factors that hamper FDIs to flow in Africa is the political risk. Three surveys, World Business Environment Survey (1999/2000), World Development Report Survey (1996/97) and UNCTAD World Investment Report Survey (1999/2000), found that corruption is the No. 1 constraint on FDIs to Sub-Saharan Africa and many other political risk factors, such as political instability, policy uncertainty, and weak regulatory framework are among the top list of constrains as well. According to RSA (2011), national treasury document FDI and domestic investors have great contribution in the national, regional and continental economic development and transformation in Africa. An important aspect is proposed overarching statement of regulatory principles that will apply to cross-border direct investment, aimed at enhancing certainty for foreign investors and domestic companies while also providing transparent mechanisms for intervention to protect public interest where warranted.

In line with the existing policy of African governments investment, the broader approach to FDI is based on the principle that most forms of FDI are expected to have net economic benefits for Africans and that, across most sectors of the economy, but there is a probability by which FDI could be affecting the public interest as well as undermine the opportunities of domestic investors. But what must need is having clear, applicable and environmental friend investment policy and regulations minimize the negative effects on the public interests.

African governments believing that; market integration will enhance economic growth and development. It has been argued that: market integration in Africa has been counterproductive to the regional agenda, because of African market integration, based on the EU model and therefore, regionalism as past practiced in Africa is part of the problem and not part of the solution but currently there are efforts to change the market situations. The major reasons for its failure rest with the fact that the strategy does not take into consideration African realities and African countries are experienced by mono-productions (Lee, 2002). But in reality, most African countries have been interested in participation in international trade negotiations at the expense of efforts at the regional and continental levels resulting in a decline of Africa's share of global trade from 5 percent in the 1980s to only 2 percent by 2002, especially the more advanced African nations (Republic of South Africa) has been on the position to creating more relation with the international institution rather than strengthen the continent or the regions.

As IMF working paper (2005), Small or poor developing countries can pursue enhanced trading arrangements including outside the framework of an RTA by deepening cooperation in trade facilitation and "behind the border" reforms. An important question is whether more intensive regional cooperation in trade-related areas such as trade facilitation and "behind the border" reforms those areas include sanitary and photo-sanitary standards, technical standards, investment code, competition law and intellectual property rights is likely to expand trade and raise economic growth by increasing efficiency as well as private investment (domestic and foreign).

As GTZ (2009), in the context of globalization, regional integration is an imperative for Africa, in terms of enhanced competitiveness in global trading, prevention of conflicts and consolidation of economic and political reforms. The 1980 Lagos Plan of Action envisaged the AEC which

categorized the African continent into five regional areas: North Africa, West Africa, South Africa, East Africa and Central Africa. Yet the configuration of RECs does not tally with the AEC regions. Indeed many studies have outlined the problem of multiple and overlapping memberships in RECs, which has had the net effect of undermining integration.

As explained in WB (2007), while the evidence for regional cooperation is compelling, Africa has seen relatively little regional integration, especially compared to other regions but the interest of the African governments and the potential for integration are vast. The most common form of integration is trade integration, which currently involves second-generation issues such as trade facilitation, Economic Partnership Agreements and the free movement of labor across borders. While the benefits of intra-African integration are limited (because most African countries produce similar goods), the steps towards regional integration can help overcome market inefficiencies due to low scale and also improve competitiveness with the rest of the world, trade with whom could have huge benefits.

Developing countries are increasingly turning to regional integration in response to the challenge of globalization, which has undermined autonomous continental/ national development strategies and to give them ownership of development policies and processes. As stated by Ndomo (2009) Africa is the most fragmented continent with insignificant economic development and regional integration can help the continent to overcome fragmentation by create larger markets to permit economies of scale, wider competition and increased foreign direct investment, enhance credibility of national reform through lock-in policy mechanisms and strengthen unity for international negotiations and by reducing the conflicts. This situation may be enhancing the capacity of African continent or countries in challenging the negative effects of globalization on their development and integration. With it is reintroduction around the world after the cold war, regional economic integration was recognized as potentially making a significant contribution in the process of developing the efforts of the 3rd world countries especially for African countries.

As explained in Madyo(2008), create strong regional economic integration in Africa through the efforts of RECs is an essential element in the reducing the vulnerability of African countries and the continent as a whole minimizing the external influence. The RECs can dealing with challenges such as fluctuation in the prices of African primary goods, increasing of prices of the

importing manufacturing goods from westerns market, which has been creating disorder of balance payment in the continent, region as well as in the individual African countries import-export systems. This argument shows that depending on mono- commodities and export primary goods-import manufactured goods are experiencing African countries in an adverse trade balance payment. RECs is very essential organs in specializing the commodities and in negotiating with WTO, EU and others mutual benefits and single voice approaches to improve the Africans negative trade balance in world market.

The institutional policies and programmes of OAU/AU should implement in the continent at different levels such as at continental, regional/sub-regional and at individual countries levels through the participation of vary stakeholders. The key institutions which AU has been use as partners in the process of implementing its programmes are: AU organs, individual African countries with their community, regional/sub-regional blocs civil societies, private sectors and international communities. Above all, RECs are very essential and preferable in the process of AU continental development and integration policies implementation in line with their regional cooperation and agendas. As it is known the end goal of Pan-Africanism, OAU/AU, RECs and other key partners is to bring sustainable development in all aspects and continental integration in Africa. It is possible to see the regional and continental progresses in African development and integration in the following section.

2.4.3 General Progress in African Development and Integration since 1990s

Based on the above literature, we can conclude that the victories of the Pan-African Movement began with Ghana's independence in 1957. This was followed by independence of many of the African countries in the 1960s. This, in turn, led to the formation of OAU, a continental organization that stood for the unity of Africa and the total liberation of the continent. The OAU have moved from a dream to reality! With Namibian Independence in 1990 and the freedom of South Africa in 1994, the dream has come true. The transition of the OAU to AU as well as the creation of a new economic blueprint for the continent-the NEPAD, combined with the growing role of the RECs in harmonizing and creating sub-regional norms and standards in the political and economic arena suggests a new trend towards regionalism in Africa.

Indeed, in the new regional integration architecture, the RECs are considered to be the building blocks of the integration process led by the African Union, to achieve continental development

and integration on the aspiration of Pan-Africanism(Kinfe,2008). In addition, as Sako (2004), over the last forty years, the institutional framework for Africa's integration process has evolved through a number of phases, in response to changing realities.

The establishment of the African Union (AU) in 2001 constitutes the latest phase in the development of regional cooperation and integration on the Continent. Drawing on lessons from experience with regional integration in the post independence years and taking account of the challenges facing the Continent in a rapidly globalizing world, the AU is expected to serve as the key instrument for the achievement of a rapid and sustainable development of Africa and the effective integration of the Continent into the global economic and financial system. Today Africa is pre-occupied with the drive to promote continental unity through its various institutions, including the African Union, its Commissions and the Pan-African Parliament, NEPAD, ECA, RECs and with the collaboration of other partners.

As stated in Madyo (2008) and in other studies, regional economic integration is a tool for economic development but it does not have the same impacts on the economic development of advanced and developing countries, because of historical back-ground, level of developments and economic characteristic disparities among developed and developing countries/African continent. Developed countries had formulated different regional economic integration policies and programmes in the 1950s, 1960s, 1970s, and early 1980s, and initially, African countries had gone on that the developed countries path to create regional integration. This pro-western regional economic integration with less considering the reality of the regions, needs and it could be taken as the challenge in African regional integration. However, there is growth and improvement in many sectors in African after the formation of RECs.

Institutional Transformation and Formation of RECs

As noted earlier the African Union came into being at the Durban Summit of the OAU in 2002. Within the short span of its life however, it has gone beyond the brief of its predecessor especially with regards to conflict management and is doing a great deal in building the institutions necessary for managing conflicts.

The transformation of the OAU into the AU in 2001 represented a significant move towards implementing the sustainable development agenda. Progress at the regional level in the implementation of sustainable development strategies was also reflected in the establishment of

the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). NEPAD, an AU programme that came into being in 2001, is a pledge by African leaders to address the continent's multi-faceted development challenges for the achievement of the MDGs and sustainable development. It recognizes that poverty eradication and improved living conditions for the majority of the population are essential for sustainable development.

According to the constitutive Act of AU Article 3, the objectives of the Union shall be to: achieve greater unity and solidarity between the African countries and the peoples of Africa; accelerate the political and socio-economic integration of the continent; promote and defend African common positions on issues of interest to the continent and its peoples; encourage international cooperation, promote peace, security, and stability on the continent; establish the necessary conditions which enable the continent to play its rightful role in the global economy and in international negotiations; promote sustainable development at the economic, social and cultural levels as well as the integration of African economies; promote co-operation in all fields of human activity to raise the living standards of African peoples; coordinate and harmonize the policies between the existing and future Regional Economic Communities for the gradual attainment of the objectives of the Union; advance the development of the continent by promoting research in all fields.

Particularly in science and technology; and work with relevant international partners in the eradication of preventable diseases (www.africa-union.org/root/au). In other hand the organs of the Union shall be: the Assembly of the Union; the Executive Council; the Pan-African Parliament; Court of Justice; The Commission; the Permanent Representatives Committee; the Specialized Technical Committees; the Economic, Social and Cultural Council; and the Financial Institution (Ibid).

In general form, there are two very significant developments and progresses in African integration efforts in recent years. One is the transformation of the continental organization, the OAU into the African Union with increased mandate and better structures to tackle important continental issues. The other is the establishment of the African Economic Community with clearly set time table and tasks for its realization. Following the Lagos Plan of Action (1980) and Abuja Treaty (1991), various regional arrangements on policy coordination, cooperation or

integration have been initiated, re-invigorated or re-aligned to continental aspiration on integration in the following sub-regional blocs. Africa's regional economic communities now have a more prominent role to play on the Continent's integration process. Enhanced regional cooperation and integration will provide the Continent with a platform for effective participation in international negotiations.

As indicated by Kiefe(2008) and ECDPM(2007), the transformation of OAU to AU with the creation of new organs and additional mandates, the recent economic growth and poverty reduction, the minimization of security threats, the increasing of African sound in the global system and the formation of RECs as the nerve system for African development and integration with clear legal framework would taken as the main progresses in the continental development and integration. The estimation of this results also suggest confirming that the presence of both continental and regional institution which should concerned about Africans economic, social, environmental and political development and integrations with some agreements to promote more development and integration can taken as positive and significant ground for Africans political integration.

In the process and practice of many the pre-existed OAU objectives had modified with the current global and continental situation, additional AU organs have been formed with mew mandates and strategy. In other hand, the formation of RECs with their own legal frame works has highly tied with the transfer of OAU to AU. All these have aimed at enhancing African economic, social and political development as well as to fostering the process of continental integration.

A Protocol on Relations between the AEC and the RECs was signed and entered into force on 25 February 1998, with the following objectives: to strengthen the existing RECs in accordance with the provisions of the Abuja Treaty, and the Protocol also aimed to promote the coordination and harmonization of the policies, measures, programmes and activities of RECs and to ensure that an efficient integration of the RECs into the African Common Market. The final OAU Summit in Lusaka from 9 to 11 July 2001 reaffirmed the status of the RECs within the African Union and the need for their close involvement in the formulation and implementation of all programmes of the African Union (Ibid).

To reposition African development and integration plan, the regional economic communities need to actively support each others in the process of development and cooperation policies and

programmes implementation to foster the economic social, physical connectivity and political integration in Africa. With the support of pan-African bodies such as the Economic Commission for Africa, the African Union, and the African Development Bank, the regional economic communities and African leaders need to build on successes of the past decade and emulate best practices elsewhere in the world.

Economic Cooperation, Development and Integration

According to WB (2007), Africa has an unprecedented opportunity for transformation and sustained growth. First, until the onset of the global economic crisis, economic growth was averaging 5 percent a year for a decade, accelerating to 6 percent for 2006-8. Growth was widespread: some 22 non-oil exporters had 4 percent or higher growth from 1998-2008. Alongside the acceleration in growth, progress on the MDGs has been sufficiently rapid that many countries (such as Malawi, Ghana and Ethiopia) are likely to reach most of the goals, if not by 2015 then soon thereafter.

In addition, Africa's private sector is increasingly attracting investment, with much of the funding coming from domestic banks and investors. Returns to investment in Africa are among the highest in the world. Success of ICT, especially mobile phone penetration, shows how rapidly a sector can grow. Private capital flows are higher than official development assistance and FDI is higher than in India).

As WB and UNECA (2013), in the years of worldwide economic crisis, African countries are experienced by remarkable economic development with an average GNP of 5.4% in the past few years and the expectation in the coming years also more than this. These reports also appreciated the economic developments in Africa by evidencing that, from total ten countries of the world who have achieved remarkable economic development, seven of them were from Africa. So, as explained in the literature part of this study under the sub-title of: progresses made by regional integration in African, RECs have been formed to response the economic challenged of the continent as whole and individual countries in Africa. However the progress is up and down, the economic development in Africa somewhat associated with the formation of RECs (1990s) and going on until now.

The constraints and deficiencies applicable to economic governance in Africa countries and regions do not constitute arguments for Africa to reject initiatives to move toward the

achievement of good economic governance. Rather they underscore the need for fundamental reforms to eliminate procedures that facilitate corruption, fraud, and embezzlement. In reality the countries of the continent are tied with strengthen institutional capacity and reduce government intervention and allow markets to operate efficiently to stimulate economic growth and reduce poverty.

It is important to note that Africa recorded the greatest increase in inward FDI (27%) in 2008 resulting in an increase of FDI stock in the region to \$511 billion. Plan for 2011-2012 was developed and approved by an EAC summit in April 2011. EAC has taken several initiatives to facilitate and accelerate the development of the agricultural sector. ECCAS is implementing a regional programme on food security and a common agricultural policy. Also, in order to accelerate the implementation of the ECOWAS agricultural policy, the Council of Ministers has adopted key strategic regulations. A strategic plan for the development of the livestock sector has also been prepared and adopted, as an important aspect of ECOWAS agricultural policy at the national and regional levels in the animal resources sector.

According to AU (2009), IGAD has developed a regional disaster risk management programmes and is currently initiating the establishment of a regional disaster fund and developing a map and atlas of the main hazards that cause disasters in the IGAD region.

The Alliance for Commodity Trade in Eastern and Southern Africa is a specialized agency of COMESA. SADC is continuing with the monitoring and implementation of the Dares-Salaam Declaration on Agriculture and Food Security, as well as the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan on food security and natural resources. SADC is also setting up a Seed Security network to facilitate the creation of a regional seed market. It is also facilitating the introduction of a harmonized seed system in all SADC member States.

As it was justified by the late prime minister of Ethiopia (Melese Zenawi), know a day African countries have a chance to bring development and democracy which we hadn't in the past 30 years. As we see development in some African countries, especially in Ethiopia, Republic of South Africa and Rwanda, it is possible to bring development in the rest of African countries. In a sense this person did not only devoted to show the African problems with their solution, rather than the warred about the world climatic changes and economic crisis as well as world relation.

As identified by African leaders on AU (2013) summit, African continent is on the position to achieving socio-economic development, to be realize the Pan-African and AU by keep up the ongoing over development in Africa, improve the agricultural production at all levels by increasing its annual budgets, promote the participation of African communities especially the participation of youth, woman and Childers, enhance the relation among African countries and regions by promoting infrastructure development in the continental, revisit the real participation of stakeholders according to pre-signed agreements as well as improving African/regions relation with international agencies. In addition to this trade and market expansion, investment attraction, improving institutional capacity and governance are some of undeniable progresses in recent past.

The progress achievements are varied from region to region and some determinant factors are maturity age, experiences from in and out of the region, the presence of vibrant states in the block also with collaboration with stakeholder's at all level, political environment and conflict condition in the regions as well as the extents of external influences.

It should be emphasizing that, regional economic integration is seen as an important strategy toward African economic development and continental integration. As it indicated in this chapter, despite African regional Putting all these factors together, we conclude that Africa could be on the brink of an economic takeoff, these Africa progresses have been came in the continent by the efforts of RECs under the umbrella of AU and its organs with the collaboration of some multilaterals agencies. To be sure, African countries still have to tackle persistent, long-term development challenges, such as undiversified production structure, low levels of human capital, poor service delivery, and weak governance, including corruption.

Promote Peace and Security

As **William (2011)**, the African Union's founding documents envisaged an organization empowered to play a major role in resolving Africa's armed conflicts. However, its practical abilities in the field of conflict management suffer from a persistent capabilities-expectations gap, falling well short of its ambitious vision. The organization can more effectively realize its goals by pursuing technical reforms in its key strategic planning offices and streamlining its partnership with the UN and Africa's regional economic communities.

As Healy 2011, the establishment of the AU in 2002 marked an important shift towards consolidating African peace and security activities at the regional level. The AU's Peace and Security Council is the key decision-making body in the new architecture. Its guiding principles include the traditional tenets of respect for sovereignty and non-interference alongside some more radical, interventionist principles incorporated in the AU's Constitutive Act. These include the right to intervene in a member state in respect of grave circumstances, namely war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity (article 4(h) of the Constitutive Act) and the right of member states to request intervention from the Union in order to restore peace and security (article 4(j) of the Constitutive Act).

Africa peace and Security Council shall utilize such regional arrangements or agencies for enforcement peace building actions under its authority. But no enforcement action shall be taken under regional arrangements or by regional agencies without the authorization of the Security Council, with the exception of measures against any enemy state, as defined in paragraph 2 of this Article, provided for pursuant to Article 107 or in regional arrangements directed against renewal of aggressive policy on the part of any such state.

As stated in (GTZ, 2009),(Adar,no.date) and (Kinfe, 2005), the existence of IGAD has brought a new diplomatic dimension to conflict management in the Horn of Africa. This was looked in the regional states but also locks out other interested parties beyond the region. The new ingredient is the internationally conferred legitimacy that IGAD possesses to address conflict within the region. This is buttressed by the decision-making powers that carry weight through the AU PSC up to the level of the UN, giving the organization a crucial agenda-setting role in directing African and wider international responses to conflict in the region.

Africa's dynamic security environment is characterized by great diversity from conventional challenges such as insurgencies, resource and identity conflicts, and post-conflict stabilization to growing threats from piracy, violent extremism, and organized crime taking root in Africa's urban slums, among others. The AU and the RECs each have comparative advantages in addressing African hot spot issues. If the two sides strengthen coordination on the basis of mutual respect and mutual complementarily, and if they make joint efforts to respond to the various challenges faced by the African continent. This will greatly enhance the overall effectiveness of the international community efforts to address African conflicts.

As stated by Dr. Dlamini Zuma on the 50th anniversary of OAU/AU 2013, Pan -Africansim united and inspired ^{the} African people in the continent and across the world they never accept any oppression and exploitation and we have to keep it up the roles of past generation. The collaboration and cooperation of African peoples is on the way to increase from time to time as it is evidenced by long time Somalia crisis by the effort of Africans while international community gave up in this regard.

Capacity to Contribute in Global Systems

Globalization is not only one of the most important concepts of economic development but also its effects are one of the most hotly debated and contested (Samuel, no.date). The OAU/ AU have deployed several small military observer missions during the past two decades. However, to deploy large peacekeeping operation each organization has required extensive western supports not only funding, logistics, and transportation but also political. In other side, financial dependence and the political conditions of the continent have been enforces the African RECs to accept these pro-western regional economic integration with less considering the reality of the regions, needs and capability of the continent and region/sub-region and it can open the door for external interference.

The reasons for achieving good economic governance and over all development in African regions and more in some countries of the continent give rise to a number of benefits. These include maximizing the gains from globalization; accelerating growth; reducing poverty; and creating a more stable, predictable macro-economic environment. Reaping the gains from globalization, for example, is the antithesis of economic marginalization, however (Amoako, 2002) much has been written about the economic marginalization of Africa. This finding is indicating that globalization is a powerful engine of world prosperity and, more importantly, it is here to stay. Most African countries have not been able to benefit from globalization to the extent they could, due to bad economic governance, fragmentation of states economy activities which have been made African countries less capacity to challenge the influences of globalization and to expiating the benefits ones.

By 2010, only eleven African countries remain outside the WTO, and most of whom have already applied for membership and are negotiating entry into the organization. However, membership alone does not mean effective participation and bring the benefits. This requires

taking part in setting the agenda of the multilateral negotiations and working to influence the formulation of new trade rules on the basis of their interests, but it shows that how African countries are increasing their position in the global issues through cooperation and integration.

It is very important to argued, in order to minimize the challenges of globalization and to maximize its benefits; African countries have needed more integrate both at regional and continental levels to enhance their capacity in the global economic and political system. When one could compeer current continental and regional capacity of African with the situations in 1970s and 1980s, now there is great improvement but progresses are relevant because they recognize that capacity building is a long-term process that requires a systemic approach and needs continuous efforts of all stakeholders.

As stated in Rippel (2011), Regional integration is necessary for African companies to be able to grow and ultimately become part of regional and global value chains. Other emerging economies, for instance in East Asia, are already further integrated with clear economic benefits. Despite existing agreements on closer integration, most regions in Africa are still trying to implement many of the basic provisions of these agreements. Nevertheless, this is an essential step if African countries are to become and stay competitive in the more closely integrated global economy.

As justified in WB (2008), Regional integration is at the forefront of the Heads of State agenda, for good cause. Even the international community is now reinforcing its efforts towards African economic integration, and strengthening synergies between different initiatives aimed at empowering African countries to reap the benefits of regional integration and globalization and reduce poverty in the continent. But low capacity levels in some countries, inability by others to finance projects on their own, and political squabbles hinder the process.

African international relation is on the way to improve from time to time: EU-African, Sino-African, Afro-Japan, Afro-American, Brazil- African can be taken as a major progress in African international relations but there is a need to work and improve more and more. There is no a relation with-out advantage but a need to balance the afro-Euro and American relations, African needs external relation with or with-out pre-condition like what we have with east Asia.

The mechanism by which advanced world hand over on the issue of African and some of those mechanisms are: good governance, terrorism, human rights, globalization, environmental

protection and disease control. For a long period of time, Africa as continent, regions and the individual nation relation with western had been imbalance and inclined to their interests but currently, there are some progresses on African Foreign relation. Despite Africa unsatisfactory track record in regional integration over the decades, in the case for cooperation and integration has become stronger, not weaker. This is due to the fact that the Continent has in recent years been confronted by a number of major challenges to which enhanced cooperation and integration constitutes an appropriate response.

The interests that the developed world toward African development and integration is not only limited in negative manner, but most of the time, they had needed to cooperate and collaborate with African continent, regions as well as countries in the areas of combating terrorism and other crimes environmental protection, controlling diseases like malaria, HIV ADIS, global integration on the western model, but they are not voluntary engaged on African regional and continental integration beyond saying. The approach of new world(BIRCS), is on the way to inversing this old mode of Africans external relation since their approach is based on win win approach, which is enforcing the westerns to change the old un direction approach. However, is constraint-continental and regional capacity which is a necessary condition to make use of opportunities provided by globalization, while the ongoing efforts of some African States to create enabling environment for national capacity building side with the regional ones to achieve these objectives its role in alleviating poverty, protecting the environment, and promoting human rights should not be undermined.

Political Commitment on Development and Integration

Progress or failure of regional integration initiative should be evaluated in the context of the Objectives it sets to achieve, and the political, economic and institutional context under which it operates. AU represents the strongest expression of the continent's aspirations and commitment to enhancing economic, political and social integration in the development of the region in order to reduce poverty and improve quality of life; to promote democracy and good governance; as well as to resolve and manage conflicts.

In spite of their differences, African states, shared the common experience of having been subjected to slavery, colonialism and imperialism. On securing political independence as

sovereign states, they were thrust into international economic and political system, in which the rules and regulations were not designed by and for them, and were called to participate on terms disadvantageous to their progressive development (Adogamhe, 2008). Their collective historical experiences and memories of marginalization and socio-cultural and racial affinities developed a collective solidarity a sense of oneness and the consciousness of belonging to Africa. As stated in kinfе(2008), a mixture of mythology and history, philosophy and idealism, but above all dauntless hope and optimism was instrument in bring closer the dream of the continental unity or at least that of creating an African organization committed to do this vision.

Even if there have been the ideological and direction difference among fundamentalist and gradualist African leaders, especially at the begging of 1960s on the formation of OAU, the contradictions between such reactionary leaders and imperialists had been temporary and quickly vanished. The two sides became allies and partners politically and financially after independence. This became a powerful mobilizing and unifying force for African peoples and societies rooted in Pan-Africanism.

As such the capacity building cycle comprise of the following phases: identification, policy planning and designing, feasibility and assessment, implementation, management, monitoring and evaluation. whatever the pre-conditions for Africans integrations continental and regional integration are log behind, the process has been ongoing with slow span but the interest and aspiration for economic development and integration through national, regional and continental cooperation is very strong now a day rather than before.

Even, the recent agreements made by African states on 50 years adversary celebration of the OAU/AU, for more cooperation, collaboration and integration on the economic, social, political and security affairs at all levels argue the above paragraph'. "In addition, their strong aspiration believe and commitment among continental and regional institution to bring economic development and integration, whatever slow in practice, the creation of new RECs with their policies and programmes to achieve the economic, social, environmental and political demands at national, regional and continental level can be taken as significant achievements in the process of African regional integration and continental development in the past decades.

As it is possible to understand form the historical development of RECs, at the beginning most of African countries joint to the regional economic blocks in their region mainly to obtain

economic benefit rather than creating regional integration but recently, the perception to ward regionalism has changed across the continent. The interests of RECs as institution as well as member countries as individual to create regional integration are there, but there are also costs of integration as much as there are benefits, and it could be take long time, while the member states wanted to obtain benefits of integration within short period of time, but they may also be reluctant to make the necessary scarification associated with being a member. But currently, there is strong believe and commitment among the member states on the national and regional as well as continental on benefits of regional cooperation in Africa socio-economic development and political integration.

As stated in Ndomo, the progresses of RECs did not follow the five stages of regional economic integration, because of the topology, level of poverty, political conditions and variations among member countries interims of development, comittement and so no. But, the second level or dimensions of regional integration is somewhat an appropriate with the ongoing of African regional integration, because of all regional blocs are identified their member states based on geography, then each bloc has been identified their cooperation area accordingly and they have the ambition to create deep regional and continental integrations.

As the current Ethiopians prime minister mentioned on the OAU/AU 50yeras celebration, there is great and paradigm shift on the African development especially in past ten years and this developments in African have been on the way to attracting world attentions in to the continent. Know, Africans do not only need financial supports from the foreigners but also we needed cooperation and integration in trade, market, industry and technology with developed and developing countries of the world.

As it has mentioned in different RECs assessments and as AU (2009) all RECs have been brought some progresses in their respective region as well as in the continent as whole. Despite such efforts, there seems to be a consensus that the successes of all the RECs in achieving their objectives have been less than satisfactory, because of African integration has facing a lot of challenges and obstacles. The African regional platform has also proposed operational and progress tracking mechanisms for implementation and monitoring at regional, sub-regional and national level, including the identification of key indicators for success. But there are no incentives for the better implementers and no legal ground to punish the region/nation who did not meet the obligation in the process of regional cooperation and integration as well as due to absence of effective sanctions against defaulting member states.

As stated by Abudl Mohammed (chief staff of AU), however there is plus and minus in African development and integration, recently African governments and communities are on the way to investing their own wealth and the plus is ascending and the minus is descending. Moreover, as anybody understand from the current reality, the issue of African development and integration/unity by the effort of regional and continental organizations is more publicized and the people more oriented about the need of regional cooperation and continental integration.

As stated by ECA(2002), the APR mechanism will focus on the key features of economic and corporate governance in the country being reviewed and, in that regard, its primary objectives are the following: To enhance African ownership of the development agenda; to monitor and track progress towards agreed NEPAD goals, and codes and standards; to identify, evaluate, and disseminate good practices; to ensure that policies are based on the best current knowledge and/or the practical experience of peer countries; to assess how good practices can be effectively transferred to other African states; to use peer scrutiny and pressure to induce the adoption of good practices and adherence to agreed codes and standards; and to identify capacity gaps and recommend approaches to address those gaps which should be taken as progress made in the continent.

More over the aspiration and comittement of Regional and continental development and integration has been promoted in the past decades which could be taken as great achievements in the process of African development and integration. Despite Africa is the cradle of man-kinds and the origin of civilization, the fate of African peoples had been in the hand of the westerns but recently, the situation become changed and African continent started to be assume as the gravity center for word developments.

2.4.4 Current common Challenges for African Development and Integration

In spite of the optimism that marked the launching of the AU as a new phase in the struggle for African unity and many efforts made by OAU/AU and its organ, NEPAD, AEC, RECs and other partners and, there are still several obstacles and challenges to the process of unity and development in the continent. The reality of contemporary Africa is that it is still marked by political, economic, social and linguistic diversity, which are formidable challenges to

establishing a supranational union or a federal state. Some of the old and others new factors were responsible for the less integration of African at both continental and regional levels.

According to WB (2011), many African countries have taken vary remittances in many sectors such as; the improvement legal system, promote good governance, creation partners, ICT development, develop saving system and in social service provision especially in past decade. moreover, as the above section, African continental have been brought many progresses in all aspects in the past decades but the changes and progresses more recorded in the individual countries rather than by continent and regional institution and this shows that there is economic development and social progresses in the continent but there is the lack of integration and cooperation at both regional and continental levels as expected.

Globalization is a process of advancement and increase in interaction among the world's countries and peoples facilitated by progressive technological changes in locomotion, communication, political and military power, knowledge and skills, as well as interfacing of cultural and value systems and practices. As Nsibambi (2001), globalization is not a value-free, innocent, self determining process. Since African countries were in the condition of balkanization, they have been more affecting by globalization than benefited from. In other hand, the idea of globalization is the opposite of regionalization in the preliminary definition but in practice they are struggling to bring sustainable development in the world. As Ibrahim(no.date), by the mane of trade liberalization, globalization ensures that industrialized countries have access to world markets, which enhances further industrialization of industrialized countries while incapacitating the industrialization process of the underdeveloped economies.

As stated in Rana (2006), the global warming and climate variation could be more affecting the economy of developing countries including African countries. His book also justified about the causes and consequences of desertification. They are several factors cause desertification and some of them are; heavy industries, wild fire, deforestation and soil erosion and its consequences also less agricultural production, drought, starvation and famine. As Beers (1991), in 1970 and 1980 even later on large areas of Africa were stricken by drought and desertification. These included the Sahel region, Ethiopia, Sudan, Kenya and Somalia. Hundreds of thousands of people were died as a result of the famine followed the years of drought and starvation and many

millions of peoples and animals had been victim of that. These conditions have been challenging African economy development through affecting the lion sharing sector in African development or Agricultural production.

As stated in UNIDO (2001) there are Challenges of sustainable industrial development in Africa such as poverty, capacity which mismatch with the demands citizens, marginalization African countries by advanced nations, environmental degradation and so on. But challenged and problems have been not all time taken as hindering factors but also they may be enforcing community or institutions in to prosperity. Stared from 1998, the continent as a whole and the regions as individual are on the position to change these deep rooted and dynamic Africans problems, since Africans problems needed to continental and regional integrations.

Despite of many changes have been recorded in African in terms of social, economical, environmental, political and cultural developments, now a day African a whole and all regions of the continent have been challenging by many problems. Deep rooted and dynamic poverty, inter and intra conflicts (current situation in Mali, Niger, Eastern Congo, Nigeria as well as unconcluded peace processes in Sudan and Somali), less institutional capacity (financial, technical, technological and leadership) with huge responsibility, influences of globalization, lack of sufficient infrastructures development and environmental disasters and food security (drought, desertification and flood) are some of the ongoing challenges for both regional and continental development and integration.

No need of always talk about challenges of African development but there are a number of opportunities in the continent. large population with cheap labor, abundant natural resources, potential markets, the changing of world economic system form uni-polar to multi poplars, the ongoing socio-economic developments in the continent can be taken as the opportunities in the process of African development and integration.

2.6 Conclusion

The concept and practice of regional integration is founded in all continents of the world but, in the case of Africa, it is somewhat unique and dynamic since it has continental and regional dimensions. As it was indicated repeatedly in the above literature, regional integration is very

crucial to cop up with social, economy, political and environmental problems of African at national, sub-regional/regional, and continental levels. The Pan-African Movement which had begun with opposes to racial, black oppression and slave trade was followed by independence of many African countries in the 1960s. This, in turn, led to the formation of OAU, a continental organization that stood for the unity of Africa and the total liberation of the continent.

As African countries had recorded unsatisfactory track through the post independence era, the case for regional cooperation and integration has been taken as a solution for the continental problems since 1980s. Especially, in recent years, it becomes much stronger due to the fact that the continent is facing a number of challenges which have been enhanced cooperation and integration at both regional and continental levels. Based on the LPA and Abuja treaty, many RECs have formed in Africa and with the emergence of the NEPAD; Africa's regional economic communities have a prominent role in the continent's integration process.

In spite of this remarkable progresses have been recorded in the process of regional and continental development and integration. Though, these progresses have been challenged by a lot of internal and external factors. Overlapping of the memberships, less institutional capacity (financial, technical, technological and leadership), inter and intra state conflicts, less interest of stakeholders on the issue and influences of globalization are some of the challenges, but there is a probability by which these African challenges for development and integration will be solved by Africans in collaboration with the continent.

CHAPTER THREE

IGAD: Back-ground, Cooperation Areas and Strategy in Policy implementation

3.1 Introduction

The origin and development, benefits and stages of regional integration, perspective and historical overviews of regional integration in Africa, formation and benefits of RECs in African development and integration as well as common challenges for African integration are explained and outlined in the chapter two of this study. Following the literatures of this study, the next chapter is aimed to explore about IGAD back-ground, the institutional cooperation areas and the strategies that IGAD used in the process of its development agenda implantation.

According to Kiefe(2005), Samatr(2002) and Mays(2009), over the decade, Eastern Africa, especially the Horn of Africa, has been plagued by civil wars, cross-border conflicts, social strife, arms trafficking and natural disasters. The period from 1960 to1980, however, witnessed the emergence of the major regional integration schemes that pushed forward the Continent's development and integration agendas. To response the man-made and natural disasters in the region and based on the enforcements have been made by international and continental institutions, different regional/sub-regional organizations were formed in East Africa region and IGAD is one of sub-regional bloc.

3.2 Historical Background of IGAD

As indicated in different in the literature under various sections, the ambition of African leaders to integrate Africa and to develop the continent through import substitution industrialization, was a key feature of the immediate post-colonial period, and provided the rationale for the 1980 Lagos Plan of Action. The LPA (1980) was an initiative of the OAU which adopted legal framework for the formation of RECs in Africa and a decade later in 1991; the Abuja Treaty provided strong support for the African integration agenda. Regional then continental economic,

social and political integration has been part of African strategy to overcome fragmentation, marginalization and to improve the continent's position in the global political economy.

Before LPA (1980), there were serious droughts and other natural disasters between 1974 and 1984 had caused widespread famine, ecological degradation and economic hardship in the Horn of Africa region. Although individual countries took substantial measures to cope up with the problems; and received support from the international community, they could not manage the problem separately. Finally, the idea was extent to argue strongly for a regional approach to supplement national efforts (Ibid).

As a result, in 1983 and 1984, six countries in the East Africa such as Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan and Uganda took action through the United Nations to establish an intergovernmental body for development and drought control in their region. The Assembly of Heads of State and Government met in Djibouti in January 1986 to sign the Agreement which officially launched Inter-governmental Authority on Drought and Desertification (IGADD) (<http://www.igad.org>).

The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) in Eastern Africa was created in 1996 to supersede the Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development (IGADD) which was founded in 1986. The seven member states of IGAD - Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda - cover an area of 5.2 million sq. km and have a population of more than 200 million with the average population growth rate of 2.6 % which is characterized by high natural growth rates. According to the theory of recent African origin of modern humans, the mainstream position held within the scientific community, all humans originate from East Africa.

According to Ndomo(2009), Article 7 of IGAD's establishing agreement stipulates its mandate as: the promotion of joint development strategies; the gradual harmonization of macroeconomic policies in the social, technological and scientific fields; harmonization of trade, customs, transport, communications, agricultural and natural resources policies; promoting programs and projects for sustainable development of natural resources and environmental protection; Developing and improving a coordinated and complementary infrastructure (transport and energy); and Promoting peace and security.

The name of the organization betrayed no political ambition for greater regional integration and its mandate was confined to functional coordination on environmental protection, food security strategies and natural resource management. The rationale for establishing IGADD was not overtly political. UN agencies had been instrumental in its formation, hoping to promote a regional coordination agency that could better address the problems of famine and drought that had devastated Ethiopia and Somalia during 1984 and 1985. The EU gave active support to the new organization, promoting its potential contribution as a development agency (Healy, 2011) and (Adar, no.date).

Although, IGADD served for ten years in the region, for the reasons of the existence of many organizational and structural problems that made the implementation of its goals and principles ineffective and in April 1996 on the recommendation of the Summit of the Heads of State and Government, declare the transfer of IGADD to IGAD with identification of three priority areas of co-operation. These are Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution and Humanitarian Affairs; Infrastructure Development (Transport and Communications); and Food Security and Environment Protection.

As AU (2009), Regional economic co-operation has given special impetus and high priority to promote long-term collective self-sustaining and integrated socio-economic development. IGAD has been designated one of the pillars of the African Economic Community in terms of the AEC Treaty and IGAD signed the Protocol on Relations between the AEC and Regional Economic Communities on 25 February 1998.

The IGAD strategy is to attain sustainable economic development for its member countries. The leading principles of the IGAD strategy are stipulated in the agreement of IGAD establishment documents, but also the institution principles are mindful of the UN Charter and AU Constitutive Act <http://www.igad.org/>.

3.2.1 IGAD Institutional Structure

As indicated in different IGAD profiles, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development is comprised the following four hierarchical Policy organs: The Assembly of Heads of State and Government is the supreme policy making organ of the Authority. It determines the objectives,

guidelines and programmes for IGAD and meets once a year. A Chairman is elected from among the member states in rotation. The Council of Ministers is composed of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and one other Focal Minister designated by each member state. The Council formulates policy, approves the work programmes and annual budget of the Secretariat during its biannual sessions.

As indicated in IGAD Strategy document (2011), the Committee of Ambassadors is comprised of IGAD member states Ambassadors or Plenipotentiaries accredited to the country of IGAD Headquarters. It convenes as often as the need arises to advise and guide the Executive Secretary. The Secretariat is headed by an Executive Secretary appointed by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government for a term of four years renewable once. The Executive Secretary is assisted by four Directors heading Divisions of Economic Cooperation & Social Development; Agriculture and Environment; Peace and Security; and Administration and Finance plus twenty two regional professional staff and various short-term project and Technical Assistance Staff.

3.2.2 Power and Functions of IGAD

As indicated in the literature part in different studies(Kinfe, Dima, Sarbo, Alemayehu, Lee, AU,ADB and others) Regional economic communities have been providing several functions for the member states based on an agreements and principles to realize the pre-set policy and programmes of the institution. RECs should fulfill at least support of economic growth and regional integration, the development of strong public sector institutions and good governance, the reduction of social exclusion and the development of an inclusive civil society, contribution to peace and security in the region, the building of environment programmes at the regional level and the strengthening of the region's interaction with other regions of the world.

Based on the above assumption and as it was stated in different IGAD documents (IGAD Strategic Plan, 2011), relatively, IGAD has the highest political and legislative powers in East Africa with the responsibility to wide rage the policy areas of the institution based on the needs and demands of the member states. The functions of IGAD are includes, sanctioning and ratifying new initiatives and policies which helps to the region; the operation of the organization

at policy level and ensure that implementation at the national levels takes place; and work closely with the member states on matters already approved by the institution, Providing direction and advice to member states as and when required.

3.2.3 Major Cooperation and Integration Areas of IGAD

As it was indicated in the literature part of this study, regional integration is universal and it can be applied in both developed and under developed countries of the world, but recently, the issue is highly tied with the developing world include African. Because of: it is crucial tool to solve economical, social, environmental and political problems through creating cooperation, collaboration and integration among the member states as well as with other stakeholders.

According to Dima (2013), under the umbrella of OAU/ AU, Regional economic co-operation and integration are given special impetus and high priority to promote long-term collective self-sustaining and integrated socioeconomic development and the IGAD strategy is also aimed to attain sustainable economic development for its member countries. As Dima, economy, politic and security are the main cooperation and integration of all RECs and the leading principles of the RECs strategies are stipulated in the agreements they have established by but are also mindful of the UN Charter and AU Constitutive Act. Like the other RECs, IGAD's policies and cooperation areas are dynamic and flexible based on the tangible and real situations in the region.

As indicated in IGAD related documents, (Adra, Dima, AU and IGAD Strategy plan) in April 1996 the IGAD Council of Ministers expanded and identified three priority areas of co-operation: Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution and Humanitarian Affairs; Infrastructure Development (Transport and Communications); Food Security and Environment Protection. The institution aimed to expand the areas of regional co-operation, increase the members' dependency on one another and promote policies of peace and stability in the region in order to attain food security, sustainable environment management and sustainable development.

According to IGAD (2011), the Agreement Establishing IGAD identifies some twenty areas of cooperation among the member states; the IGAD Summit of November 1996 endorsed three

priority areas as the immediate entry points for cooperation. Further, the IGAD Council of Ministers of December 2009 approved an institutional strengthening and capacity building action plan to enhance IGAD's corporate development services. By the institution, all cooperation and integration areas of IGAD have been divided into four pillars: agriculture development, natural resources management and environmental protection; economic co-operation and integration and social development; peace/security building and humanitarian affairs; and corporate development services.

These four high-level priority areas of the IGAD Regional Strategy include 13 programmes that set out the targets for the strategy. Within each programme area, there are a number of programmes and projects (33 programmes with a total of 79 projects) that operationalize the targets set out in the programme areas of the strategy. The Regional Strategy also includes four cross-cutting intervention areas such as: appropriate development policies; development information and knowledge sharing; capacity building; and research, science and technology agendas and that will guide the implementation of the programmes and projects. The pillars and their respective programmes and projects indicated in the annex part of this study (Ibid).

As it is possible to understand from the above evidences, the attention areas of IGAD have been dynamic and changed from time to time based on the dynamism of the world, the continent and the regional/sub-region and as well as driven by the event happened in the member states. The current cooperation areas of IGAD are: agriculture, natural resources and environment, food security, drought mitigation, economic co-operation and integration and social development, peace and security and humanitarian affairs, corporate development services. Regional economic development and integration, infrastructure development in the region, attracting FDI, improve the good governance system, countering terrorism, create harmonize relationship with international and continental institutions.

3.2.4 Strategies of IGAD in its Agenda Implementation

IGAD has its own mechanisms in the process of implementing its policies, programmes and projects with relation to the institution attention areas. The institution did not use uniform mechanisms to implement on policies and programmes in the region.

As it was identified in different IGAD official documents, the member countries have been signed different agreements and protocols to be create regional cooperation and integration on

the following areas: Agricultural development and food security; natural resource management and environmental protection; economic cooperation, integration and social development; peace and security development and humanitarian affairs; cooperation development serves among member countries; information and knowledge sharing; combating and controlling terrorism and other illegal practices in the region through information sharing and create partnership with regional/sub-regional, continental and international organization.

Since 2002, the Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism is a collaborative effort of the IGAD Member States in the process of mitigating and preventing violent conflicts in the sub-region through fostering cooperation and information sharing among the member states as well as with relevant stakeholders. So as to respond to potential and actual violent conflicts in the IGAD region and contributing to the peaceful settlement of disputes in the sub region through creating smooth and strategic relation among member states (EAC, 2009).

Related to the above instruments for policies implementation, IGAD strategy plan(2011), also identified institutional and regional wide capacity building, create regional, continental and international wide partnership, facilitate information and knowledge sharing among on early warning system, providing legal frame works for policies implementation, and facilitating continues meeting with the key stakeholders to exchange information and evaluating the implementation of the region with the pre-set goals are some of the common institutional strategies in the process of regional cooperation and integration policy implementation.

In short, IGAD has been implementing its policies and programmes in the region with the collaboration of International, continental, regional and sub regional as well as with member states through using different methods and techniques of policy implementation, like EASBRG that led by AU standby force, early warning that organized under CEWARN to promote information sharing among member states, disarmament programme that aimed to disarm small armies and light weapons, compacting terrorism and create peace and security framework with UN-security council and EU to minimize security risk in the region as well as to promote regional developmental initiatives.

As IGAD working paper (2011), the institution has established specialized institutions including the CEWARN in Addis Ababa, IGAD Business Forum in Asmara, the IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Center for Monitoring and Forecasting (ICPAC) in Nairobi, IGAD Capacity

Building Programme against Terrorism (ICPAT) in Addis Ababa and IGAD Regional HIV/AIDS Partnership Programme (IRAPP) in Kampala. A major strength of IGAD is the large and diverse population in the Region and the political commitment of the leadership of the member countries towards the idea of regional cooperation.

3.3. Conclusion Remarking

IGAD was created in 1996 to supersede the IGADD which was founded in 1986 to combat the recurring severe droughts and other natural disasters that resulted in widespread famine, ecological degradation and economic hardship in the Eastern Africa region. The attention areas of IGAD have been dynamic and changed from time to time based on the dynamism of the world, the continent and the region/sub-region as well as events happening in the member states. As it is possible to understand from the IGAD documents and the reality, the current cooperation areas of IGAD are: Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment, food security, drought mitigation, Economic Co-operation and Integration and Social Development, Peace/Security and Corporate Development Services. Infrastructure development in the region, attracting FDI, improve the good governance system, countering terrorism, create harmonize relationship with international and continental institutions. IGAD has been implementing its policies and programmes in the region with the collaboration of International, continental, regional and sub regional as well as with member states through using different methods and techniques of policy implementation.

CHAPTER FOUR: DATA ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS

4.1 Introduction

This chapter discusses the major roles of IGAD in African integration with the key progress/Achievements of the institution as well as the common challenges of IGAD in the implementation of regional cooperation and integration agenda. This chapter consists three sections. The first section deals with continental role of IGAD, the second section deals with the major achievements made by IGAD in the region and the third section of this study is going to identifies the challenges that have hindering the implementation of IGAD cooperation and integration agendas. It is difficult so say IGAD region is characterized by heterogeneity or homogeneity because of, in one hand IGAD region countries are experienced by diversity of languages, political system, land mass, population size, level of developments, and ethnicity and in other hand, the countries in the region have many common characters such as way of life, dressing style, natural environment, common back-ground and identity.

4.2 Roles of IGAD in Continental Development and Integration

The idea of Africans integration had started even before the formation of OAU and it has been formalized and constitutional zed in the OAU official documents as soon as the organization was formed. The OAU constitutional Act Articles 6 explained about the economic, social, cultural, military and political integration of African countries and people to overcome the overall problems of the continent. The reasons why regional cooperation and integration proposed would be varying from region to region based on the reality of a given region/sub-region. The second liberation struggle of Africa is emerging with a better vision, more experience and deeper determination than ever before (www.iag-agi.org/).

As it was indicated in the literature part, the aim of Africans second liberation is a United New Africa which will be engaged effectively and systematically in a movement for the speedy reduction, and eventually elimination of mass poverty, squalor, HIV/AIDS and other endemic diseases, illiteracy, unemployment, injustice, corruption, ethnic wars, rural neglect and all other problems of under-development. Regional groupings are a tool and the part of the solutions in solving these problems and there is more such need in Africa than anywhere else.

As indicated in (Sarbo,2010),(UNECA,2004),(Nadoyo,2008) and as indicated in other regional integration documents of OAU/AU, through regional integration African states can pool their efforts and resources together to offset their marginal position through a coordinated approach for a stronger bargaining position in the global arena. Regional integration and common institutions can also help in preventing, managing and resolving conflicts between and within states.

As indicated by Kiefe (2008) and the others, the transition of the Organization of Unity (OAU) to the African Union (AU), as well as the foisting of a new economic blueprint for the continent- the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), combined with the growing demands of the regional economic communities in harmonizing and creating sub-regional norms and standards in the political and economic arena suggests a new trend towards regionalism in Africa. Indeed, in the new regional integration architecture, the RECs are considered to be the building blocks in the process of African integration which led by the African Union

As indicated in the literature, even though the AU and RECs have their own policy and programs, the followings the common aim and objective of both AU and RECs: create strong relation among African peoples, develop interdependence among continental, regional and national institutions in the process of bring sustainable economic developments, increase the voice and partners of African continent in international affairs by the collaboration of all African countries through regional and continental integrations, provides African based solutions for African problems (conflicts, political, economic and social problems) as well as to keep up the ongoing over all development in the continent, specially economic growth and development.

As indicated in the above sections, African countries have many common values and regional bargaining power and pooling of expertise are crucial to Africa in terms of realizing meaningful development in over all parts of the continent as well as to reshaping the contribution of Africa in the global economic order and protecting the interests of its peoples. In the most case, IGAD

objectives and programs are complement with the AU and the institution can play the following roles in the process of Africans integration.

4.3.1 Enhance Economic Cooperation, Development and Integration

As stated in literature, Africans political federation is the final stage of integration, to be negotiated only after the economic integration has reached an advanced stage. Continental economic integration is the altimeter pre-condition in the process of creating African federation and direct creation of continental economic integration or bring economic development in the individual state without integration have been also too difficult for the less developed African.

As indicated in the literature part, started from the time of its formation, the OAU identified the need for the economic integration of the continent as a prerequisite for economic development. Accordingly, Africa is the continent which has 54 states with the most fragmented economies in the world and regional economic cooperation and integration can helps the continent to overcome the continental fragmentation through; expanding and specializing trade, create larger markets to permit economies of scale, enhancing competition and attracting foreign and domestic investments, Strengthen national, regional and continental unities through resolve inter-state conflicts.

Recently, a new paradigm is coming into existence, the formation and development of the global economy, in which the productive system and the markets are globalized and the State is no longer the motor behind the economy but gives way to the leadership of multinational corporations. The different forms of regionalization and integration of the national and regional economies (such as the EU, NAFTA, ASEAN, ADEC, CARICOM, and MERCOSUR) could be understood as the mechanisms through which the globalization process is institutionalized.

As according to Cheung(2010) and Pigato(2000), African countries should aim to increase FDI inflows into existing areas of comparative advantage in market and industries as well as by extractive other natural resource activities and adopt appropriate policies to maximize their benefits. These sectors provide potentially high rents and do not require fiscal incentives to attract FDI. Rather, foreign investors place a premium on title security for exploration and exploitation concessions clear entry rules, guarantees against unreasonable government interference, transparent fiscal regime, and guidelines on environmental and health standards.

In line to this, IGAD can play the pivotal role in the process and practice of regional economic cooperation, development and integration in East African as well as in the member states through; scale up agricultural production; promoting free trade and enlarging regional market; enhance the development of regional investment; rationalize industrialization; attracting tourism; develop transport, infrastructure and communication among member states: create economic cooperation with other RECs in and out of the continent. In addition, realize social development focusing on education, health, labor migration, and youth affairs among others, which have been very important for the continental development and integration.

In this manner, the institution and member states have done and on the position to doing much efforts. As IGAD Strategy implementation plan of (2011), regional economic development and integration Pillar 2: concern about Economic Cooperation and Integration and Social Development. This pillar has three programme areas: trade, investment, industry and tourism development programme, infrastructure development programme and health and social development programme. The ultimate desired outcome of the above pillar is improved economic cooperation and integration, and social development in the region. The indicators of success IGAD in the on the above issue are include: economic cooperation and integration policies and strategies developed and implemented by the member states, the creation a functional free trade area of IGAD established in coordination with the AUC and others RECs, increased access to health of marginalized populations, increased access to education and to social protection, migration policy and strategies developed and adopted by member states, increased budget allocation for gender equality initiatives and increased number of women in decision making positions.

As more indicated in the theories of economic integration, trade, market, investment and industry are the crucial elements in the economic cooperation, development and integration. However, the level of intra-regional trade among the IGAD Member States trade integration is low. Their markets are inadequately inter-linked. For developing countries, globalization offers faster growth which, in turn, promotes poverty reduction, democratization and higher labor and environmental standards. However, as the world economy will not wait for the transformation of isolated national markets to form a single regional market to benefit from the globalization of markets, the consequences for not being ready means that regional groupings will face globalization with a limited competitiveness that has serious implications for the mission and

vision of regional organizations like IGAD. Enlarging a sub-regional market will also bring direct foreign investment.

Harmonization of Investment Code in the IGAD Region: the two broad objectives of harmonization of investment code in IGAD region are to assist IGAD member states to attract both domestic and Foreign Direct Investments, and to enhance prospects for economic cooperation and integration in the Region (IGAD strategy plan, 2011).

In line to this argument one important element in realizing economic development and integration at both regional and continental is measures to facilitate inward foreign direct investment from member states or out of the region/continent. Such investment can yield additional economic benefits including the transfer of technology and skills to the host economy which in turn can promote productivity and growth, the generation of linkages with domestic firms supporting employment and growth in other parts of the economy, and the opening of new markets through cross-border trade.

Similar with the others, these benefits of regional economic cooperation and integration are not necessarily automatic but are likely to vary across economies, sectors and investments, as it was indicated in the literature part of this study; to attract and expanding more investments in Africa, there is a need of improve the investment environments in some countries of the continent, but no need of undermine the progresses made by some RECs in African, especially at the individual countries(Republic of South Africa, Ethiopia, Ghana, Botswana and Rwanda).

When we take the case in IGAD region, Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda have been achieved some progresses in the attraction and expansion of foreign and domestic vestment through improving the political, security, infrastructure and serves provision conditions in their countries. Empirical evidence suggests diversification towards manufacturing requires: scale, low transaction costs, investment friendly and noticeable economic space. Deeper regional integration can help by enlarging and opening up the economic space, driving down production and transaction costs, as well as by attracting FDI in the continent which is very important for regional and continental developments.

Even the reasons for why Ethiopia experienced rapid economic development in the past eight consecutive years is the expansion of investment activities with the improvement of social serves

provisions(infrastructure, power energy, industries input and foreign relation) and more over the growth of national agricultural production.

As repeatedly indicated in the theoretical part of this study, the theories of regional integration more or less assumed the economic cooperation (trade, market, investment) between or among the member countries based the sense of economic scale, production diversifications and specialization. In this assumption, inefficient production and nonproduction are unacceptable and can be cut by trade creation as well as there is great expectation to create strong trade relations interactions among member states of a given region rather than with the rests. However, similar to the rest of African regions, IGAD region has been experienced by mono and low quality of production. In addition, there is no choice between the market and government because neither markets nor governments are, or can ever be perfect.

The state and the market are complements rather than substitutes. More importantly, the relationship between the state and the market cannot be defined once-and-for-all in any dogmatic manner but must change over time in an adaptive manner as circumstances change. One should know clearly, there is no unique institutional structure guaranteed to lead to economic growth and poverty reduction. However, IGAD institution can support regional market transactions by collectively promoting economic growth, determining people's access to markets, and enabling all people (poor and rich) to make the best use of their assets in the region.

The question how IGAD can contribute in the process of African economic development and integration in its economic development and integration is fully addressed in the institution economic plan. In this regard, IGAD region economic development and integration might be able to assist AU in the process of expanding domestic market and enlarging trade access, increasing industrial opportunities, diversifying and specialized regional commodities production, expanding inter-and intra African trading and enhancing the movement of goods, services and peoples in the region and out of the regions.

Regional economic integration has unrepeatable role in the process of create continental integration through enhancing national, sub-region/region and as well as continental economic integration. Regional/sub-regional economic development, cooperation and integration could be promoted continental economic development, cooperation and integration and in this regard, IGAD can contribute in the process of Africans integration through realize economic

development, cooperation and integration in the East African. This argument can realize the concept of regional and continental unity can enhance the Africans capacity in the implementation of all development agendas as well as it can loud the voice of Africa in international negotiations on trade, market, investment, environment and on the other issues.

4.2.2 Environmental Protection and Food Security

Basically, the Horn of Africa is the region is particularly prone to harsh weather conditions and climate change hazards, making it one of the most vulnerable regions in Africa. As Ogidan (2011), most of the region is classified as Arid and Semi-arid Lands (ASAL) and between 2010 and 2011, parts of the horn of Africa experienced the worst drought in 60 years. Considering that the Horn is one of the most food insecure regions in the world, the exceptionally dry weather conditions led to a humanitarian and food crisis affecting at least 13 million people and worsening malnutrition rates in over 30%³ of the affected areas. In September 2011, IGAD and EAC Heads of State and Government met in Nairobi to define a strategy for a mid- and long-term response to the current and possible future crises. The Nairobi Summit launched the IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI) as an effort towards ending drought emergencies in the Horn Africa. The Summit assigned the IGAD Secretariat the task of leading and coordinating the process of implementing this initiative. Since then, the momentum to address the longstanding drought and famine emergencies has increased dramatically.

As indicated in ECDPA study(no.date) and Heck(2003), regional and participatory approaches in agricultural development and for food security is very crucial tools and IGAD can play vital role in the process of realizing food security and environmental management in the region. There is also no IGAD specific regional farmer's representation; rather the East African Farmers Federation (EAFF) represents the broader interests of farmer's organizations of most IGAD member states. IGAD member-states have a strong bias towards high potential commercial agriculture and particularly on crop agriculture. It is strongly felt by many that work on pastoralist issues, that pastoralists' interests should not be merged with other farmers' interests. Efforts should be made towards a stronger national or regional expression of pastoralist's voices and this should be kept separate from efforts in organizing other farmers.

On this basis a regional CAADP compact could be a good tool to mobilize pastoralist representation's involvement in regional policy issues (Ibid). According to Abebe (2009), there

is high agreement among most key stakeholders, including non-state actors, that the focus areas of the IGAD regional compact, as identified by the regional team are indeed the right ones: facilitating mobility across borders, and improving livestock trade within (and beyond) the region; trans-boundary animal disease control, management of natural resources; conflict prevention and resolution; disaster risk management and knowledge exchange and policy harmonization around the above mentioned policy areas.

In one hand or other, agriculture is the soul for Africans socio-economic developments, because of Agricultural production in Africa has related with many issues and some of them are; food security, job opportunities, base for other economic activities(industry), earn foreign currency, and attracting foreign markets. The reason why African leaders have been agreed to increase their annual agricultural budget at Maputo (2002) conference was related with the above mentioned importance of Agriculture for the continental, regional and national economic developments. But practically, except few countries, like Ethiopia, Rwanda Ghana and Mozambique, most of the continental nations are remaining to practicing the agreement to allocate 10% of their annual budgets to agricultural development. Ethiopia has been go farther in this regard by allocated more budget for agricultural production which may be taken as exemplary for the rest of IGAD member states as well as for African countries.

Generally, as it was indicated in chapter three of this study, the main reason for the formation of IGADD/IGAD was to enhancing environmental management through combating drought and desertification by the efforts of member states. In this regard IGD can play great role in the process of African integration through identifying the environmental threats in the region and managing them, promote green house economy as Ethiopia and Kenya already started. The member's states can also maximizing agricultural productions through joining their efforts, resources and experiences regional cooperation sentiment which has a lion share position in the continental transformation and development.

4.2.3 Promote Capacity Building in Developments

Colonial governments practiced "divide and rule. Given the lack of capacity and the strong emphasis on law and order, all forms of colonial rule engaged in" divide and rule," by implementing policies that intentionally weakened indigenous power networks and institutions. As stated by WB(2005), African countries must improve the performance of their public sectors if they are to achieve their stated goals of reducing poverty, accelerating economic growth, and

providing better services to their citizens Planning and implementing regional and continental policies and programmes has needed of high priority in capacity building. IGAD and the key stakeholders should work to strengthen the institution and member states capacity on the issues of policy, programmes and project identification, formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation at both national and regional levels through.

In fact sovereignty is better served through collective efforts at regional and continental levels as small and poor states are unlikely to be able to defend their sovereignty, economic welfare and political independence in the face of the global reach of hegemonic powers. The basis of any regional integration scheme is agreement among states. It is states that make the agreements, draw the rules and programmes which are ultimately responsible for implementation.

According to WB (2005), the capacity and political will of states thus becomes crucial for promoting integration. This depends on a number of domestic and other factors. What the case of IGAD has clearly demonstrated is that almost all the states in the region are preoccupied with their own domestic problems. Each of the states is contested and each has been unable to establish a stable and legitimate political authority within its jurisdiction, including the oldest state among them, Ethiopia. Sudan was the first state on the continent to come out of colonial rule in 1956, but has been unable to establish an acceptable form of state for all its inhabitants, and has been engulfed in civil war ever since. Gradually the situation is changed and many countries in the region became stabled, however, there is security assignment in Somalia and b/n two Sudan's.

Regional economic integration has always been important in Africa for ensuring social, security and political gains. According to USAID (2009), African leaders have committed to implementing the regional economic integration agenda, recognizing that without it most African countries, many of them land-locked, have small domestic markets that restrict economic growth and limit individual negotiating power. Institutional capacity development will mainly concern: reforms, restructuration and modernization of the public service and governance systems, adoption of new and innovative public management methods and approaches, use of appropriate equipment, materials and funding to improve the leadership environment, professional development, civil servants and governmental authorities on the need for a new leadership and new institutional environment. In African development and integration, all the above institutional

capacity building activities are needed to improve the social, economical, political and environmental problems in the continent at all levels.

IGAD can limited the protection of small countries in the region by the means of regional wide capacity building system and it could be create the chance having large market size, and trade access, specializing the commodities of small nations, and improving trade balance payments, and accelerating industrialization for those non-vibrant nations through the mechanism of joint efforts for regional economic developments and integration. The capacity of IGAD and the member states to cope with development problems of the region on their own and without substantial external support is a consideration, which highlights the importance of regional cooperation and the IGAD as a regional organization.

This indicated that, regional economic integration can benefits small nation rather than the large one. Enlarging market size and trade access, specialized the regional commodities and improved their prices in the world market, attracting local and foreign investments in the region is crucial in the process of sustainable development in the individual countries, in the regional and as well as in the continent and has great role to enhancing continental integration.

Therefore, RECs/IGAD may offer the east African countries substantial potential gain through create regional integration and scale effects. The built capacity of all member states to exploits the opportunities resulted from regional economic integration also in achievement maximum benefits in the process of regional and continental integration. The Member States and Partners of the region Development should be collectively facilitate the strengthening of IGAD governance, management and operational capacity and it may enhancing the efforts of member states for better fulfill their mandate and functions.

Fortunately there are some encouraging developments in the IGAD region. For example there is an active Pastoralist Forum in Ethiopia, bringing together elders and nongovernmental organizations working among the pastoral peoples. Links with other pastoralist groups in the region are also being established. It lobbies for development policies more friendly and conducive to the needs of the pastoralist peoples. The Pastoral and Environmental Network in the Horn of Africa (PENHA) also lobbies to influence policies to fostering sustainable development through empowering pastoral communities.

IGAD recognizes the need for close and cooperative partnerships with all stakeholders in translating the ideals of the Strategy to concrete results. To that effect, IGAD has partner with relevant stakeholders that have similar mandates for achieving sustainable development and integration in the region.

According to IGAD (2011), these actors are: the AU, NEPAD, the rest of RECs, NGOs, and civil society, BRICS, UN, WB, IMF, EU and African Development Bank. The deeper the participation and coordination of stakeholders, the greater implementation of regional/sub-regional and the continental policy and programmes integration. This is because of each partner brings complementary skill, resources and experience integration and exploiting the synergies between partners could be make the implementing peace prevention, managing and resolution in the region more efficient and effective. More over anything, the coordination and collaboration between IGAD and the rest of RECs as well as with different regional and continental stakeholders in different policies issues has great potential in the process of African integration through creating mutual understanding and continental sense among the stakeholders within east African region and also outside of the region.

As it is possible to understand from its objectives, IGAD is expected to serve as the mechanism to involve civil society appropriately in the policy formulation and strategic planning discussions, and the planning, designing and implementation of IGAD programmes and processes. The Khartoum Declaration thereby opened the way to a major step forward, the building of a meaningful interface between IGAD and the civil society organizations of the IGAD region. This offers the possibility of greatly enhanced cooperation at all levels within and across countries to pursue the common interests of the peoples of IGAD region towards unity and development. Coordination is about synchronizing relationships and it is vital for reducing cost and eliminating risk of gaps or double work. Moreover, coordination and partnership increases efficiency, facilitates the possibility of sharing risks and benefits, and creates enabling condition to evaluate partnership.

The role of the International Community is to actively support individually or jointly the efforts of IGAD in implementing its programmes by, inter alia, providing financial and technical means, promoting and facilitating access to appropriate technology, know-how knowledge and capacity building. Towards the spirit of co-operation and collaboration to avoid duplication of efforts and

enhance synergy, IGAD endeavors to participate in joint programming with these organizations and indicate where joint action is possible. These institutions support the efforts of IGAD in the exchange of information and experience, capacity building, research and networking in different relevant fields. Some institutions sometimes may be or are contracted to do specific jobs for IGAD where the capacity within IGAD is limited.

As indicated in the literatures part, the RECs can play vital role in preparation of projects/programmes in the respective regions. Also, IGAD can identifies collaborating institutions and agencies in all the projects in its region within the three priority areas: such as IGAD institution with the key stakeholders should be work to create regional wide awareness through using an awareness raising tools such as: through create consultative and continuous meetings, workshops, and trainings on the existing regional integration policy and programmes with strategy to implementation, responsibility of all stakeholders.

Awareness on regional integration IGAD can be created by provided regional information system among the stakeholders through create regional network system, expanding internet service, create continue reporting system between IGAD and stakeholders on environmental information systems/networks, food security and early warning information systems, documentation networks, as well as improving member states communication via the internet. More over the joining together of IGAD member states by the name of regional cooperation can develop the capacity of the region as well as continent through minimizing the state of fragmentation.

4.2.4 Build Peace and Political Stability

According to IGAD Strategy (2011) and Healy (2006), IGAD Peace and Security Affairs has focused on four Areas such as; Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution: Political Affairs: Security Sector: and Humanitarian Affairs. The IGAD region experiences immense challenges as a result of man-made and natural disasters, and has had more than its share of intra and inter-state conflicts, some of which have lasted for more than four decades. IGAD Member States have accorded top priority to the issue of conflicts and will leverage all opportunities to consult and reach agreements on how to respond to conflicts and other disasters. The ultimate

outcome of IGAD peace and security agenda is to promote good governance, peace, security, and address humanitarian crisis in the region.

Since the end of colonialism, the region has endured the following conflicts; Darfur Conflict in Sudan; Ethiopian Civil War 1974-1991, Eritrean War of Independence 1961-1991; Eritrean-Ethiopian War 1998-2000; Ogaden War 1977-1978; Somali Civil War 1991-ongoing; Second Sudanese Civil War 1983-2005, South Kordofan conflict 2011-ongoing East African Community; Uganda-Tanzania War 1978-1979, Ugandan Bush War 1981-1986; Lord's Resistance Army insurgency in Uganda, and South Sudan (Healy and Kinfe, 2005).

While African regionalism has considerable resonance with advocates of African solutions for African problems, IGAD currently does not possess the structural conditions that have facilitated the successful emergence of regionalism elsewhere in the world. IGAD has the potential to serve as the regional forum in which unequal relationships and localized hegemony could be managed without recourse to violence, yet this will only be realized once its institutions are consolidated, relations are restored between its fragile member states and their political and regional objectives rectified. As it was evidenced in Sudan's and Somalia peace building processing documents, IGAD has been made remarkable achievements and develop very good experiences in the process of build peace and security without having sufficient resources.

There is also a civil society forum bringing together civil society groups from all the IGAD states and plans for a business council. Moreover, the Greater Horn Horizon, an independent forum of intellectuals from the region, with a secretariat in Djibouti, established in 2007 with the support of UNESCO is another welcome development. Its stated mission is fostering dialogue, mutual understanding, peace and regional integration. www.greater-hornhorizon.

According to WB (no. date), IGAD has steered mediation efforts to solve some of the long lasting conflicts of the Horn of Africa. It played an instrumental role in the signing of the Machakos Protocol between the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A) and the Sudanese and in 2005, the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. Similarly IGAD has been very influential in the process towards the formation of the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) in Somalia. IGAD is very active in developing instruments to curtail conflicts in Eastern Africa. It has instituted an early warning mechanism, the Conflict Early Warning Mechanism (CEWARN) and been tasked to set up the Eastern African chapter of the African Union's stand-by force.

According to Cheung(2010), the statement furthermore welcomed the efforts of the OAU and those of the sub-regional bodies in preventing and resolving conflict in Africa and said that it looked forward “to a stronger partnership between the UN and the OAU, as well as sub-regional arrangements, in conformity with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the UN. China needed stability, improving investment environment and cheap labor with provision of social services. The Chinese capital provides the badly needed funds for developing Africa; a continent that is historically neglected by other international investors. In reality, China’s ODI plays a positive role in improving infrastructures, increasing productivity, boosting exports, and raising the living standards of millions of Africans. Sometimes, China ODI is credited for diversifying the economic activity and creating jobs in manufacturing, mining, processing trade, construction and other sectors. Regarding to this IGAD can contribute in the industrial and investment development in the region as well as in the continental through promote peace and security and by improving the investment legal systems.

As stated in Kiefe(2008), due to rapid and unexpected conflicts in the continent, Africans military expenditure has been very high. The large amount of money were diverted from key development sectors such as agriculture, industrial, infrastructure, public health, education and social development projects.

More than all, IGAD could be play great role in the process of African economic development and integration by minimize military expenditure through on regional conflicts prevention, management and resolution mechanisms as well as by using indigenous dispute resolution method as it has experienced in Somalia and Sudan’s’ peace processing. In addition, the proliferation of devastating internal conflicts that had led to the idea of a layered approach whereby the initial response to a crisis would come from local and national organizations, followed by responses at the regional and continental levels, and finally by those of the UN and the broader international community. It was thought that this would lessen the burden at the UN level and enable more rapid and appropriate responses at much lower levels of the international security framework.

In light to this, as responsible institution in the region, IGAD can play a vital role in the process of peace building in the East Africa region with the cooperation of the grass root community of the member states as it did in Somalia and Sudan in the past decade. IGAD could be contribute in the process of Africans regional and continental integration through: realize peace and stability in the

sub-region/ region and in the continent: create conducive environmental in attracting investment, cooperation and integration in the region: bring social development and political stability in the region: minimize security risks: in experiences sharing to the rest of RECs in the mechanism of peace preventing, management and resolution with in minimum resource conception as well as the institution could be contribute in continental and international peace building activities with the collaboration of concerned stakeholders like UN, AU and so on. Above all, IGAD can contribute in the African development and integration through minimizing war costs in the region as well as in the continent as experienced in Somalia and Sudan's which was negatively affect the development of Africa in the past centuries by reducing the allocation of resources and time for the other developments.

4.2.5 Promote Infrastructures and Physical integration in the Region

Africa continues to engage at the periphery of the global economy, as is evident from the continent's declining share in global production and trade. The majority of sub-Saharan Africa's 47 countries are small and least developed, according to UNCTAD's definition (UNCTAD, 2007). *Physical infrastructure*: hazardous roads, lack of capacity of ports and airports, and railways hampered by decaying networks. Most of Africa's countries have low per capita income levels and small populations which result in small markets. In 2008, 12 SSA states had populations of less than 2 million while 19 had a gross domestic product (GDP) of less than US\$5 billion, six of which had a GDP of less than US\$1 billion. Not only are most SSA economies small and poor, but 15 are also landlocked, an important contributory factor to high trade transaction costs, and more generally to the high costs of doing business in Africa.

Infrastructure development is very important to create economic and trade corridors which have strong potential to contribute to CAADP objectives in terms of regional markets development and food security, through: support to regional agri-food chains and increasing the value of regional agriculture products; facilitation of private sector involvement in agro-food investment; and operational linkages between production and distributions aspect of agriculture development. However, the region is generally characterized by underdeveloped infrastructure: physical and non-physical barriers to cross-border transport and communication, which are important for regional integration, still exist. Since its re-establishment, IGAD in collaboration with development partners has made effort to improve the state of regional infrastructure.

In 2008, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) undertook a study-IGAD Strategy: transport/ infrastructure, industry and ICT to review progress made in the implementation of transport infrastructure and facilitation programmes and made recommendations for improving regional infrastructure. The recommendations emphasized the importance of harmonizing policies, and improving infrastructure in order to strengthen the competitiveness of IGAD member states in all remaining sectors

Promoting cross border energy trade would reduce the cost of energy, while improving the reliability of supply.

Although IGAD has had some success in securing funding for its infrastructure and communications interventions, one of the lessons learned in the process is that most donors have shied away from financing large capital investment projects, such as major road and communications projects. IGAD has continued working with its member states to mobilize to identify potential funding sources for the vital missing links as well as other infrastructure interventions that will facilitate the movement of goods and people in the Region. Transport Development is used to induce the movement of people, labor and capital within the region: remove non-physical barriers along the regional trade corridors, gradual integration of national fragmented markets into a regional one; reduce the cost of transport: induce the movement of people, labor and capital within the region: Easy contacts with Member countries: make feasibility of the inter-connectivity of the member states through create physical integration.

As stated in (Ogidan and Weijer,(2012), IGAD has also teamed up with the EAC, COMESA and SADC under the Tripartite, to develop key transport corridors: the Northern and Central Corridors in East Africa, the Lamu and Djibouti Corridors in the Horn of Africa, and regional energy transmission interconnectors. The Tripartite and IGAD Corridor Programme (TICP) is based on the North-South Corridor Conference held in Lusaka, Zambia in April 2009. These projects will be implemented between 2011 and 2016, as part of the implementation of the grand Tripartite Free Trade Area that was launched by the Second Tripartite Summit in Johannesburg, in June 2011. Considering the increasing demand from domestic, industrial and commercial activities in the region, the Tripartite and IGAD corridor development collaboration will help reduce the high costs of transport, trade and energy in the ESA region.

In September 2011, a high-level Tripartite and IGAD conference took place to identify the major bottlenecks to trade and infrastructure development in the respective RECs, as well as outline the key requirements, sequence and opportunities for development partners and private sector support in order to implement the projects and programmes.

Some IGAD member states are vibrant and the other are not in the population, natural resources and market size and access. Especially those non vibrant states have great probability to expose to the external influences. The small states also could protected from the world economic system through less competition position of small nation and it can provoked the retaliatory measures from world trading partners which have negative impacts on the whole economy of small nation as well as the region as whole.

The huge dam under construction in southern Ethiopia since 2009, considered the second biggest on the continent, has run into serious opposition from environmental and human rights groups in the West, and the World Bank has refused to finance the project. However, the Ethiopian government has continued with the project. While the government claims that the dam is intended to benefit the other states in the region with the supply of energy and many IGAD member countries as well as the rest of Africans except few states have been supported the Ethiopian huge dam which will be festinating the physical integration of the region. In addition, investing together in infrastructure can benefits the region and the continent through minimizing time, costs and efforts as well as maximize the inter and intra relations of the peoples in all directions.

4.2.6 Reduce Challenges of Globalization and Enhancing the Opportunities

According to Killick (2002), a significant part of the world and a large numbers of countries are now effectively participating in the processes of integration and globalization. In this regard globalization may thought of as the integration of economies through trade, capital flows and information technology, (Mubiru, 2003) however, the benefits of globalization and liberalization did not seemed to have been shared equitably around the world, it has been determined by the level of overall development, means, less developed world benefited less and affected more.

As UN (2004), the developing countries, African countries are at varying levels of economic, social and political developments with widely divergent geo-demographic attributes, the costs of

their national capacity building are not of the same magnitude. With effective reinforcement of its capacity, the states, regions and continent can play a major role in the areas benefits, contributing and negotiation in the globalization. In the context of globalization, regional integration is an imperative for Africa, in terms of enhanced competitiveness in global trading, prevention of conflicts and consolidation of economic and political reforms.

As UNECA (2012), good economic governance is necessary to enhance the capacity of the state to deliver on its economic mandate. That mandate includes eradicating poverty and improving economic growth. However, the majority of African countries now lack the capacity to meet that mandate due to deficiencies in their economic governance structures. Sustainable development is a well-established concept and it is the development that “meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. So, the RECs/IGAD is viewed as crucial tool in an increasing the welfare, through weed out the existing economic and socio-political weakness in the continent combined the capacity of African countries. Thus, countries’ need to take integration not only as lingering pan-African ideology but more importantly as economic survival strategy aimed at combating marginalization from the global economy.

In addition, as different international and continental documents shows, globalization has both positive and negative impacts on African development and integration. Therefore, appropriate safeguards and institutions along with appropriate policies, at national, regional and continental levels, are necessary to minimize the risk of globalization in African development and integration. IGAD can minimize the negative influence of globalization and could maximize the benefits of globalization through formulating and implementing appropriate continental and regional international relation policies by bargaining power efforts and experiences.

4.2.7 Play Role of Partnership and Stakeholders Coordination

As it was indicated in the literature, the African Union was launched by African Heads of State as a successor to the Organization of African Unity (OAU) on July 9, 2002 in Durban, South Africa. The AU is the lead organization for the integration of the continent and the AU commission also serves as the secretariat of the AEC. IGAD is one of seven regional groupings designated by the African Union as building blocks of the eventual African Economic Community. Other continental bodies like the UN Economic Commission for Africa and the African Development

Bank Group also have divisions with specific tasks of promoting regional integration in the continent(<http://www.Africa-union.org>).

A participatory project may very well be cost-effective when also its indirect benefits are assessed adequately and added to the direct, quantifiable outputs. There is however a great need for studies to develop a methodology to determine the cost-effectiveness of participatory projects in Africa (Heck, 2003). As Dr Zuma stated on 2013 AU, RECS and ECA-AFDF: the three organizations (AU, ECA/AFDF and RECs), they have complementary mandates and therefore define our common agendas for the next fifty years with the rest of stakeholders. The RECs as building blocks for integration and development are critical in this process. Taking into account the present political environment in an increasing globalizing world, new areas of leadership competency including; management diversity, expanding follow of information, knowledge and technology to be strengthened needed partnerships among stakeholders. Therefore, regional integration has been part of African strategy to overcome fragmentation and marginalization RECs/IGAD can create a good opportunity for community participation in the issue of regional/continental development and integration issues as they are nearest to people more than OAU/AU.

As we are in a dynamic world/century, regional integration promotes economic and political reforms at international, regional and continental level through experience sharing, legal punishment political enforcement and by incentive system if the integration agreement encompasses all the implementation tools. As cited in the literature part of this thesis, AU has different policies and programmes to bring overall economic, social, cultural, environmental and political developments.

All most, all of AU policies and programmes have been implemented in the continent at different levels (nation, sub-region, regions and continental). It is too difficult for AU and its organs to implement their policies in individual African states in scattered and separated manner. In another hand, the economic, peace and security, social, cultural, environmental and political policies of RECs/IGAD are supplemented with AU policies on the same issues. There is need to constantly identify the strengths and weaknesses of, opportunities for and threats to the Community, for which appropriate regional responses need to be put in place(2006). As repeatedly identified in different reports, east African is know by vary man-made and natural

threats which pose a potentially serious challenge to the Community's integration process. Environmental degradation, security threats, and terrorism are among and they have continental and international character. In this regard, IGDA with its member states and the partner States' can identify and report those threats to the concerned bodies with the collaboration of grass-root communities. In addition, to mitigate the insecurity and cross-border conflicts risk which negatively impact its operations, IGAD can play a supportive role of partners to AU with the relevant international, continental and regional institutions whose core mandate aimed at promoting peace and security, through a number of opportunities offered by the UN, the AU, member countries and other Development Partners.

As justified in UN (2005), the role of stakeholders in creating an enabling environment for people to participate in decision-making that affecting their region, nation and more of their life. The key strategies *Stakeholders* in the dialogue process can include community/traditional leaders, indigenous peace makers, elders, youths, religious leaders, faith based organizations, oral artists, community members, local NGOs/CSOs, national and local government.

It shows that; the participation of stakeholders in the dialogue process is "instrumental in guarantying the ownership of the process. The Member States made commitments to promote social integration to create society for all, through fostering inclusive societies that are stable, safe and just and that are based on the promotion and protection of all human rights, as well as on non-discrimination, tolerance, respect for diversity, equality of opportunity, solidarity, security, and participation of all people, including disadvantaged and vulnerable groups and persons.

As showed in IGAD documents, at the Khartoum Declaration, the 8th Summit of IGAD has drawn attention to the aspirations of the peoples of the region for stronger and cohesive unity transcending cultural, ideological, ethnic and national differences. In this line, Civil Society Organizations, NGOs and other community based organization are serving as valuable and cost-effective intermediaries between IGAD and community groups. The self-organized efforts of NGOs and CSOs to improve the situation of the people promote their interests and defend their rights, are a vital element in the Region's economic progress and social integration.

According to IGAD strategy plan (2011), IGAD recognizes the need for close and cooperative partnerships with all stakeholders in translating the ideals of the Strategy to concrete results. To that effect, IGAD will partner with relevant actors at local, national, regional and global levels that have similar mandates for achieving sustainable development in the region. These include the AU, NEPAD, the rest of African RECs, NGOs, civil society, BRICS, UN agencies, World Bank and other International and continental institutions like WB, IMF, EU, African development bank and the rests. Although the importance of regional economic groupings is crucial to survive in the increasingly integrating world economy, addressing major obstacles noted above is a daunting task. It is important that both African governments and their development partners appreciate these challenges.

Although bound by historical and geographical inter-dependence, the IGAD region has struggled with moving ahead on economic and regional integration. There is great potential to exploit synergies between cross-border exchanges and shared regional challenges. IGAD can convening power for the voice of Africa to be heard through working closely with the AU, the RECs and with other key support of the formulation and voice of Africa's policy response on global issues, such as international financial regulations or climate change, because speaking with one voice is more likely to have impact. In line to this assumption, IGAD could be playing a vital role in the process of African integration through: regional/sub-regional policies, programmes and projects demand identification, formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation; regional risk identification and minimization with the collaboration of stakeholder's mobilization in the process of continental/regional policies and programmes implementation.

Justified in Ndomo(2009), IGAD signed the Protocol on Relations between the AEC and RECs on 25 February 1998. It collaborates with COMESA and the EAC to avoid project duplication. Much of IGAD's attention is directed at peace efforts in Somalia, Sudan and the tensions between Ethiopia and Eritrea. It also focuses on capacity-building, awareness creation, and on the early warning of conflicts. Other issues of importance include: food security; developing appropriate modalities for regional peacekeeping; and terrorism.

To sum up IGAD can play vital role in the process of African development and integration through enhancing economic cooperation, development and integration: promoting environmental protection and food security: strengthen regional wide capacity through

bargaining power of member states: by peace building in the region and across the continent: promoting infrastructure development and physical integration among member states as well as with other region: reducing global challenges and enhancing the opportunities and play the role of partnership with continental and regional organizations which have the same goal with the institution.

4.3 Main Achievements of IGAD

As stated in the literature part, Africa has no choice but to integrate into world economic and financial systems, if it is to grow sustainably and reduce extreme poverty. This is a major challenge that is being addressed through the New Partnership for Africa's development a vision and strategic framework for Africa's renaissance. Since the early 1960s, the UNECA has been encouraged African states to combine their economies into sub-regional markets that would ultimately form one Africa-wide economic union. Also, the basic principles OAU/AU were built co-operation and solidarity among African peoples and to end all forms of colonialism in Africa. In addition to end colonials and its operation, the OAU identified the need for the economic integration of the continent as a prerequisite for the economic development and political integration.

As it was indicated in the chapter two of this study, (Sarbo2010), the determinant factors for success or failure regional cooperation and integration are; the existence of interstate and internal conflicts; state capacity and cohesion among member states; organizational mandates and geographical coverage, and whether there have overlapping memberships and duplication of mandates; the existence or lack of a regional hegemonic power or dominant state; the extent of rivalry and contention of dominance/influence; the existence and influence of extra regional actors, and their role in relation to regional politics; the regional economy; the domestic politics of member states; the political leaders of member states and the leaders of the regional organization; and a lessons learnt from the past, and from the rest RECs.

Africa as continent and all regional economic blocs has been brought some achievement in all aspects and also they are with many difficulties. Within the absence of any pre-conditions, IGAD brought some achievements in its member states as well as in the region. As explained in Kinfe(2005), when IGAD formed 1980s, at least 2/3 of the region was ruled by dictatorship. According to kinfe, Siyad Barre of Somalia, Mengistu H/Mariyam of Ethiopia and General

Jaffar al Nimeiry of Sudan could be mentioned as the untimely responsible leaders of the region for inter and intra conflicts.

As it is possible to understand from the reality, Ethiopia, Uganda and Kenya are the vibrant IGAD member countries, their processes can be taken as progress of the institution as the failures of some member states were registered as the failure of IGAD. As the region has been faced with serious and enduring conflicts, managing two of these serious conflicts that have destabilized the whole region has preoccupied IGAD for the last decade and a half. It has been engaged in dealing with two major conflicts in the region: the long drawn out civil war between the government in Khartoum and the marginalized southern regions, and the collapse of the state in Somalia and continuing civil war.

As an undertaking to manage and resolve the ongoing violent conflicts in the Sudan and Somalia, IGAD member countries have over the past few years put in place negotiation mechanisms aimed at addressing the key factors driving these conflicts. Such mechanisms include the establishment of committees, one under the chairmanship of Kenya, which has been mandated to initiate dialogue between the Government of Sudan and the Sudanese Peoples Liberation Army/ Movement. The second committee - which has included the participation of Djibouti and Ethiopia - has facilitated the Somali peace process. As it is possible to understand from different IGAD official documents, the institution has been brought significant achievements in the process of Peace in the region to make tangible, the study analyzed IGAD achievement and role in facilitating peace agreements and processes in Sudan and Somalia.

Sudan Peace Process

The problems in the IGAD region are also compounded by refugees and the internally displaced people. The civil war in Sudan has killed more people than any other war since World War II. At the beginning, the leadership in Sudan viewed IGAD as the only vehicle that could prevent external actors from infringing on its internal affairs. In other words, IGAD was seen as a means to forestall the intervention of other powers with greater leverage and also as a regionally and indigenously generated IGO which cuts across ethno praxis (Avruch & Black 1991).

During 1994, IGADD started to undertake conflict management tasks when the Authority hosted and facilitated negotiating sessions between the Sudanese government in Khartoum and the rebel forces from southern Sudan in an attempt to end the civil war and revitalized of the organization

which led to the change its name into IGAD in April 1996 and the creation, within the new a department for conflict management. Article 18 of the agreement establishing IGAD states that member states shall act collectively to preserve peace, security and stability which are essential prerequisites for economic development. Based on this, the first round of talks held in February 2000 and in July 2002, in Machakos, Kenya, the Sudanese Government and the Sudanese Peoples Liberation Army (SPLA) signed the Machakos Protocol.

On 15 October of the same year, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed which agreed to a cessation of hostilities for the duration of talks. The Naivasha Declaration of 22 October 2003 raised expectations that a Final Peace Agreement would be signed by the end of the year. However, the parties remain unable to move forward on the outstanding issues of power-sharing and the disputed regions of Abyei, Nuba Mountains and southern Blue Nile. The ceasefire has been extended until the 31 March 2004 and talks continue at the highest level of negotiations between Sudanese and SPLM/A.

According to Kiefe(2005) and Adar(no.date), since the signing of the final Comprehensive Peace Agreement between the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army in January 2005, IGAD has monitored and observed implementation of the CPA; contributed two revamped battalions (from Kenya and Uganda) to the UNMIS peacekeeping mission; and secured funding to archive and document the Sudan peace process.

Currently, except the issue related with Abyei region, all problems between Sudan and SPLM have been solved by the efforts of IGAD and its member countries and the two governments are on the position to create direct communication in order to enhancing the mutual relation between two countries the regional organization IGAD provided the framework, the forum, conducted the mediation, as well as the legitimacy of the entire process. It was one of the first such successful attempts at resolution of a long drawn out internal conflict in Africa.

Somalia Peace Process

According to samatar (2007), the collapse of the Somali State in 1991 and the decade of statelessness have taken a horrific toll on the population. The poor and vulnerable majority of the Somali people have singularly suffered from the loss of statehood, but their vulnerability will not remain theirs alone for much longer. International criminals and drug lords will find a haven in stateless Somalia. The collapse of all state institutions in Somalia presented a serious security, political and humanitarian challenge to the IGAD states, especially the immediate neighbors' of

Djibouti, Ethiopia and Kenya With regard to Somalia, both IGAD and the OAU mandated Prime Minister Melese Zenawi of Ethiopia to co-ordinate the peace dialogue and mediation process.

IGAD member states and partners held a two-day conference in Rome on 19-20 January 1998. The meeting reached consensus to establish a committee to assist the peace and reconciliation effort of Ethiopia regarding the crisis in Somalia. The 6th IGAD Summit and Ministerial Session took place in Djibouti from 14-16 March 1998 and were dominated by the issue of Somalia. A declaration expressing concern at the proliferation of initiatives with regard to Somalia was adopted and all concerned partners were requested to channel all assistance provided to Somalia through the IGAD mechanism.

In October 1998, Ethiopia hosted a one-day international conference on Somalia under the auspices of IGAD. The conference decided to establish a 15-member committee to spearhead a new peace and reconciliation effort in Somalia, known as the Somalia Frontline States Technical Committee. It was composed of delegates from the seven IGAD member states, the OAU and the Arab League. The Committee convened a Somalia National Reconciliation Conference, which commenced on 15 October 2002 at Eldoret, Kenya.

According to Samatar (2002), the IGAD strategy aims to find a solution to the Somali problem that is acceptable to Ethiopia, Djibouti and all Somali groups from early. The Assembly of Heads of State and Government Summit in October 2003 requested the African Union to assist IGAD to resume facilitation of the reconciliation process in Somalia and the Facilitation Committee on the Somali Peace Process membership include Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Uganda and Sudan. On 29 January 2004, leaders of the Somali groups signed an agreement in Nairobi, Kenya, to move the talks into the final phase and pave the way for the adoption of a Transitional Federal Charter. The Charter provides the legal framework for a five-year transitional period of government in Somalia.

Planning for a peacekeeping mission in Somalia became more serious in 2004 with the establishment of the Transitional National Government and later the TFG of Somalia on Kenyan soil. Planning for a movement of the TFG from Kenya to Somalia included the formation of an African regional peacekeeping mission to support the government. Under the AU peacekeeping arrangements, sub-regional international organizations assume the lead for fielding AU peacekeeping missions within their areas of responsibility.

As revised in Mays study, 2009, in February 2005, a meeting of the AU's Peace and Security Council officially mandated a peacekeeping operation for Somalia and requested IGAD to plan and deploy it in support of the TFG. On March 2005, the IGAD officially agreed to assume responsibility for fielding a peacekeeping mission in Somalia on behalf of the AU and in March 2006, Kenya's Foreign Minister declared that despite its best efforts, IGAD had failed in its attempts to deploy a peacekeeping operation mission to Somalia.

As stated by Mays, there were many difficulties behind the failure of IGASOM and the specific reasons including: a fragmented approach, lack of funding, disagreement over the UN arms embargo, consent of all belligerents, the lack of an achievable mandate, and the political will of the contingent providers but, Members of IGAD continued to seek solutions to the Somalia's problem throughout 2006 until AU assumed direct responsibility for the peacekeeping mission and fielded the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) in January 2007.

As the security situation in Mogadishu deteriorated sharply as Islamist insurgents mobilized against the Ethiopian presence and Ethiopian forces responded with massive military operations, killing hundreds and putting tens of thousands of people to flight. IGAD lined up firmly behind Ethiopia and expressed appreciation to the Ethiopian Government for all the sacrifices it has made to promote the common position of IGAD member States, which is fully consistent with the commitment of the organization to the success of the TFG and to the interest of the people of the IGAD region to achieve peace and stability and to protect the region from terrorist and extremist forces.

In Somalia, and following the relocation of the TFG to Mogadishu in June 2005, IGAD has provided technical support in preparing the national security stabilization Plan, and has been instrumental in securing the lifting of the UN arms embargo to allow the TFG to pursue its goal of stabilizing the country. In December 2006, with the express invitation of the TFG and the tacit approval of the United States, the Ethiopian army invaded Somalia and ousted the UIC from Mogadishu (Samatar, 2007).

The TFG was relocated in Mogadishu, but the Ethiopian occupation split the TFG and led to an Islamic insurgency. The opposition to Ethiopian occupation established itself in Eritrea, but the Islamist opposition itself fractured into two factions, a moderate wing led by Sheriff Sheik Ahmed, who was chairman of the UIC. The insurgency and an agreement between the moderate

Islamists and other factions led to Ethiopia's withdrawal in 2009. The new round of talks, led to the replacement of Abdullahi Yusuf by Sharif Sheikh Ahmed, considered a moderate Islamist. Nevertheless, with the radical wing of the Islamist movement, especially the *Al Shabab*, since early 2010 officially allied to the Al-Qaeda network (BBC, 2010), refusing to accept the authority of the new TFG, the violence and fighting in Somalia has worsened.

Above all, in the Somalia peace process, the contribution of Ethiopia under the supervision of IGAD has been unrepeatably.

As mentioned in Kifle(2002), After much efforts exhausted and the conflicts had been ongoing, Ethiopia(Melese Zenawi) was come with new approach called from "Top Down to Bottom up approach" .This approach has been brought together nearly all Somalia leaders under the umbrella of UNSC after Sodeere agreement. The return of factional to respective the communities, conduct elections, eventually restore of peace and order and establishment of some administrations system have been some results of the new Somalia peace approach which proposed by Ethiopia.

All peace processes, agreements, negotiations and implementation in both Somalia and Sudan's have been initiated, chaired, supported (financial, material, technical and military) by IGAD and its member countries as well as the implementation of the peace agreements and protocols have been supervised, documented and evaluated by the institution. Whatever their pitfalls and the difficulties encountered, especially with the Somali peace process, both the Sudan and Somalia peace agreements support the contention that IGAD was adept at performing its role in regional conflict management. But it is still not finalized.

As justified in Healy (2011), IGAD has been engaged since 2003 in efforts to develop a new peace and security strategy, including the promised 'mechanism' for the pacific settlement of disputes As we have seen, the peace processes in Sudan and Somalia were dominated by the far from disinterested engagement of regional (and sometimes extra regional) powers, often competing against each other to achieve outcomes favorable to their own national security interests. Despite the obvious need for a better regional security framework in the Horn of Africa, the scope for the IGAD secretariat to develop an autonomous conflict resolution capability will remain limited, and member states will try to use IGAD's authority to legitimize their own regional policies. In addition to peace building, IGAD also brought some achievement in other sectors.

According to AFDB (2013), over the decade (2000-2009), economic growth has been strong in IGAD region, with regional real GDP growth averaging 6.6% annually. The EAC partner states (6.1%) and countries in the Horn of Africa (6.9%) demonstrated strong growth performance, but the island countries (2.9%) lagged other countries, due to the instability in Comoros and past policy failures in Seychelles.

Other macroeconomic indicators show mixed performance. Inflation remained at a single digit level, real export growth rates were positive, and external debt was sustainable, while debt servicing burden was relatively low. In addition, since the most recent droughts and food crisis, thinking in the region is moving away from recurrent emergency approach to a more sustainable way to build resilience to food security shocks in the region. There appears to be different definitions of what it means to build resilience, but the generally accepted understanding is that vulnerable communities are prepared to cope with shocks and adapt their livelihoods.

As stated by IMF (2005), on the negative side, the fiscal, trade and current account balances were in deficit, but Kenya, Tanzania, Ethiopia and Uganda have undertaken trade policies reforms that have consisted of liberalization of their trade regimes at both the regional and global levels. As they have promoted more open and liberal trade policies the three countries have simultaneously embarked upon a process to integrate their economies through the creation of the EAC. The formation of the EAC customs union is an important step in the process of deepening regional integration.

The huge dam under construction in southern Ethiopia since 2009, considered the second biggest on the continent, has run into serious opposition from environmental and human rights groups in the West, and the World Bank has refused to finance the project. However, the Ethiopian government has continued with the project. The dam has on the one hand implications on the flow of water into Lake Turkana in Kenya, while the government claims that the dam is intended to benefit the other states in the region with the supply of energy and it can use as the center of regional development and integration.

Whatever the IGAD has been encircled by a number of problems which have more or less similar with the rest RECs in Africa, the institution has brought some progresses and achievements in its cooperation and integrations areas, but the achievements are more inclined to the peace and security areas and somewhat in economic development and cooperation, and infrastructure connection area. The remarkable achievements have been made by IGAD in the

peace and security sector is Sudan's' and Somalia peace building which was appreciated by many. Even if IGAD has been brought some progress in all sectors, the achievements in peace building are remarkable as evidenced in Sudan and Somalia peace process. In this regard, the rest RECs can bring achievements in their region or in the continent without the fulfillment of necessary pre-conditions.

As an undertaking to manage and resolve the ongoing violent conflicts in the Sudan and Somalia, IGAD member countries have put in place negotiation mechanisms aimed at addressing key factors driving the conflicts. Such mechanisms include the establishment of committees, one under the chairmanship of Kenya, which has been mandated to oversee and initiate dialogue between the government of Sudan and the SPLA/M. The second committee which has included the participation of Djibouti and Ethiopia has facilitated the Somali peace processes.

The undeniable fact is that regional integration schemes are based on agreement among states, and states enter into such agreements in order to enhance their position or protect their interests, because they (particularly smaller states) believe that it is best served through cooperative endeavors rather than going it alone, especially in the modern era dominated by large and powerful states. In addition to that, Ethiopia contributed a lot for the peace processes of both countries through technical, financial, and military supports, political and leadership advises in conflicts management in both peace processes. Kenya also did a lot. Similar with the rest of RECs, IGAD also is very important in the creation of economic integration in its respective region. But the institution has given more attention to the issue of peace building other than the general cooperation areas. As justified in different studies, remarkable achievements recorded in the security sector and there is a progress in the rest areas such as in infrastructure development, economic cooperation, information sharing and so no.

Despite of some progresses have been recorded, there is great need of infrastructure development, HEP generation, investment attraction and promote public private participation in the IGAD region. Some member states of IGAD have given more attention for their national development rather than regional cooperation and integration. Similarly, there are costs of integration as much as benefits, and while member states might want to obtain economic and political benefits from the institution, they may also be reluctant to make the necessary sacrifices or compromises associated with being a member of IGAD. But Ethiopia is founded on the front

line in the process of pay scarification in the region as evidenced in the Somalia and Sudan's peace building.

Despite its successes in peace and security domain, IGAD faces a number of major challenges that threaten its future effectiveness and the key challenges which would hinder IGAD in the process of implementing its regional cooperation and integration policies are set up as follows.

4.4 Major Challenges of IGAD in its Cooperation Policy Implementation

The unique characteristics of the Horn of Africa make the IGAD region the right geographical locus for regional approaches to get shaped. In addition, there is the perception that the IGAD has a clear mandate for development, as reflected in its name, in which 'development' features prominently. Although in recent years, it has focused more on peace and security, its vision and mandate is still very well suited for this purpose. The role of IGAD Secretariat: right institution, strong mandate, but weak capacity. In recent years concerns have led to a series of evaluations (ACBF, 2006, ADB, 2009 and AU, 2009) have reviewed IGAD's effectiveness, with the result that internal capacity has been partially strengthened in areas such as strategic planning and human resource management. However, while staff members are technically skilled, they lack supporting capacities, including in resource mobilization, performance planning and monitoring, negotiation, dialogue facilitation and building partnerships. A number of specific issues were raised by some donors, as well as national ministry staff with regard to the IGAD Secretariat's capacity.

Similar with the negative influences of globalization as justify in Sarbo (2010), due to its geopolitical position, Northeast Africa (AMU and IGAD region) has been regarded as of significant strategic importance by world powers for a long time and the region's proximity to the Middle East, which is the source of world oil production, its own immense natural resources add to its strategic importance, currently, the region faces serious economic, social, environmental, and security challenges. These challenges reflected an urgent need to build capacity of non vibrant states to strengthen decision-making on economic, social and environmental issues. As justified by ECA (2012), at the Regional level, many challenges were identified in the implementation of sustainable development objectives. However the progresses are there, as AU (2009), the lack of investment in agricultural sector and regional conflicts are the challenges of IGAD region. Of these, financial constraints were most prominent.

The member states contributions to support IGAD's operations have increased over time. However, unpredictable of member states contribution, difficult to plan in the long terms and donor's can be taken as the challenges. As a result, IGAD is highly dependent on donor funding. IGAD periodically convenes a Donor's Forum, intended to ensure coherent and sufficient levels of funding. Most of time, official development assistance fell short of pledges by the international community and developed countries to address sustainability issues. They were volatile and concentrated on specific countries and sectors rather than support the overall regional integration and development in Africa.

East African regional integration is viewed as strategic and important from both a regional, continental and international communities as the region is the source of different threats.

The proximity and strategic location of IGAD region has been attracting international actors in any social, political and economical activities takes place in the region. This condition has both negative and positive impacts on the implementation of IGAD policy. Among it positive effects, it may be increase institutional partners for IGAD and enhance the benefits related with. In the negative side, the strategic location of IGAD region could be exacerbate external influences and interferences in to the region as well as in the institution in the process of policy formulation and implementation.

As stated in Alemayehu (2002), OAU study to understand problems of country participation in SADEC and COMESA shows that countries do face problems by participating in many RECs. This problems include human and financial costs associated with membership, lack of harmonization of policies especially in the areas of rules of origin and customs procedures, information gap in policy making and implementation levels are few among many.

With the presence of internal and external challenges is it possible to achieve the objectives of AU and RECs to bring sustainable development and integration at both continental and regional levels? The answers to these questions, of course, depend on the extent to which African leaders and other stakeholders are ready to overcome past and present constraints in adopting approaches that are incentive-compatible with stated objectives. The objectives stated in the above discussions, as understood from the above progresses made by RECs, it is possible to bring achievements with in vary degree of progresses. This can be evidenced by IGAD's achievements in peace building in the region. IGAD as institution and its member states as individual have played significant roles in Somalia and Sudan's peace process.

4.5. Conclusion

As discussed in this chapter, IGAD can play more or less many roles in the continent as well as in its region development and integration. Enhancing economic cooperation, development & integration, promoting environmental protection and food security, promoting regional wide capacity building, promote infrastructure development and physical integration in the region, reducing global challenges and enhance its opportunity and play the role of partnership to AU and other continental and international institutions are the major roles that can play by IGAD. In past couple of decades, IGAD has been brought some changes/progresses in different fields such as: in infrastructure development, food security and poverty reduction, investment attraction, trade exchanges, natural resources management and disaster control, capacity building, social development and political stability. These practices could strengthen the assumption that RECs can bring achievements in their region or in the continent. The study identified that, less institutional and human capacities, conflicting political conditions, membership overlapping, globalization and international standards in terms of trade, less stakeholder's participation, poverty and Environmental threats are major challenges that require practical actions in the part of member states.

CHAPTER FIVE: Conclusion and Recommendations

5.1. Conclusion

From 15th century and until the second half of middle of 20th century, African had been challenged by slave trade, colonialism, and by the consequences of them. Also, in the post independent era, new challenges have been hampering the development and integration of the continent. Africa consists 54 states with the most fragmented economies. Regional integration is very crucial for Africans development and growth since the continent as whole, and African countries as individual have been engulfed by economic, social, political and environmental problems. This could help the continent to overcome fragmentation by creating larger markets to economies of scale, wider competition and increased foreign direct investment.

Despite the fact that the original Pan-African project was a political one in which Nkrumah called for the formation of a United States of Africa, the main activity in this direction has been the push for the formation of regional economic arrangements, which were seen as the 'gradual' building blocks aimed at the eventual creation of an African market and a political union of the continent. This gradualism however failed and the present trend is towards the speeding up of the political project in the creation of the African Union and the creation of regional economic communities.

At the end of 1970s African leader's decide to overcame the continental problems through the regional blocs' efforts. Since 1991 (Abuja Treaty), many regional economic blocs are established in all parts of the continent. The institutions have not been successfully achieved because of the pre-conditions of effective regional integration did not fulfill but, there are good progresses in all regions of Africa. Even through the progresses were unsatisfactory, regional economic integration is an essential strategy to promote robust, sustainable development and equitable growth and RECs are crucial instruments to realize the goals of regional integration in Africa.

As far as concerned African regional economic communities, they have been brought some progresses. There progressives is slow, uneven, and with lack of continuity because of the RECs are facing many challenges in the process of implementing their regional integration agendas.

Membership overlapping, financial dependence on external donors, inefficiency in production and infrastructure connectivity, inter and intra states conflicts, less institutional capacity, globalization and lack of popular commitment are some of the challenges which hindering the work of RECs.

IGAD's is one of African RECs which consists seven east African countries as the member and the institution overarching vision is to be the premier regional organization for achieving peace, prosperity and regional integration in the sub-region through assist and complement the efforts of the member states with the collaboration of development partners. Agriculture development, natural resources management and environment protection, economic co-operation and integration and social development, built peace and security and humanitarian affairs, corporate development services, improve the good governance, countering terrorism, and create harmonize relationship with international and continental based institutions are the key cooperation and integration areas of IGAD.

The argument of this study shows that, if the cooperation and development plan of IGAD can be implemented in the effective and efficient manner, the institution can play a great role in the process of Africans development and integration. Achieve sustainable economic development in the region, built peace and security in the region/continent, strengthening coordination and collaboration among the member states and with another sub-regional/regional, continental and international institutions and play the AU partners in the process of African integration are taken as the roles that IGAD has been played in its region and as well as in the continent.

Like the rest of RECs in Africa, IGAD has been brought some progresses in different fields such as: in infrastructure development, food security and poverty reduction, investment attraction and expansion, natural resources management, capacity building, social development, political stability and good governance but the progressives were insignificant, uneven and characterized by lack of continuity as compared with the demands in the region. African Regional Economic Communities is responsible for the overall co-ordination of regional development and realizing sustainable peace and development liaises with other organizations, agencies and co-operating partners in the respective regional as well as in other parties of the continent.

Moreover, IGDA has been recorded remarkable achievements in the peace building process as evidenced by Somalia and Sudan's peace processes which would be taken as regional integration has been great in the past decades.

The membership overlapping, natural resource stress and recurrent droughts and famines, poverty and food insecurity, less infrastructure development, unexpected conflicts and political instability, the institutional capacity have been evidenced as some challenges of IGAD in the process of implementing its cooperation and integration policies in the region. The study was recommended that, to be the above objectives, IGAD should strengthening the institutional and leadership capacity in authority, functions, logistic, finance through enhance its coordination and collaboration with all stakeholders.

Use as Partnership for the AU and its organs in the process of AU policies and programmes implementation in the region, realize Regional Economic Development, promoting regional Cooperation and Integration through promoting free and fair trade, investment and by create large market in the region, Build Peace and Security in the Region, Develop Infrastructures in the Region, Promote Region wide Capacity Building in the process of IGAD policies, programmes and projects formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, enhance Stakeholders Participation and Collaboration in all institutional activities, and Create Public Awareness among all communities on the issue of regional are some mechanisms by which IGAD can play a vital roles in the process of regional economic development and then African integration.

5.2. Recommendations

Regional economic integration is very crucial and fundamental for Africans development and integration since the continent, the regions; the countries have been engulfed by economic, social, political and environmental problems. Based on the identified challenges, as well as the understanding the researcher has got from the course of study, the following recommendations have been forwarded:-

Promote Regional Wide Capacity Building

According to UNDESA, CAFRAD and UM, institutional and leadership capacity building is very important for the planning, programming, prioritizing, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation any continental, regional and national program. Whatever has been done in the past decades in the continent and in the IGAD region, currently, security are the major threats of IGAD region. It is greatly requires that, IGAD has create networking with Universities, Development partners and donors as well as other reputable organizations to plan and implement an internship program that provides young graduates with an environment and opportunity that shapes right from the beginning of their working life their characters, values systems and mindsets to respond to the leadership capacity needs in the region. On the other hand, IGAD should attract the more skilled man power and improve the skill of the existing staff with on-job and off-job training and as well as through experience sharing with the other regional economic communities in and out of the continent.

Building capacity in conflict management can play a major role in preventing and ameliorating conflict by developing individual and institutional skills that can promote a culture of constructive problem solving, cooperative negotiation, and dialogue and dispute resolution throughout society. The training will transfer analytical, policy-making and practical skills to public sector decision-makers and enable them to: analyze the structural and proximate causes of conflict anticipate potential areas of dispute and develop appropriate responses for promote peace as well as averting violence understand and employ dispute resolution principles and practices, strengthen institutional capacity for managing diversity and conflicting interests and use development tools in ways that mitigate the long-term structural, as well as proximate, causes of conflict.

In this conception, leadership capacity development will consist on up-grading capacity of individuals, groups and populations. Reforming, transforming and modernizing the entire work and life environment for new leadership. It is therefore a comprehensive program should needed in a systemic manner by involving not only civil servants but also politicians, civil society organizations and the private sector in the IGAD region and in the member states.

Identify key Priority Areas/Problems in the Region

As denoted by WB (2010), Africa is not a country, so any strategy for Africa should take into account the differences among countries, in levels of development, economic structure, and political and social environment. Moreover, the strategy will largely be implemented at the country level. What then is the role of a strategy for Africa?

The regional strategy provides the framework in which to embed country strategies. Any given country's strategy may deviate from the themes of the regional strategy depending on circumstances. Furthermore, a country strategy would be more selective, because it should be based on what other partners and the country are doing.

In sum, the national strategy highlights the directions of regional strategy to help Africa in sustainable development and political integration. At the same time, this regional strategy, since it is based on widespread consultations among all types of stakeholders may be provide the space for African consensus in which the private sector, government and development partners may find their comparative strengths to select the nature of their interventions. This would also feed into the efforts toward African regional development and cooperation and then continental integration. The problems of Africa and African regains are; deep-rooted, dynamic and inter-related. All RECs in Africa have been brought some achievements in vary decree of implementation with the presence of different obstacles.

To bring average, sustainable and significant progress, all RECs especially IGAD should give due attention to identify the key priority areas in the process of regional economic integration policy and program formulation as well as in implementation based on the reality, need and demands of their regions as well as by considering the inclusiveness of the issue. Africa needs to embark on large scale transformations in order to bridge the development gap between itself and the rest of the world. This task needs knowledge, skills, attitudes and networks that enable working with stakeholders, balancing and managing long term and short term objectives in the context of change, creating a shared vision and strategy and empowering people.

Secured Funds for Regional Programmes and Projects

As it is known, in African countries or regions there is no shortage of land, natural resources and labor powers but a lack of capital and technology. Funding should be mobilized from donors and partners, such as the World Bank's Global Facility for disaster reduction and recovery in order to

implement disaster risk reduction measures within programmes for poverty-reduction and sustainable development by climate change adaptation. In addition, at any situation, post-conflicts and post-disasters, disaster risk reduction and conflict sensitivity approaches should be integrated into regional and the member states strategic plans and programmes to reduce both vulnerabilities to disasters and the probability of resurgence of conflict in IGAD region as well as in the continent.

IGAD should create mechanisms to assure its own financial sources by create more access to internal and external funding. Therefore, IGAD should implement and adopt the necessary technological and administrative instruments for the member states to strengthen their revenue generating capacity through improve collection of public services fees, taxes and other revenues from their internal and external revenue sources.

Improve Political Environment and Reduce Conflicts

Too many destructive and disruptive violent conflicts have been going on for too long on the African at continent regional and national levels. The RECs must improve the performance of their public sectors if they are to achieve their stated goals of development and integration through; reducing poverty, accelerating economic growth, and providing better services to their citizens.

IGAD provides the political platform through which the governments of the member states pool resources and co-ordinate their efforts to initiate and implement regional programmes and projects to tackle development challenges facing the region. There are many common natural resources include Nile river in the IGAD region which could be taken as one of the sources of conflicts. IGAD and the member states should develop additional legal frame work to use these common resources for regional development and integration rather than the security threats.

East African in particular are experienced by rapid intra and inter states conflicts which have great potential in hampering economic development and social integration at any level in the continent. It is highly recommended that, in the process of peace building mechanisms, no need of give supports for one side or to both sides in war or conflict conditions since it can be escalating insecurity in a given state or region. Negotiation, mediation, arbitration and other mechanisms based on the reality and equivalent approaches (relatively as Ethiopia and Kenya

have been done in Somalia and Sudan's) should take unrepeatable role to bring peace and security in IGAD region as well as in the rest of African.

Most of African inters and intra conflicts have been arising from the inefficient of natural resources use and distribution, lack of social and legal services provision and traditional economic activities and this issue is very high in East African region. In order to minimize the conflicts tensions which have hindering the developments and integration of the IGDA region, the institution and the key stakeholders should develop the more effective and efficient strategy of natural resources management, use, distribution and the transferring of traditional economic activities in to modern production systems.

Enforcing traditional laws and norms that guarantee or protect the land and resource rights of such communities has been an important means of ensuring environmental protection in some jurisdictions. *To some extent what Ethiopia and Kenya did* are examples of the cases. IGAD should expand and use the indigenous traditional norms and law in the process of conflicts management and environmental protection based on the inclusive methods since it is very crucial is such communities.

Preventing conflict and political violence, and building institutions for inclusive growth, while mitigating these shocks requires peace-building mechanisms. More generally, preventing shocks and being better prepared for them will involve a mix of capacity-strengthening and institution-building as well as improve economic condition is the best recommendation to solve security problems. Example includes sound macroeconomic management, regulation of the financial sector, and adaptation to climate change. Because of more conflicts in the region is arising from economic problems and resources management and it is possible to minimize the conflicts by promoting economic development and reducing natural resources distribution.

Widely recognized that, limit the number of regional organizations in one region and establishes basic equilibrium among all states in the region and provide economies of scale for quicker economic transformation should need to speed up the process of regional integrations in the east African and continental integration in Africa. As it was identified in chapter three of this study, IGAD region is know by great diversity in terms of natural resources, kinds of production, country size, population level of development and commitment.

As justified by Taye(2010), Ethiopia has been experienced by development strong diplomatic relations with in IGAD and outside the institution which is very important in regional, continental and international cooperation and integration. From the IGAD member countries, Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda are vibrant, have abundant natural resources, experienced by sustainable economic development in past few years and has the potation to influencing continental and international communities on politics, environmental protection and economic development issues. It is advisable for the IGAD member countries and to the institution that; regional diversity could be attributing to the regional economic development and integration through creates large market size, high labor density; attract investment and connecting with global market. So IGAD should use these bases of regional diversity as great advantage for regional economic integration and development and the institution should create the opportunities of experience sharing among the member states /Ethiopia and Kenya/ can give experiences for the ret member countries.

Enhance Stakeholders Participation and Collaborations

As stated in Araral and Holmemo(2007), investing in strengthen community participation and local governance will likely have a positive impact on operations and maintenance (O&M) performance. Correlation analysis shows that ex ante levels of community participation and local governance are positively correlated with better O&M. The current trends in regional integration on the African continent need to be thoroughly mastered by current and future leaders.

The deeper the coordination and partnership, the greater is effectiveness of compliance with and enforcement of the illegal and crime control system in the region. This is because each partner brings complementary skill, resources and experience in the program. Exploiting the synergies between partners will make implementing the regional integration policies in the effective and efficient manner. The result of this synergy will be great in Learns of saving money, time and bring about stronger protection and enhancement of the social, economic and ecological components of sustainable development.

As IGAD there are a number of agreements have been signed b/n the institution and stakeholders but practically, they are no on the position to engaging more. Currently the institution also prepares to sign the regional compact with its regional partners, it is particularly important to identify the right stakeholders who shall participate in the regional compact

preparation and signature. The right mix of civil society representatives genuinely reflecting existing grassroots views should be involved in endorsing the regional compact, as this will have implications around present buy-in and allow for the appropriate stakeholders to be continuously involved beyond the regional compact formulation stage and wanted to see the aver all development and integration of the region as well as the continent.

The IGAD institution should work to create more strong coordination and collaboration among the key stakeholders such as AU and its organs, UNECA, the rest continental RECs, EU, BIRCS, NGOs, Civil societies, member states and with the regional community in the process of create awareness on the needs of regional integration, planning, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating regional integration policies and programmes through create common stakeholder committee and by facilitate regional and national wide information sharing system among all stakeholders as well as by adopting check and balance mechanism among key stakeholders on selective issues and great take care.

The African development and integration supporter organizations, groups and centers should carry out research, disseminate information, maximally use the mass media, network, campaign, mobilize and take action in support of a United New Africa. Such United Africa support organizations should effectively, systematically and in a highly co-ordinate manner support and popularize the Africa Union as whole and RECs as individual.

To fill the gaps of continental and regional monitoring and evaluation the ongoing progresses and challenges in African national, regional and continental development and integration as well as to the real participations of the partners, African institutions for developments, leaders and the concerned bodies must give attention for the use of the African Peer Review Mechanism at all levels). In addition, the implementation of the APR mechanism can give effect to the need for targeted capacity-building in priority areas. State capacity-building is a critical aspect of creating conditions for development.

Every regional economic community has their own faller and success in the process of regional economic integration policy implementation. It is possible to take experiences from the success and filler of other regions regarding to this, IGAD can be draw the lesson from EU in the area of trade policy concurrence and integration, trade policy reform accordingly, economy

diversification industrialization and ways to enhance stakeholder participation and coordination in the process of regional policy formulation, implementation and evaluation.

To continue ongoing changes and to solve the existed and new born problems in the region there is a need of improve IGAD internal effectiveness through investing in human resources management, information, management and technology (IMT), and budget processes. Implementing this strategy will require IGAD to have a flexible, mobile and a highly talented workforce by attracting and recruiting diverse, talent and skilled manpower who better address the needs of the member states, the regional and continental problems

There is a need of compile the experience of the institution and its member countries /Ethiopian role/ to use it in the other sectors. It is very important that IGAD and the member countries as well as the rest regional/ sub-regional blocs should evaluate the strength and weakness of their relationships based on the pre-set objectives. AU also must assess the mechanism by which it can evaluating the progressive and regressive that made by each RECs in the continents in terms of bring economic, social, cultural, environmental and political development in their respective regional or sub- regional as well as the relation between two or more RECs which bring us in to continental development and integration. However there is good progress in Africa at all levels in terms economic growth, and social development, currently, poverty is the main challenges for both regional cooperation and continental integration in Africa including IGAD region. To improve the state of poverty and to enhance the role of IGAD in continental development and integration, IGAD and the key partners should work to increase agricultural production through improving farming mechanism, increase agricultural inputs, promote agricultural infrastructure development and improving the investment climate.

Moreover, IGAD and other key partners should give due attention for Promoting free trade and enlarging regional market, enhance the development of regional investment by rationalize industrialization, infrastructure and communication among member states, strengthen cooperation with the rest RECs. In addition, realize social development focusing on education, health, labor migration, and promote the participation of youth and women which have been very important to enhance the role of IGAD in the regional and continental development and integration.

Generally, promote regional wide capacity building, prioritize the national and regional problems, secured finances for the regional programmes and projects, minimize the member state overlapping, poverty reduction, pre-identification of security and environmental threats and manage, promote stakeholders participation and collaboration on the regional and continental integration issues, promote infrastructure development and physical integration, improve internal and external relations of IGDA are some of the recommendations that made by this study to enhance the regional and continental role of IGAD.

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DECLARATIONS

The undersigned by declare that this thesis is my original work and that it has not been submitted in fully, by any other person for an award of a degree/masters in any other university/institution.

Ketema Dinka Damasa Signature _____

Date_____

The Thesis has been submitted for examination with my approval as University supervisor.

Dr Yasin Mohammed Signature_____

Date_____