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Enabling poor rural people
to overcome poverty

Silent observers at Executive Board proceedings

Note to Executive Board representatives

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Executive Board — 101st Session
Rome, 14-16 December 2010

For: Information

Silent observers at Executive Board proceedings

1. Bearing in mind rule 13 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board¹ and the wish to promote transparency and broaden opportunities for attendance at Executive Board sessions by Member States that are not Board representatives, the suggestions received at the Convenors and Friends meeting held on 14 July 2010 were considered by the Board at its 100th session in September 2010. At that session, Management was requested to present a paper to the Board at its 101st session outlining the issues discussed.
2. Following the productive discussion on this matter at the 100th session, Management concluded that the following arrangements should be put in place in respect of Member States that are not Board representatives:
 - (a) A single representative from each of the five regions covered by IFAD's operations (West and Central Africa, East and Southern Africa, Near East and North Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean) shall be allowed to attend sessions of the Executive Board as silent observers for items pertaining to country strategic opportunities programmes, project and programme proposals, and grant proposals for consideration. The names of said representatives shall be communicated to the President by the Convenors;
 - (b) Those Member States wishing to attend Executive Board sessions shall be allowed to follow the Board's proceedings via closed circuit television in the *salle d'écoute*, limited to one representative per Member State.
3. As the implementation of the above measures does not require amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, the Board is hereby invited to take note of this change in practice, to be implemented as of its 101st session.

¹ Rule 13 states that "The proceedings of the Board and of committees and other subsidiary bodies shall be confidential and shall not be published except to the extent the Board authorizes the President to arrange for suitable publicity on any item concerned."