



PEACE, PROSPERITY AND
REGIONAL INTEGRATION

26th January 2026

Ref: IGAD/PCPD/STAT/01/1/2026

Professor Samuel Kobina Annim
Director, African Centre for Statistics
United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Dear Sir,

Subject: Request for UNECA Support for the Development of the IGAD Regional Strategy for the Development of Statistics (2026–2030)

On behalf of the IGAD Secretariat, I wish to commend the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, through the African Centre for Statistics, for its continued leadership and invaluable contributions to the advancement of statistical development across the African continent.

IGAD has successfully implemented the first edition of its Regional Strategy for the Development of Statistics (RSDS), which concluded in December 2025. The strategy made a meaningful contribution to strengthening national and regional statistical systems, promoting the harmonization of statistical practices among IGAD Member States, and supporting evidence-based policymaking across the region.

As IGAD transitions into a new planning cycle, the organization is in the process of mobilizing technical and financial resources to develop the second edition of the IGAD Regional Strategy for the Development of Statistics (2026–2030). In this regard, we respectfully request the support of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), through the African Centre for Statistics, in providing technical guidance and, where possible, resource support for the formulation of this new strategy.

UNECA's leadership and extensive expertise in statistical development at both continental and regional levels would be invaluable in ensuring that the forthcoming RSDS is well aligned with Africa's statistical priorities, continental frameworks, and international best practices. Such support would greatly enhance the quality, relevance, and impact of the strategy in addressing emerging data needs and strengthening statistical capacity within the IGAD region.

We would highly appreciate the opportunity to further engage with your team to discuss this request and explore potential areas and modalities of collaboration.

Please accept, Director, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Awira Anthony', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Awira Anthony, PhD

Director, Planning Coordination and Partnership Division
Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)