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Enabling poor rural people
to overcome poverty

Programme of events for the thirty-fourth session of the Governing Council

Note to Executive Board representatives

Focal points:

Technical questions:

Paolo Ciocca
Secretary of IFAD
Tel.: +39 06 5459 2254
e-mail: p.ciocca@ifad.org

Dispatch of documentation:

Liam F. Chicca
Governing Bodies Officer
Tel.: +39 06 5459 2462
e-mail: l.chicca@ifad.org

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

For: **Information**

Programme of events for the thirty-fourth session of the Governing Council

1. Rule 6 of the rules of procedure of the Governing Council provides that the President of IFAD shall prepare, with the approval of the Executive Board, a provisional agenda for each session of the Governing Council. Accordingly, the provisional agenda for the thirty-fourth session of the Governing Council, to be held 19-20 February 2011, was considered and approved at the 100th session of the Executive Board in September 2010, and is attached for information (see annex).
2. As requested by the Board at that session, information on events foreseen for the forthcoming Governing Council is also provided.
3. At the ninety-seventh session of the Executive Board, representatives were invited to note that the Fund's Management was in the process of redesigning the organization of the Governing Council to focus on a thematic discussion. The format of the thirty-third session of the Governing Council was changed accordingly, and the session proved to be more interactive, substantive and productive.
4. The thirty-fourth session of the Governing Council, to be held in February 2011, will follow the same format.
5. The United Nations proclaimed the year beginning on 12 August 2010 as the International Year of Youth. During this year, United Nations agencies are encouraged to organize events focusing on youth-related issues and the role of young people in development. Youth are also mentioned in the first Millennium Development Goal (MDG1), which aims to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, and achieve full and productive employment for all, including women and young people. The opportunity to involve the present generation of youth in initiatives to develop the smallholder agricultural sector – by promoting smallholder farms as agribusinesses using new technologies and modern farming methods – is one we must not miss.
6. With this in mind, the following theme is proposed for an interactive plenary panel discussion: "Feeding future generations – Young rural people today, prosperous farmers tomorrow". Three major cross-cutting themes of importance to future generations are:
 - (a) Young people are the future leaders, entrepreneurs and farmers, and the challenge of developing vibrant rural centres and meeting future food security demand will rest on their shoulders.
 - (b) Specific rural youth-targeted policies and programmes are needed to create decent jobs for young people by modernizing the smallholder agriculture sector and offering alternatives to subsistence farming – in the form of high-revenue crops, marketing programmes, better positioning in value chains and contract farming.
 - (c) The empowering of young rural people to engage in small and medium-sized agribusinesses has enormous potential benefits in terms of feeding a growing world population, creating rural economic growth and providing opportunities for vulnerable women and men to use their talents to work their way out of poverty.
7. Against this backdrop, the panel aims to address some of the key issues affecting young rural people and smallholder agriculture and to discuss how IFAD can best contribute to improving the lives of rural youth. The specific focus on young rural people – and their potential to feed the world and act as agents for rural development – and on smallholder agriculture as a profitable agribusiness is

something that IFAD, in cooperation with international, national and local partners, would like to move to the forefront of the development agenda.

8. In this regard, an interactive dialogue – featuring a panel of high-profile personalities who influence the development agenda – will be held during the plenary session of the Governing Council. A number of eminent people have been invited to take part in the discussion, and contacts have been made with their respective organizations and offices with a view to ensuring their participation. The panel will be moderated by an internationally renowned television journalist. The IFAD Secretariat will provide the Executive Board with more up-to-date information during the course of the 101st Board session. IFAD's membership will be kept informed of developments by means of regular updates on the IFAD website.
9. On the second day of the Governing Council, and in line with its overarching theme and focus, a number of parallel and consecutive side events will be organized in which interactive panels will discuss specific regional initiatives, approaches, challenges and opportunities. Domains of complementarities and synergies will be highlighted to provide guidance for future rural youth investment operations. The four regional events will emphasize best practices, lessons learned to promote investment in youth agribusiness, and vocational training and rural youth microenterprises.
10. At present the following side events are foreseen:
 - (a) Asia and the Pacific: "Opportunities and challenges of working with rural youth in Asia" (with a specific focus on engaging young people in rural development activities in Asia and the Pacific, and drawing on specific examples from IFAD-supported projects in the region);
 - (b) Sub-Saharan Africa: "Rural youth: Investing today for a better tomorrow" (with a specific focus on promoting smallholder agribusiness and vocational training of rural youth, in order to enhance generational livelihood security in the rural economies of sub-Saharan Africa);
 - (c) Latin America and the Caribbean: "Supporting rural youth microenterprises" (with a specific focus on broadening IFAD's vision and informing the innovative practices needed in future funding of rural youth microenterprises and support to agricultural practices in Latin America and the Caribbean and across the globe);
 - (d) Near East and North Africa, and Eastern Europe: "Rural youth: Investing today for a better tomorrow" (with a specific focus on promoting smallholder agribusiness and vocational training of rural youth, in order to enhance generational livelihood security in the rural economies of the regions).
11. IFAD divisional directors and senior staff will assist the groups and introduce the topics. National delegations will be free to attend the side events of their choice and, in order to maximize interaction, may wish to have different members attend different discussion groups. Accredited journalists will also be invited to attend the side events.
12. A provisional programme of events is provided, with a draft timetable for the proposed schedule of work. It encompasses the formal items as set out in the provisional agenda for consideration by the Governing Council, and the panel discussions and side events. The timetable seeks to allow sufficient time to handle the formal agenda, while maximizing opportunities for interactive dialogue on substantive issues related to the activities of the Fund. It is to be considered a work in progress and subject to change as confirmation of attendance is received.
13. The first session of the Consultation on the Ninth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources will take place on Monday, 21 February, and Member States participating in the Consultation based on the deliberations of the Governing Council will be receiving relevant information.

Provisional programme of events¹

Saturday, 19 February 2011

Morning session 9 a.m. to 1.30 p.m.

9.00 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. Inaugural ceremony

11.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. Agenda items that may be covered in the morning are the opening of the session, adoption of the agenda, application for non-original membership, and report on the Eighth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources. Time permitting, it may be possible to deal with revision of the Financial Regulations of IFAD and the synthesis of deliberations of the workshop establishing the Indigenous People's Forum at IFAD.

Afternoon session 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

3 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. **Interactive dialogue on the theme of the Governing Council:** "Feeding future generations – Young rural people today, prosperous farmers tomorrow". The panel will be composed of two to three guest speakers and two to three heads of delegation. Each will speak for five minutes, followed by a question-and-answer session.

5.30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Further agenda items, including general statements

7 p.m. Reception for all delegates

Sunday, 20 February 2011

Morning session 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Two side events will be held simultaneously on specific topics.

11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Two side events will be held simultaneously on specific topics.

The four events may be chaired by ministers or senior representatives from the regions involved and, if possible, include guests invited to the Governing Council, heads of delegations and the IFAD staff concerned.

1 p.m. to 1.20 p.m. Conclusion of remaining agenda items, including general statements

1.20 p.m. to 1.30 p.m. Closure of the session

Monday, 21 February 2011

First session of the Consultation on the Ninth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources²

¹ The final programme of events will be posted on the Member States Interactive Platform.

² For Member States participating in the replenishment Consultation.

Provisional agenda for the thirty-fourth session of the Governing Council

1. Opening of the session
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Application for non-original membership
4. Statement of the President of IFAD
5. General statements
6. Report on the Eighth Replenishment of IFAD's resources
7. Ninth Replenishment of IFAD's resources
8. Consolidated financial statements of IFAD for 2009
9. Revision of the Financial Regulations of IFAD
10. IFAD's capital and administrative budgets and the budget of the IFAD Office of Evaluation for 2011
11. Report on the special expenditure for the Voluntary Separation Programme for IFAD for 2009-2010
12. Revision of IFAD's Lending Policies and Criteria
13. Progress report on implementation of the performance-based allocation system
14. Progress report on the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
15. Emoluments of the President
16. Other business

Annotations

1. **Opening of the session**

The thirty-fourth session of the Governing Council will be held on Saturday, 19 February, and Sunday, 20 February 2011.

2. **Adoption of the agenda**

The provisional agenda, prepared by the President and approved by the Executive Board in accordance with rule 6 of the Rules of Procedure of the Governing Council, is contained in the present document (GC 34/L.1).

3. **Application for non-original membership**

The Executive Board considered the application for membership of IFAD from the Republic of Uzbekistan. The recommendation of the Board in this regard, together with a draft resolution thereon, will be presented in document GC 34/L.2.

4. **Statement of the President of IFAD**

Mr Kanayo F. Nwanze will make a statement to the Governing Council.

5. **General statements**

Governors are invited to make general statements under this agenda item and to comment on other items on the agenda, as appropriate.

6. **Report on the Eighth Replenishment of IFAD's resources**

A report on the status of the Eighth Replenishment of IFAD's resources will be presented in document GC 34/L.3.

7. **Ninth Replenishment of IFAD's resources**

Article 4.3 of the Agreement Establishing the International Fund for Agricultural Development provides for periodic review by the Governing Council of the adequacy of IFAD's resources in order to assure continuity in the Fund's operations. Document GC 34/L.4 will be presented to the Council to facilitate its consideration of the Fund's future resource requirements and will contain a draft resolution on the establishment of the Consultation on the Ninth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources.

8. **Consolidated financial statements of IFAD for 2009**

In accordance with regulation XII of the Financial Regulations of IFAD and section 9 of the By-Laws for the Conduct of the Business of IFAD, the Governing Council will be invited to consider document GC 34/L.5, which will contain the consolidated financial statements of IFAD for 2009 and the report of the external auditor. The ninety-ninth session of the Executive Board reviewed the statements in April 2010 and recommended that they be submitted for approval by the Governing Council.

9. **Revision of the Financial Regulations of IFAD**

Document GC 34/L.6 will contain the revisions proposed to the Financial Regulations of IFAD, in view of the integration of the Programme Development Financing Facility into the administrative budget in 2010, as recommended by the Executive Board to the Governing Council for its approval.

10. **IFAD's capital and administrative budgets and the budget of the IFAD Office of Evaluation for 2011**

The budgets of IFAD and its Office of Evaluation for 2011, as recommended by the Executive Board for approval, will be presented in document GC 34/L.7, together with a draft resolution thereon.

11. **Report on the special expenditure for the Voluntary Separation Programme for IFAD for 2009-2010**

In adopting resolution 156/XXXII in February 2009, the Governing Council approved the special expenditure to finance the voluntary separation programme for IFAD for a two-year period during financial years 2009 and 2010 inclusive. In accordance with the Council's request, document GC 34/L.8 will provide a final report on the expenditures incurred in respect of the Voluntary Separation Programme.

12. **Revision of IFAD's Lending Policies and Criteria**

In accordance with resolution 158/XXXIII on the Revision of the Lending Policies and Criteria, the Executive Board shall submit to the thirty-fourth session of the Governing Council revised Lending Policies and Criteria that shall take into account all developments since the last revision of the Lending Policies and Criteria in 1998 and express concisely and clearly the broad policies and criteria applicable to financing by the Fund. The Revised Lending Policies and Criteria will be provided in document GC 34/L.9.

13. **Progress report on implementation of the performance-based allocation system**

Document GC 34/L.10 will provide the Council, for its information, with the eighth progress report on the implementation of the performance-based allocation system for IFAD, approved by the Executive Board in September 2003.

14. **Progress report on the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification**

The twenty-first session of the Governing Council of IFAD approved the selection of IFAD to house the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. Document GC 34/L.11 will report on the operations of the Global Mechanism during 2010.

15. **Emoluments of the President**

Upon the recommendation of the Executive Board, the Emoluments Committee should be re-established by the Governing Council in February 2011 to further clarify guidelines relative to the President's emoluments. The Emoluments Committee is to report to the Governing Council at its thirty-fifth session in February 2012. A draft resolution in this regard will be contained in document GC 34/L.12 for the consideration of the Council.

16. **Other business**

Under this item, the Governing Council will consider any additional matters not included in the provisional agenda that may be proposed by members of the Council and/or the Secretariat.