Note to Executive Board representatives

Focal points:

Technical questions:
In accordance with rule 12.2 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, any corrections to the minutes should be communicated, not later than 20 July 2011, to:

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For: Approval
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Annexes

I. Delegations at the 102nd session of the Executive Board 17-27
II. List of documents placed before the 102nd session of the Executive Board 28-31
III. Agenda 32-36
Minutes of the 102\textsuperscript{nd} session of the Executive Board

I. Introduction

1. The 102\textsuperscript{nd} session of the Executive Board was held in Rome from 10 to 12 May 2011. A list of delegations is attached as annex I.

2. The Executive Board had before it the documents listed in annex II.

II. Opening of the session (agenda item 1)

3. President Kanayo F. Nwanze opened the 102\textsuperscript{nd} session of the Executive Board.

4. The President welcomed newly accredited representatives to the Executive Board, namely the representatives for Bangladesh, China, Cyprus, Indonesia and Luxembourg.

5. Having provided an overview of the Board’s agenda, the President updated the Executive Board on the status of IFAD’s debt relief fund for Haiti. He informed the Board that the total value of pledges to the Fund at that date stood at US$23.8 million. In addition, IFAD was contributing US$15.2 million of its own resources to offset Haiti’s loan repayments as they fell due. The President invited Member States to join this important initiative.

6. In an update on recent developments on the global scene, the Board was informed of IFAD’s growing engagement in and visibility at international events such as the World Economic Forum. On the institutional side, the President provided the Executive Board with an overview of the ongoing reform to make IFAD more efficient and more effective. In this context, information was provided on the situation regarding the recruitment of senior managers and appointments to key positions within IFAD.

III. Decisions of the Executive Board

A. Adoption of the agenda (agenda item 2)

7. The Executive Board adopted the agenda as proposed in document EB 2011/102/R.1/Rev.2 and further revised to reflect amendments agreed to by the Board (to be revised as EB 2011/102/R.1/Rev.3). The Board also noted the schedule of work, as outlined in EB 2011/102/R.1/Rev.2/Add.1 and EB 2011/102/R.1/Rev.2/Add.2.

8. Amendments include the following:

9. The addition of:

(a) The report of the Chairperson on the sixth special session of the Evaluation Committee for the Board’s review;
(b) The Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure of the Evaluation Committee, presented for the Board’s approval;
(c) Tactical changes to the IFAD investment portfolio, presented to the Board for information;
(d) Advance commitment authority (ACA) implications for future replenishments, for the Board’s information; and
(e) The cooperation agreement between IFAD and the International Development Law Organization (IDLO), presented for the Board’s approval.
10. The removal of:
   (a) The Programme for Local Development Support in Highland and High-altitude Rainforest Areas in Peru, to allow more time for discussions with government authorities;
   (b) The Vocational Training and Agricultural Productivity Improvement Programme in Madagascar, due to the political situation in that country;
   (c) The National Agriculture Programme in Eritrea, due to political changes in the country; and
   (d) The President’s memorandum for Botswana on the proposed financing under the Spanish Food Security Cofinancing Facility Trust Fund for the Agricultural Services Support Project, as the Government of Botswana had decided not to access the funds available to it under the Spanish Trust Fund, but to finance the specific part of the project through its own resources.

11. At the request of the representative for the United Kingdom, the update on the implementation of the Change and Reform Agenda was added to the schedule of work and would be considered following agenda item 20, financial matters.

12. The President advised of an additional item under agenda item 21, other business, to provide an update on the IFAD residence.

13. At the request of the representative for Germany, an update on the first session of the Emoluments Committee was added under agenda item 21, other business.

14. The Representative of Nigeria requested that the revision of paragraph 23 on the issue of List C membership of the Consultation on the Ninth Replenishment of IFAD’s Resources be taken up during the consideration of the minutes of the 101st session of the Executive Board under item 21, other business.

15. Finally, the issue of a possible change in composition of the Audit Committee was brought to the attention of the Board and would be considered under agenda item 20(a), report of the Chairperson on the 118th meeting of the Audit Committee.

B. IFAD Strategic Framework 2011-2015 (agenda item 3)


17. Having welcomed the consultation undertaken during preparation of the Strategic Framework and the subsequent inclusion of the comments provided, the Board commended IFAD on its interest in further deepening its work with smallholder producers, and on the emphasis on gender equality and empowerment evident in the Framework.

18. Some Board members requested that the issue of nutrition be reinforced under the overarching goal and strategic objectives. Other themes touched upon during the discussion included the positive experiences with South-South cooperation and their possible inclusion among the principles of action; and the importance of supporting both private- and public-sector rural enterprise in a sustainable way. The role of migration in both agricultural production and food security, and the importance of maintaining an emphasis on knowledge management, the strategic use of partnerships and scaling up in order to achieve the goals of the Strategic Framework were also mentioned by representatives, as was the issue of agricultural price volatility.

19. In response to a question regarding the cascading order of IFAD’s planning documents, Management pointed out that this was included in the IFAD Medium-term Plan 2011-2013 and that a clear presentation would be available to all representatives at closure of the session. Furthermore, in response to suggestions
that the Strategic Framework could be revised in 2013 in order to coincide with the replenishment period, Management underlined the high-level nature of the document, which was complemented by and implemented through the Medium-term Plan. As this latter document would be presented to the Board regularly, it would also highlight new areas in and modifications to the Strategic Framework.

C. **IFAD’s Engagement with Middle-Income Countries**

*agenda item 4*

20. The Executive Board considered IFAD’s Engagement with Middle-Income Countries (EB 2011/102/R.3, to be revised as EB 2011/102/R.3/Rev.1) together with oral comments thereon by the Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD (IOE) and a summary by the Chairperson on the consideration of this document at the Evaluation Committee’s sixty-seventh session. The Board welcomed the revised document, which reflected comments and inputs provided throughout the consultative process.

21. Recognizing that IFAD continued to play a vital role in the development of middle-income countries, and that middle-income countries play a vital role in IFAD, some representatives highlighted the importance of continuing dialogue preceding any change in the relationship between IFAD and its members, especially should this entail adherence to a proposed graduation policy.

22. Some representatives requested that a more detailed identification of alternative funding sources and financial products be made available to middle-income countries, while other representatives underlined the importance of looking at intra-national income inequality, as well as making international comparisons. In discussing the possible interest rates that IFAD could apply to middle-income countries, some representatives emphasized the need for these to be competitive with the rates offered by other international financial institutions.

23. The Executive Board underlined the importance of knowledge management and knowledge transfer, and in particular the centrality of South-South cooperation in this regard. Following consultation among members, the Board approved the changes to document EB 2011/102/R.3 as included in EB 2011/102/C.R.P.2 amended to reflect the discussion in the Board. Section VII would therefore be amended to read:

"**VII. Recommendations**

23. In response to MIC needs, IFAD Management recommends that the Executive Board approve the following actions:

(i) Develop for each interested MIC a more customized (country-specific) and differentiated menu of policy, project and financial interventions, to be brought to the Executive Board, in response to country needs and within IFAD’s mandate;

(ii) Explore the development of new financial sources to help finance interventions in all IFAD borrowing countries, as well as of South-South cooperation. These are likely to be taken up quickly by MICs but will interest other LICs as well;

(iii) Deepen IFAD’s intra-institutional knowledge-sharing as well as its internal knowledge creation and capture, for the purpose of helping all IFAD Members. IFAD would see knowledge transfer and capacity development (including South-South) as an integral part of its mandate, together with reimbursable technical assistance. A particular area for development would be MICs’ experience in climate change adaptation and mitigation;"
(iv) Elaborate a graduation approach with implementation modalities for approval by the Executive Board, that is defined by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) per capita income threshold, which triggers a dialogue with the government as to the pace and nature of continued partnership. An analysis of other important factors – including, inter alia: rural per capita income; malnutrition; rural-urban income inequality; and rural institutional capacity – will inform this graduation dialogue between IFAD and the concerned country’s government including the decision regarding cessation of borrowing on a voluntary basis. The COSOPs will include, in addition to these factors, a clear analysis of rural poverty;

(v) Prepare a COSOP, when a country and IFAD agree on graduation from access to IFAD’s replenishment resources, that defines which other services IFAD will provide, including: services for a fee; policy advice; resource mobilization from other sources; and South-South cooperation (note the separate replenishment paper being prepared on this topic); and

(vi) Provide to the Executive Board annual reporting on MICs, their use of financial instruments and services and effectiveness of these in reducing rural poverty, and progression toward graduation.”

24. The representative for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela informed the Board that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela did not endorse the approval of the document, but would reconsider its position if a graduation policy consistent with IFAD activities and objectives was presented; and provided that an IFAD policy on engagement with the private sector was further elucidated.

D. Evaluation (agenda item 5)

(a) Reports of the Chairperson of the Evaluation Committee

(i) Report of the Chairperson on the sixty-sixth session of the Evaluation Committee

(ii) Report of the Chairperson on the sixty-seventh session of the Evaluation Committee

(iii) Report of the Chairperson on the Progress report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Peer review of IFAD’s Office of Evaluation and evaluation function

(iv) Report of the Chairperson on the sixth special session of the Evaluation Committee

25. The Executive Board reviewed the Reports of the Chairperson of the Evaluation Committee on: the sixty-sixth and sixty-seventh sessions of the Evaluation Committee (EB 2011/102/R.4/Rev.1, to be revised as EB 2011/102/R.4/Rev.2, and EB 2011/102/R.5); the Progress report on the action plan for the implementation of the findings and recommendations of the Peer Review of IFAD’s Office of Evaluation and Evaluation Function (EB 2011/102/R.6); and the sixth special session of the Evaluation Committee (EB 2011/102/R.43 to be revised as EB 2011/102/R.43/Rev.1). At the request of the Chairperson of the Evaluation Committee, document EB 2011/102/R.43 on the sixth special session of the Evaluation Committee was amended, with paragraph 11 changed to read: “The Committee noted that Management will need to assess and elaborate recommendations further during the development of the new strategy.”

26. The Executive Board noted the information and the recommendations contained in the reports. Specifically, with regard to the Committee’s planned field visits, the Board noted that two Executive Board representatives from List A countries not
members of the Evaluation Committee would be replacing two List A Committee members who would not be able to join the upcoming field visit to Brazil. The Executive Board was also informed of the Committee’s discussion on the draft approach paper to the corporate-level evaluation (CLE) on efficiency and its recommendations concerning the evaluation’s scope and methodology. Turning to implementation of the recommendations of the Peer Review of IFAD’s Office of Evaluation and Evaluation Function, the Board noted that a costed action plan for further development of the self-evaluation system was scheduled to be presented to the 103rd session of the Executive Board in September 2011, following its consideration by the Evaluation Committee at its July session. On the related issue of harmonizing the Results and Impact Management System with the self-evaluation and independent evaluation systems, the Board was informed that the methodology for harmonization had already been agreed and would be reflected in the 2011 Report on IFAD’s Development Effectiveness.

(b) **Revised IFAD Evaluation Policy**

27. The Executive Board then considered the revised IFAD Evaluation Policy (EB 2011/102/R.7, to be revised as EB 2011/102/R.7/Rev.1), which had been discussed in the Evaluation Committee at its sixty-seventh session, together with its corrigendum (EB 2011/102/R.7/Corr.1). The Board noted that the Evaluation Committee had recommended the Board’s approval of the policy.

28. Underlining the importance of maintaining and ensuring the independence of the evaluation function, the Board welcomed the revised policy’s efforts in this regard. Some representatives stressed the need for IOE to be selective in its engagement in evaluation capacity development, while the representative for the United States encouraged IFAD to engage further with the International Institute for Impact Evaluation. The representative for Germany raised the issue of a possible conflict of interest arising during the proposed performance evaluation process should the Chairperson of the Evaluation Committee and the Director, IOE, share the same nationality.

29. With regard to paragraph 38, it was agreed that the first sentence be deleted and the second sentence be amended to read “The levels of the IOE component and IFAD’s administrative budgets will be determined independently of each other.”

30. With regard to paragraph 58(a), the Board amended the text to read “[…] two independent experts identified by the Evaluation Committee with recognized […]”

31. Subsequent to the consideration of these amendments, the revised policy was duly approved by the Board.

(c) **Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure of the Evaluation Committee**

32. Turning to the Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure of the Evaluation Committee (EB 2011/102/R.47, to be revised as EB 2011/102/R.47/Rev.1), which had been considered by the Evaluation Committee at its sixty-seventh session, the Executive Board noted the corrections to the document outlined by the General Counsel in his introduction.

33. Some representatives requested further details on the objectives and the scope of work of the Evaluation Committee, questioning inter alia its policy review role vis-à-vis the Executive Board. They also highlighted the Committee’s role in overseeing the internalization of evaluation-based lessons and recommendations, which is included in the revised Evaluation Policy as part of the Committee’s terms of reference.

34. It was agreed that the Convenors and Friends would undertake a review of the cost implications of the decision taken as well as the modalities of Executive Board field
visits, including also timing, composition and the budget to be used, with the understanding that the findings would be presented to the Board at a later date.

35. On this point, the representative for Canada requested that the minutes of this session record her proposal that Executive Board representatives may take part in Evaluation Committee field visits “at their own expense and within manageable total numbers – according to the composition of the Evaluation Committee (4 members from List A; 2 members from List B; and 3 members from List C).”

36. Having considered the amendments proposed in EB 2011/102/C.R.P.3, the Executive Board considered and approved these with the following changes:

(a) A new paragraph will be added to section 1 (“Establishment and composition”) regarding the Secretary of the Committee and the role of the Director of IOE. The paragraph shall read:

“1.4. The Secretary of the Fund serves as the Secretary to the Committee. The Director of the IFAD Office of Evaluation (hereafter referred to as “the Office”) serves in a technical support function.”

(b) In paragraph 2.4 of section 2 reference to “in an observer capacity” shall be deleted; and

(c) A new paragraph shall be included in section 3 to read as follows:

“(l) Recommend the revision of the Evaluation Policy, when needed.”

37. In conclusion, the Executive Board approved the Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure as amended by EB 2011/102/C.R.P.3, duly revised to reflect the changes above.

(d) Corporate-level evaluation on IFAD’s Private-Sector Development and Partnership Strategy

38. The Executive Board considered the Corporate-level evaluation of IFAD’s Private-Sector Development and Partnership Strategy (EB 2011/102/R.8/Rev.1, to be revised as EB 2011/102/R.8/Rev.2) together with Management’s response (EB 2011/102/R.8/Rev.1/Add.1), which had been considered by the Evaluation Committee at its sixty-seventh session and sixth special session. The Executive Board welcomed both the evaluation and Management’s response to it.

39. The Board recognized the valuable role played by the private sector in agricultural development, while stressing that IFAD should maintain its focus on its target group and special mandate. Representatives also noted that IFAD’s engagement in effective policy dialogue was essential for fostering more attractive investment conditions in agriculture.

40. While noting the recommendations of the CLE, several representatives requested further clarification on the proposed financing facility and the relative feasibility study. In this regard, the Executive Board underlined the need to progress step by step, thoroughly analysing the outcomes of each step along the way.

41. Representatives noted the information contained in the CLE and welcomed the opportunity to participate in the consultative process and provide input to the development of the strategy. In this regard, representatives were informed that an informal seminar on this issue would be held in September, with submission of the final strategy to the Executive Board for approval proposed for December 2011, following consideration by the Evaluation Committee. However, recognizing the need for a cautious approach, the Executive Board welcomed the suggestion that, should the informal seminar in September reveal that further analysis and elaboration were needed, the submission deadline could be moved further into the future.
E. IFAD’s Environment and Natural Resource Management Policy (agenda item 6)

42. The Executive Board considered IFAD’s Environment and Natural Resource Management Policy: Resilient livelihoods through the sustainable use of natural assets (EB 2011/102/R.9) and approved the policy goal, purpose, its ten environment and natural resource management core principles, and the best-practice statements of the policy (included in annex I of the document).

43. While welcoming the proposed policy and calling for its mainstreaming across the whole of IFAD’s portfolio, Executive Board representatives raised a number of questions and provided valuable comments and input on how to further improve the document:

(a) With regard to knowledge development and staff training, the Board was informed that knowledge sharing and soft training events were ongoing.

(b) Underlining the importance of integrating sustainable management of natural resources in the activities of both IFAD and its partners, representatives identified the private sector as a key knowledge and advocacy partner and looked for country strategic opportunities programmes (COSOPs) to support partners in sustainable natural resource management and policy dialogue on climate change strategies.

(c) Representatives encouraged IFAD to also look at the issue of climate change adaptation, especially in collaboration with partners.

(d) It was clarified that environment and natural resource management had to be addressed in all stages of the project cycle, from design, through implementation to evaluation.

(e) On carbon markets, it was clarified that reaching a situation where formal carbon markets directly paid smallholder farmers was not yet possible, but that it certainly was a long-term aim. In the meantime, IFAD was already assessing the viability of both voluntary and formal markets on a pilot basis.

(f) With regard to accessing additional climate-related financing, the Board was informed that IFAD was already working closely with climate finance providers in order to better link smallholder farmers to the resources available through the Smallholder Adaptation Programme.

44. As stated in the List A joint statement, which was echoed by others, in this context, there were a number of international guidelines, codes of conduct and plans of action that had been developed by FAO, other United Nations agencies and partners related to natural resources management and agreed with member countries. For IFAD to support and build institutions in developing countries, these would need to be fully incorporated in its work, supporting countries to implement. As ever, partnership was key and this was an opportunity to demonstrate partnership in practice – in design, implementation and scaling up – and that they looked forward to seeing evidence of this.

45. Taking into account the comments and suggestions made, the Executive Board approved the Environment and Natural Resource Management Policy overall, to be implemented in accordance with the implementation strategy in section III of the document, and the results and implementation framework provided in annex II of the document.

F. IFAD Country Presence Policy and Strategy (agenda item 7)

46. The Executive Board turned to the IFAD Country Presence Policy and Strategy (EB 2011/102/R.10, to be revised as EB 2011/102/R.10/Rev.1), together with the Comments of IOE thereon (EB 2011/102/R.10/Add.1/Rev.1) and the Self-

47. The Board expressed appreciation for the document and reiterated the significant contribution IFAD country offices can bring to improved project implementation. Representatives acknowledged the importance of adapting to specific country contexts and emphasized the need to maintain cost efficiency, especially in relation to human resource management. Some representatives requested more information on the delegation of authority to country offices, specifically with regard to disbursements and procurement. The Board was informed that, while procurement and disbursement processes were prudently controlled through a centralized system of checks and balances, the pilot regional office in Nairobi was testing a higher level of authority in this regard. Although initial results appeared to be positive, the outcome of this pilot would be analysed in detail.

48. Representatives also underscored that country offices had a pivotal role to play in IFAD’s knowledge management and sharing with Member States and in the Fund’s engagement in policy dialogue. On this latter point, representatives encouraged the adoption of the principles of the Maputo Declaration on Agriculture and Food Security in IFAD’s policy dialogue efforts.

49. Following a question by the representative for Mexico on the impact on evaluations of security situations necessitating the suspension of operations and temporary withdrawal of personnel, the Board was informed that in its evaluations IOE would consider the circumstances surrounding such incidents and take into account their foreseeability.

50. The Executive Board considered the amendment to the Recommendation presented in EB 2011/102/C.R.P.4, further amended by the discussion in the Board to read as follows:

“The Executive Board is invited to approve the following decisions:

The Executive Board,

Having considered the IFAD Country Presence Policy and Strategy,

1. Decides to:
   (a) Approve the policy to establish country offices, with a cap of 40, where they can contribute to improved development effectiveness and cost efficiency in recipient countries;
   (b) Within the above policy and cap, adopt a medium term Strategy to establish 10 additional country offices by the end of 2013;
   (c) Of the above in (b) five new country offices will be established in 2011, as proposed in the budgetary framework approved by the Board (EB 2010/101/R.2/Rev.1).

2. Calls for:
   (a) IFAD Management to submit an updated policy paper for approval by the next Executive Board session incorporating updated criteria for opening new offices, whether to use an outposted CPM model or a locally recruited National Officer model and exit strategies. An annex would be provided with the information requested on implementation issues such as human resources, staff rotation, clarification of roles and responsibilities and delegation of authority; and
   (b) IFAD Management to report on progress made, within the above policy and strategy, in establishing new country offices or closing
existing ones as part of the annual programme of work and budget submitted to the Executive Board for approval.”

G. **IFAD lending terms and conditions – Applicable euro interest rate (agenda item 8)**

51. The Executive Board considered the IFAD lending terms and conditions – Applicable euro interest rate (EB 2011/102/R.11).

52. The Executive Board approved that the euro component in the calculation of the IFAD special drawing rights composite rate, starting from the second semester of 2011, shall be the Euro Interbank Offered Rate (EURIBOR).

53. Further, in its capacity as Board of the Trustee of the Spanish Food Security Cofinancing Facility Trust Fund, the Executive Board approved that the IFAD reference interest rate applicable to loans from the Spanish Food Security Cofinancing Facility Trust Fund shall be the six-month EURIBOR plus the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) euro spread (variable interest rate/variable spread loans).

H. **Revised outline for President’s reports for Executive Board approval of projects and programmes (agenda item 9)**

54. The Executive Board considered the Revised outline for President’s reports for Executive Board approval of projects and programmes (EB 2011/102/R.12, to be revised as EB 2011/102/R.12/Rev.1).

55. The Board amended point A, section V of the annex to read as follows: “Reflect those key aspects of IFAD policies that are relevant and how they will be or have been dealt with in the project design. This section will include a compulsory subsection on gender to report on compliance with new gender policy and a compulsory subsection on environmental risk [...]”

56. The Board approved the proposed revised outline as defined in the annex duly amended as above. In accordance with paragraph 16 of the document, the revised outline of the President’s report for projects is to take effect as of the December 2011 session of the Executive Board.

I. **Country strategic opportunities programme: India (agenda item 10)**

57. The Board reviewed the country strategic opportunities programme (COSOP) for India (EB 2011/102/R.13). The representatives for Bangladesh, Belgium, Cameroon, Germany, Guatemala, India, the Netherlands, Nigeria and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela all made statements expressing support for the India COSOP. The Board recognized the quality of the consultative process and the leadership role taken by the Government of India.

58. The Board noted that India was rapidly moving to middle-income status. It was clarified that while this was true, India nevertheless remained a very poor country, containing over 30 per cent of the world’s population of extreme poor. While IFAD’s financial contribution was small relative to the Indian development budget, it was explained that IFAD would work in the poorest districts of the poorest states, and at that level the impact of IFAD-funded projects was nevertheless very significant. This was particularly true because IFAD-funded projects acted as a lightning rod to facilitate convergence with the Government’s well-resourced national poverty programmes.

59. The importance of knowledge management and South-South cooperation was also mentioned, particularly given India’s status and stage of development. It was confirmed that the India COSOP differs from previous COSOPs because of its major emphasis on knowledge management. It was also explained that efforts would be
made during COSOP implementation to ensure that international best practices were brought in and out of India.

60. The importance of country programme manager (CPM) outposting was raised. It was explained that while the Asia and the Pacific Division was fully supportive of CPM outposting in line with IFAD’s polices, rules and procedures, the final decision would need to wait until internal operating policies for outposting were agreed, and formal accreditation and other procedures in India were completed.

J. Resources available for commitment (agenda item 11)

61. The Executive Board considered the Resources available for commitment together with its addendum (EB 2011/102/R.14 and EB 2011/102/R.14/Add.1) and:

(a) Noted that the estimated net inflows for the period from 1 January to 30 April 2011 were estimated at US$152.8 million;

(b) Noted that, with loans and grant commitments amounting to US$129.5 million proposed to the current session of the Board, loans and grants already approved for US$6.9 million, projects approved under the lapse-of-time procedure for the year to date amounting to about US$19.3 million, and loans and grants proposed for approval under the lapse-of-time procedure for the intersessional period May to September 2011 amounting to US$37.8 million, an additional advance commitment authority (ACA) of US$40.7 million would be required;

(c) Adopted the recommendation on the use of ACA contained in the addendum to the document; and

(d) Authorized the President to conclude agreements for loans and grants approved by the Board at its 102nd session in May 2011 and for those to be approved through the lapse-of-time procedure.

K. Project/programme proposals for consideration by the Executive Board (agenda item 12)

62. The Board was reassured that, although some planned project and programme proposals for the Africa regions had been postponed, this was mainly the result of delays caused by ongoing electoral processes. A number of proposals for the Africa regions were planned for presentation to the September Board. In addition, as indicated in the Medium-term Plan presented to the Board, IFAD continued to pay particular attention to the needs of sub-Saharan African countries, and current projections showed that delivery of the Eighth Replenishment commitment of providing between 40 and 50 per cent of financing to sub-Saharan Africa was on track.

63. The Board further noted the oral report provided on the status of effectiveness of proposals already approved at previous sessions of the Board.

64. The Executive Board considered the following project/programme proposals:

(a) West and Central Africa

Sierra Leone: Smallholder Commercialization Programme

65. The Executive Board considered the programme proposal contained in document EB 2011/102/R.15 with its addendum and negotiated financing agreement, and adopted the following resolution:

“RESOLVED: that the Fund shall provide a grant under the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program to the Republic of Sierra Leone in an amount of fifty million United States dollars (US$50,000,000) and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.”

(b) Asia and the Pacific
(i) Indonesia: Smallholder Livelihood Development Project in Eastern Indonesia

66. The Executive Board considered the project proposal contained in document EB 2011/102/R.19 with its addendum and negotiated financing agreement, and adopted the following resolutions:

“RESOLVED: that the Fund shall make a loan on intermediate terms to the Republic of Indonesia in an amount equivalent to thirty million three hundred thousand special drawing rights (SDR 30,300,000), and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.

RESOLVED FURTHER: that the Fund shall provide a grant to the Republic of Indonesia in an amount equivalent to six hundred and seventy five thousand special drawing rights (SDR 675,000) and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.”

(ii) Lao People’s Democratic Republic: President’s memorandum: Rural Livelihoods Improvement Programme – Attapeu Province – supplementary financing

67. The Executive Board considered the proposal contained in document EB 2011/102/R.20 with its addendum, and adopted the following resolution:

“RESOLVED: that the Fund shall provide supplementary financing in the form of a grant to the Lao People’s Democratic Republic in an amount equivalent to one million five hundred and fifty thousand special drawing rights (SDR 1,550,000) and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.”

(iii) Mongolia: Project for Market and Pasture Management Development

68. The Executive Board considered the project proposal contained in document EB 2011/102/R.21 with its addendum and negotiated financing agreement, and adopted the following resolution:

“RESOLVED: that the Fund shall make a loan on highly concessional terms to Mongolia in an amount equivalent to seven million two hundred and fifty thousand special drawing rights (SDR 7,250,000), and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.”

(iv) Pakistan: Gwadar-Lasbela Livelihoods Support Project

69. The Executive Board considered the project proposal contained in document EB 2011/102/R.22 with its addendum and negotiated financing agreement, and adopted the following resolution:

“RESOLVED: that the Fund shall make a loan on highly concessional terms to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in an amount equivalent to eighteen million five hundred and fifty thousand special drawing rights (SDR 18,550,000), and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.”

(v) Tajikistan: Livestock and Pasture Development Project

70. The Executive Board considered the project proposal contained in document EB 2011/102/R.23, and adopted the following resolution:

“RESOLVED: that the Fund shall provide a grant to the Republic of Tajikistan in an amount equivalent to nine million three hundred thousand special drawing rights (SDR 9,300,000) and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.”
(c) **Latin America and the Caribbean**

*Dominican Republic: Rural Economic Development Project in the Central and Eastern Provinces*

71. The Executive Board considered the proposal contained in document EB 2011/102/R.24, and adopted the following resolution:

RESOLVED: that the Spanish Food Security Cofinancing Facility Trust Fund, acting through IFAD in its capacity as Trustee, shall provide a loan on ordinary terms to the Dominican Republic in an amount equivalent to eleven million four hundred and thirty thousand euros (EUR 11,430,000), and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.”

(d) **Near East, North Africa and Europe**

*Azerbaijan: Integrated Rural Development Project*

72. The Executive Board considered the project proposal contained in document EB 2011/102/R.26 with its addendum and negotiated financing agreement, and adopted the following resolution:

“RESOLVED: that the Fund shall make a loan on hardened terms to the Republic of Azerbaijan in an amount equivalent to twelve million two hundred and fifty thousand special drawing rights (SDR 12,250,000), and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.”

73. All project and programme proposals and the President’s memorandum were approved by the Executive Board in its capacity as both the Executive Board of IFAD and as the Board of the Trustee of the Spanish Food Security Cofinancing Facility Trust Fund, as applicable.

L. **IFAD Policy for Grant Financing (agenda item 13)**

(a) **Corporate Strategic Workplan for Grant Financing**

(b) **Procedures for Financing from the Grants Programme**

74. Document EB 2011/102/R.27 on the Corporate Strategic Workplan for Grant Financing and document EB 2011/102/R.28 on the Procedures for Financing from the Grants Programme were presented to the Board for information purposes.

M. **IFAD Guidelines for Disaster Early Recovery (agenda item 14)**

75. Document EB 2011/102/R.29 on IFAD Guidelines for Disaster Early Recovery was presented to the Board for information purposes.

N. **Planned project activities, including those proposed and approved under the lapse-of-time procedure (agenda item 15)**

76. Document EB 2011/102/R.30 (to be revised as EB 2011/102/R.30/Rev.1) together with its corrigendum on Planned project activities, including those proposed and approved under the lapse-of-time procedure, was presented to the Board for information purposes.

O. **Report on the first session of the Consultation on the Ninth Replenishment of IFAD’s Resources (agenda item 16)**

77. Document EB 2011/102/R.31 on the report of the first session of the Consultation on the Ninth Replenishment of IFAD’s Resources was presented to the Board for information purposes.
P. IFAD Medium-term Plan 2011-2013 (agenda item 17)

78. Document EB 2011/102/R.32 on the IFAD Medium-term Plan 2011-2013 was presented to the Board for information purposes.

Q. Annual Report on Enterprise Risk Management Activities in IFAD (agenda item 18)


R. Update on the implementation of the Change and Reform Agenda (agenda item 19)

80. The Executive Board considered the Update on the implementation of the Change and Reform Agenda (EB 2011/102/R.34, to be revised as EB 2011/102/R.34/Rev.1).

81. The Board welcomed both the comprehensive report and the progress made in implementing the agenda. Some members highlighted the importance of this topic in the context of the Ninth Replenishment Consultation. The representative for the United Kingdom informed the Executive Board of the Department for International Development's recently published Multilateral Aid Review, in which IFAD had done well overall, and whose recommendations for reform were addressed in the document presented to the Board. She also encouraged IFAD to sign up to the International Aid Transparency Initiative, as IFAD’s perspective and experience would be of benefit to the Initiative.

82. Emphasizing the crucial role of human resources reform in the change and reform process, the Executive Board noted the actions planned, specifically on the issue of staff compensation. Some representatives welcomed the strong leadership shown in undertaking these reforms, while others underlined that the full involvement of IFAD staff through the staff association was essential. With regard to the planned analysis of staff compensation, the Board looked forward to receiving further information.

83. The Executive Board took note of the information contained in the update.

S. Financial matters (agenda item 20)

(a) Report of the Chairperson on the 118th meeting of the Audit Committee

(i) Tactical changes to the IFAD investment portfolio

(ii) Advance commitment authority (ACA) implications for future replenishments

84. The Executive Board considered the Report of the Chairperson on the 118th meeting of the Audit Committee (EB 2011/102/R.35) and noted the information contained in the report. The representative for Japan informed the Board that, during the Committee meeting, he had brought up the issue of the interest rate for highly concessional loans vis-à-vis that for intermediate loans. The Board was referred to the Legal opinion concerning the ranking of the lending terms applied to IFAD financing (EB 2011/102/INF.10), which had been provided to clarify this anomalous situation. At the request of the representative for Sweden, the Board received further information on the Office of Audit and Oversight’s ongoing anticorruption work.

85. Turning to the Tactical changes to the IFAD investment portfolio (EB 2011/102/R.49), the Board noted that the review of IFAD’s Liquidity and Investment Policy would be presented to the Executive Board at its 103rd session in September 2011, following consideration by the Audit Committee. Furthermore, some representatives pointed out that, while the investment returns for IFAD had
been higher than for other international financial institutions, the returns for 2011 were projected to be lower, with especially low returns from government bonds. Looking forward to the presentation of the revised investment policy, the Board underlined the need for detailed information on investment issues such as the ones raised. Finally, the President informed the Board that, while approval of the investment policy was his responsibility, he proposed to present the policy to the Executive Board for its approval. A change to the Financial Regulations of IFAD in this regard would be prepared for the approval of the Governing Council at its thirty-fifth session in 2012.

86. With regard to the ACA implications for future replenishments (EB 2011/102/R.48), the Executive Board, while expressing regret that the unsustainability of the continued use of ACA had not been brought to representatives’ attention previously, welcomed the spirit of openness and transparency that had led to the provision of this information at the current Board session. Noting the central importance of this issue in the context of the Ninth Replenishment Consultation, the Board requested further information, including more detailed analysis of, inter alia, the impact of the use of ACA and the implications for IFAD’s programme of work. In light of the current global financial situation, it was acknowledged that requiring a large increase in donor contributions might not be realistic. Representatives therefore requested that Management, employing both creativity and prudence, present a number of options for a way forward, including looking at the different models used by other international financial institutions, while bearing in mind current capacity to run more sophisticated models.

87. In response, the Executive Board was reminded that a document on financing modalities was being prepared for presentation to the Ninth Replenishment Consultation and that Board representatives also had access to those documents. The Board was also informed that, although the Ninth Replenishment Consultation would be provided with the specified information, changes to the use of the ACA would not be made until after that Consultation in order to allow for due consideration of the options available and to ensure that IFAD had the resources needed for the proper management of any new method adopted.

88. The Convenor for List A informed the Executive Board that Japan would no longer serve as a member of the Audit Committee. As the composition of the Audit Committee requires four List A members, the Board approved the nomination of the Netherlands as a replacement for Japan on the current composition of the Committee. The Netherlands was thus duly appointed to serve as a member of the Audit Committee.

(b) Report on the status of contributions to the Eighth Replenishment of IFAD’s resources

89. Document EB 2011/102/R.36 on the status of contributions to the Eighth Replenishment of IFAD’s resources was presented to the Board for information purposes.

(c) IFAD’s investment portfolio

90. The Report on IFAD’s investment portfolio for 2010 (EB 2011/102/R.37) and the Report on IFAD’s investment portfolio for the first quarter of 2011 (EB 2011/102/R.38) were presented to the Executive Board for information.

(d) Principal, interest and service charge payments

91. The Status report on arrears in principal, interest and service charge payments (EB 2011/102/R.39) and the report on the Estimated principal and net service charge payments forgone as a result of the implementation of the Debt Sustainability Framework (EB 2011/102/R.40) were presented to the Executive Board for information.
(e) **Requirements for the thirty-second drawdown of Member State contributions in 2011**

92. The Executive Board considered the Requirements for the thirty-second drawdown of Member State contributions in 2011 (EB 2011/102/R.41) and adopted the following decision:

“The Executive Board, in accordance with article 4, section 5(c), of the Agreement Establishing IFAD and regulation V of the Financial Regulations of IFAD, approves the drawdown of 35 per cent of Eighth Replenishment contributions in May 2011 or as may be stipulated in agreements with individual Member States, to meet loan and grant disbursements for 2011. Any further funds required for disbursement needs in 2011 not covered by the drawdown of these contributions will be met from the liquid assets of the Fund. The Executive Board authorizes the President to proceed accordingly.”

(f) **Consolidated financial statements of IFAD as at 31 December 2010**

93. The Executive Board considered the Consolidated financial statements of IFAD as at 31 December 2010 together with its corrigendum and the Independent Auditor’s Report thereon (EB 2011/102/R.42, to be revised as EB 2011/102/R.42/Rev.1; EB 2011/102/R.42/Corr.1; and EB 2011/102/R.42/Add.1) and adopted the following decision:

“In accordance with regulation XII(6) of the Financial Regulations of IFAD, the Executive Board considered the consolidated financial statements of IFAD as at 31 December 2010 and the report of the external auditor thereon and agreed to submit them to the Governing Council at its thirty-fifth session in February 2012 for approval.”

T. **Other business (agenda item 21)**

(a) **Framework agreement for the enhancement of cooperation and the direction of joint operations between the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID)**

94. The Executive Board considered the Framework agreement for the enhancement of cooperation and the direction of joint operations between the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID) (EB 2011/102/R.44). After further clarifications from Management, specifically on IFAD’s historical partnership with OFID and on the cost recovery of the administrative burden, the Board approved the provisions of the framework agreement entered into by IFAD and OFID on 3 December 2010.

(b) **Minutes of the 101st session of the Executive Board**

95. The Executive Board considered the Minutes of the 101st session of the Executive Board and approved the amendments to the Minutes, as requested by some Executive Board representatives and shown in document EB 2011/102/R.45.

96. At the request of the representative for Germany, the Board considered a proposed amendment of paragraph 109. In order to allow for further analysis of the verbatim of the closed session of the Board’s 101st session, it was decided that this requested amendment would be brought to the 103rd session of the Board and reconsidered.

97. The representatives for Indonesia and Nigeria requested a revision of the minutes with regard to paragraph 23 and the issue of List C membership of the Ninth Replenishment Consultation. The representatives for Nigeria and the United Kingdom reminded the Board of the agreement reached among the Lists during side-negotiations that the increase in membership agreed to would be non-repeatable. The Board was reminded that the minutes of the Executive Board represented a record of the proceedings and were therefore based on the session’s
discussions as reflected in the verbatim record. It was therefore decided that further verification against the verbatim would be carried out.

98. The Executive Board adopted the revised minutes of the 101st session, with the exception of paragraphs 23 and 109. As with paragraph 109, it was agreed that requested changes to paragraph 23 would be checked against the verbatim of the Board’s 101st session and submitted to the Board for approval at its 103rd session.

(c) Cooperation agreement between IFAD and the International Development Law Organization (IDLO)

99. The Executive Board considered the Cooperation agreement between IFAD and the International Development Law Organization (IDLO) (EB 2011/102/R.46). Taking into consideration the concerns raised by the Executive Board about IDLO’s financial structure and the relevance of its expertise, it was decided to continue cooperation on the current basis and to return to the Board with a proposed agreement in two years time, having identified the value added of such an agreement.

(d) Update on the IFAD residence

100. The Executive Board received an oral update on the IFAD residence, which highlighted a substantial reduction in related annual costs.

(e) Update on the first session of the Emoluments Committee

101. The Executive Board noted the oral update on the first session of the Emoluments Committee, delivered by the representative for Germany who had been elected Chairperson of the Committee.

(f) Update on appeal of judgment no. 2867 of the International Labour Organization Administrative Tribunal to the International Court of Justice

102. The Executive Board considered the Update on appeal of judgment no. 2867 of the International Labour Organization Administrative Tribunal to the International Court of Justice (EB 2011/102/INF.5) at the request of the representative for Canada and noted the information provided therein.

U. Closure of the session

103. Thanking representatives for the productive session, the President highlighted the successful use of List statements as a strategic tool to improve the Board’s efficiency. In anticipation of Convenors and Friends discussing the issue of field visits, the President reiterated the important impact such visits could have on the Executive Board’s work and encouraged representatives to engage in individual visits.

104. The Board bade farewell to: Ms Heike Kuhn, Executive Board representative for Germany since September 2007, Mr Kazumasa Shioya, Executive Board representative for Japan since July 2008 and alternate Governor to IFAD’s Governing Council from 2009, and Ms Agnes van Ardenne-van der Hoeven, Governor to IFAD’s Governing Council for the Netherlands from 2002 to 2009 and Executive Board representative since January 2009. Ms Kirsten Bjørn, alternate Executive Board representative for Norway advised of her impending departure as well as that of His Excellency Arne B. Hønningstad, Executive Board representative for Norway to IFAD. Joining with the President, the Executive Board thanked them all for their invaluable contributions to the workings of the Board.
Delegations at the 102\textsuperscript{nd} session of the Executive Board

Délégations à la cent deuxième session du Conseil d’administration

Delegaciones en el 102\textdegree{} período de sesiones de la Junta Ejecutiva

Executive Board — 102\textsuperscript{nd} Session
Rome, 10-12 May 2011

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1 Pursuant to observer status as per Rules of Procedures of the Executive Board (rule 8, footnote 3).
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¹ Document provided in English only

² Revision pertains only to the English version
programme

Resources available for commitment

Sierra Leone: Smallholder Commercialization Programme

Indonesia: Smallholder Livelihood Development Project in Maluku and North Maluku

Lao People’s Democratic Republic: President’s memorandum: Rural Livelihoods Improvement Programme – Attapeu Province – Supplementary financing Download project design report

Mongolia: Project for Market and Pasture Management Development

Pakistan: Gwadar-Lasbela Livelihoods Support Project

Tajikistan: Livestock and Pasture Development Project

Dominican Republic: Rural Economic Development Project in the Central and Eastern Provinces

Azerbaijan: Integrated Rural Development Project

Corporate Strategic Workplan for Grant Financing

Procedures for Financing from the Grants Programme

IFAD Guidelines for Disaster Early Recovery

Planned project activities including those proposed and approved under the lapse-of-time procedure 2011-2012

Report on the first session of the Consultation on the Ninth Replenishment of IFAD’s Resources

IFAD Medium-term Plan 2011-2013

Annual Report on Enterprise Risk Management Activities in IFAD

Update on the implementation of the Change and Reform Agenda

Report of the Chairperson on the 118th

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⁴ Document posted on the restricted site.
⁵ Document provided in English only.
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Enabling poor rural people to overcome poverty

**Agenda**
Agenda

As communicated to the Executive Board at its ninety-sixth session, the Chairperson of the Board – the President of IFAD – has proposed the implementation of a number of measures to enhance the effectiveness of the Executive Board.

Among these is the proposal that items presented for information will be discussed during a Board session only if deemed necessary by Management or at the specific request of a Board member. Such requests should be submitted in writing to the Secretary of IFAD three weeks before the Board session.

The schedule of work will include only items to be discussed during the Board session (i.e. items for approval, review or confirmation and items for information for which a written request for discussion at the Board has been received) and will be posted on the IFAD website two weeks before the session.

For ease of reference, each agenda item is assigned a letter to indicate the action required of the Board, as follows:

A = For approval
I = For information
R = For review
C = For confirmation

Representatives are invited to note rule 6 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board relative to the distribution of documents:

“...The four-week dispatch limit with respect to documents presented for and requiring action by the Executive Board at a session shall not be exceeded. However, if necessary, information relating to matters that do not require decisions by the Board, or additional information regarding projects, may be provided subsequently. ”
Agenda

1. Opening of the session
2. Adoption of the agenda [A]
4. IFAD’s Engagement with Middle-Income Countries [A]
5. Evaluation
   (a) Reports of the Chairperson of the Evaluation Committee [R]
      (i) Report of the Chairperson on the sixty-sixth session of the Evaluation Committee
      (ii) Report of the Chairperson on the sixty-seventh session of the Evaluation Committee
      (iii) Report of the Chairperson on the Progress report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Peer Review of IFAD’s Office of Evaluation and Evaluation Function
      (iv) Report of the Chairperson on the sixth special session of the Evaluation Committee
   (b) Revised IFAD Evaluation Policy [A]
   (c) Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure of the Evaluation Committee [A]
   (d) Corporate-level evaluation on IFAD’s Private-Sector Development and Partnership Strategy [R]
6. IFAD’s Environment and Natural Resource Management Policy [A]
7. IFAD Country Presence Policy and Strategy [A]
8. IFAD lending terms and conditions – Applicable euro interest rate [A]
9. Revised outline for President’s reports for Executive Board approval of projects and programmes [A]
10. Country strategic opportunities programme: India [R]
11. Resources available for commitment [A]
12. Project/programme proposals for consideration by the Executive Board [A]
   (a) West and Central Africa
      Sierra Leone: Smallholder Commercialization Programme
   (b) Asia and the Pacific
      (i) Indonesia: Smallholder Livelihood Development Project in Eastern Indonesia
      (ii) Lao People’s Democratic Republic: President’s memorandum: Rural Livelihoods Improvement Programme – Attapeu Province – supplementary financing
      (iii) Mongolia: Project for Market and Pasture Management Development
      (iv) Pakistan: Gwadar-Lasbela Livelihoods Support Project
      (v) Tajikistan: Livestock and Pasture Development Project
(c) Latin America and the Caribbean
   Dominican Republic: Rural Economic Development Project in the Central and Eastern Provinces
(d) Near East and North Africa
   Azerbaijan: Integrated Rural Development Project

13. IFAD Policy for Grant Financing [I]
   (a) Corporate Strategic Workplan for Grant Financing
   (b) Procedures for Financing from the Grants Programme

14. IFAD Guidelines for Disaster Early Recovery [I]

15. Planned project activities including those proposed and approved under lapse-of-time procedure 2011-2012 [I]

16. Report on the first session of the Consultation on the Ninth Replenishment of IFAD’s Resources [I]

17. IFAD Medium-term Plan 2011-2013 [I]


19. Update on the implementation of the Change and Reform Agenda [I]

20. Financial matters
   (a) Report of the Chairperson on the 118th meeting of the Audit Committee [R]
      (i) Tactical changes to the IFAD investment portfolio [I]
      (ii) Advance commitment authority (ACA) implications for future replenishments [I]
   (b) Report on the status of contributions to the Eighth Replenishment of IFAD’s resources [I]
   (c) IFAD’s investment portfolio [I]
      (i) Report on IFAD’s investment portfolio for 2010
      (ii) Report on IFAD’s investment portfolio for the first quarter of 2011
   (d) Principal, interest and service charge payments [I]
      (i) Status report on arrears in principal, interest and service charge payments
      (ii) Estimated principal and net service charge payments forgone as a result of the implementation of the Debt Sustainability Framework
   (e) Requirements for the thirty-second drawdown of Member State contributions in 2011 [A]
   (f) Consolidated financial statements of IFAD as at 31 December 2010 [A]

21. Other business
   (a) Framework agreement for the enhancement of cooperation and the direction of joint operations between the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID) [A]
   (b) Minutes of the 101st session of the Executive Board [A]
   (c) Cooperation agreement between IFAD and the International Development Law Organization (IDLO) [A]
(d) Update on the IFAD residence [I]
(e) Update on the first session of the Emoluments Committee [I]
(f) Update on appeal of judgment no. 2867 of the International Labour Organization Administrative Tribunal to the International Court of Justice [I]