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Enabling poor rural people  
to overcome poverty

## **Minutes of the 107<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board**

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## **Minutes of the 107<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board**

### **I. Introduction**

1. The 107<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board was held in Rome from 12 to 13 December 2012. 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. Opening the 107<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board, President Kanayo F. Nwanze welcomed the newly accredited representatives for Bangladesh, Kuwait and Sweden, along with the first-time participants for Angola, Brazil and Norway.
4. Having provided a short summary of the last Board session, the President updated representatives on IFAD's achievements in the interim period. High-level events at which IFAD had participated included the United Nations General Assembly in New York; the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa Forum in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania; the Second Global Conference on Agricultural Research for Development in Punta del Este, Uruguay; the annual meetings of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund in Tokyo, Japan; the Global Agenda Council on Food Security and the World Economic Forum in Dubai; the Qatar National Food Security Programme Council Meeting and the eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP18) in Doha; and several bilateral missions.
5. The President highlighted IFAD's strong performance in managing a large programme of loans and grants and in securing cofinancing. He underlined the record level of disbursement, which had quadrupled IFAD's activities at the country level since 2007. The time elapsing between project approval and first disbursement had also been reduced, inter alia through an increase in direct supervision by IFAD. This trend would be strengthened further through the expansion of IFAD's country presence — currently 15 per cent of IFAD staff were located in the field — and the implementation of the new loans and grants system.
6. Turning to matters of human resource management, the President highlighted several positive developments, including an increase in the percentage of women in professional staff positions. The Board was informed of the increase in IFAD's staff engagement index and of plans to address issues identified in the global staff survey through consultations with staff.
7. Rounding off his remarks on the Fund's performance relative to the Eighth Replenishment (IFAD8) period, the President noted the estimated 3 per cent return achieved by IFAD's investment portfolio, despite the difficult economic environment in 2012.
8. Turning to the Ninth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources, the President informed the Board that pledges had already been received totalling 94.2 per cent of the US\$1.5 billion target, including US\$335 million to the Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme. When taken together with cofinancing, IFAD's programme of work for the IFAD9 period was expected to reach US\$7.2 billion, representing US\$5 leveraged for the rural poor for every dollar contributed to IFAD by its Member States.
9. The President summarized the ongoing collaboration — both strategic and administrative — with IFAD's Rome-based partner agencies and informed the Board of partnership agreements with the Agence Française de Développement and the Kuwait Fund and also made reference to upcoming agreements with Switzerland, the Asian Development Bank and, potentially, the European Investment Bank.

10. Having provided a brief summary of the main items to be considered at the current session, the President introduced the incoming Director for the Asia and Pacific Division to the Board.
11. Turning to the issue of IFAD membership, the President informed the Board of Estonia's completion of the membership process and noted the Board's upcoming consideration of the applications of Tuvalu and the Republic of Vanuatu. The Board welcomed an update on Australia's progress towards rejoining the Fund and noted the progress made with Russia's application. The President also shared news of the interest expressed by Ukraine and Belarus in membership of IFAD.

### **III. Decisions of the Executive Board**

#### **A. Adoption of the agenda (agenda item 2)**

12. The Executive Board adopted the agenda as proposed in document EB 2012/107/R.1/Rev.1 and further revised to reflect amendments agreed to by the Board (to be revised as EB 2012/107/R.1/Rev.2). The Board also noted the schedule of work, as outlined in EB 2012/107/R.1/Rev.1/Add.1/Rev.1.
13. Amendments included the addition of items on:
  - (a) A presentation by the Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD on selected findings of the corporate-level evaluation on efficiency;
  - (b) Amendments proposed to the minutes of the closed session of the 106<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board; and
  - (c) Amendments proposed to the minutes of the 106<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board.
14. The Board also approved the removal of:
  - (a) Convergence on Value Chain Enhancement for Rural Growth and Empowerment Project in the Philippines; and
  - (b) President's memorandum on the supplementary loan and grant to the Rural Microfinance Programme in Mali.
15. Further to the request by List A, the Board agreed to include for its consideration and approval the item on the memorandum of understanding concerning the establishment of a strategic partnership between the European Union and IFAD, at its 108<sup>th</sup> session in April 2013.
16. Furthermore, acting on a request, the Board agreed to allow on an interim basis the representative of Australia to follow the proceedings of the Executive Board from the *salle d'écoute* and to attend upcoming meetings of the Evaluation and Audit Committees as a silent observer. As a longer-term measure, the Board also agreed to refer this matter to Convenors and Friends, in order for them to consider an overall approach of exposing countries at an advanced stage in the membership process to the proceedings of IFAD's governing bodies as silent observers and within a limited time frame.

#### **B. IFAD's 2013 results-based programme of work and regular and capital budgets, the IOE results-based work programme and budget for 2013 and indicative plan for 2014-2015, and the HIPC and PBAS progress reports (agenda item 3)**

17. The Executive Board considered IFAD's 2013 results-based programme of work and regular and capital budgets, the IOE results-based work programme and budget for 2013 and indicative plan for 2014-2015, and the HIPC and PBAS progress reports (EB 2012/107/R.2 + Add.1 + Add.2), together with the Audit Committee's report thereon (EB 2012/107/R.3).

18. The Executive Board took note of the summaries provided by the Chairpersons of the Audit Committee and the Evaluation Committee on their reviews. There was broad support for the proposed level of IFAD's programme of loans and grants for 2013 of US\$1.066 billion as well as for the regular budget of US\$144.14 million, which represented zero nominal growth.
19. There was also overall support for the budget of the Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD (IOE) of US\$6.01 million for 2013, and its associated work programme for 2013 and indicative plan for 2014-2015.
20. Further to queries on the proposed staff salary increases and the lifting of the freeze previously imposed on the General Service staff salary scale, clarification was provided that the allocation for Professional staff salary increases would be used only in the event of and response to an International Civil Service Commission (ICSC)-recommended increase, which would be presented for consideration by the United Nations General Assembly. With respect to the retroactive implementation of an increase in General Service staff salaries, Management informed the Board that this decision had been made to ensure a level playing field for the staff of the three Rome-based agencies. This was also the case with regard to the implementation of the 9.2 per cent decrease recommended by the ICSC, which would be applied by the three Rome-based agencies to new General Service staff hires on a coordinated basis in 2013. Subsequent to this, the salaries of staff subject to the current salary scale would be frozen until such time as parity was reached in the two salary scales. It was recalled that the ICSC salary survey for General Service staff in Rome had been undertaken a year earlier than originally planned, primarily at IFAD's insistence.
21. Clarification was sought for the rationale behind the increased allocation to the Partnership and Resource Mobilization Office. Management recalled the commitment under IFAD9 to actively mobilize additional resources for the Fund from both established and innovative sources and clarified that part of the increase reflected a shift of some existing staff positions from supplementary funding to IFAD's regular budget.
22. The Board welcomed Management's assurance that the proposed budget represented a strengthening of the Programme Management Department through a streamlined reallocation of functions within IFAD departments, and the clarifications provided on IFAD's administrative efficiency ratio.
23. Further to requests for additional information on IFAD's travel-related budget, the Board was informed that the increase was partly associated with the shift towards IFAD staff undertaking travel previously undertaken by consultants and the fact that IFAD staff travel is included under travel costs, whereas consultant travel is included under consultant costs. Recalling the Audit Committee's discussion of this item, List A reiterated their request that a document on IFAD's travel policy be presented to the next meeting of the Audit Committee, taking into account changes being implemented by IFAD's Rome-based partners. IFAD's ongoing participation in the joint travel tender by the Rome-based agencies was welcomed.
24. Representatives highlighted the increased importance of supplementary funds and requested further information on their use. On this issue, the representative for Cameroon requested that the Audit Committee consider the issue of budgeting and reporting on the fees applied to these funds.
25. On a related query, Management clarified that staff positions financed through supplementary funds followed IFAD's human resource policies and that they were being managed in such a way as to be coterminous with the supplementary funding itself.
26. Further to a query on the cost of IFAD's Governing Council, Management noted that the multidisciplinary nature of Governing Council sessions meant that the cost was borne throughout IFAD and that as of 2010 a unified budget account was prepared

for this event. The overall cost of the Governing Council was expected to be US\$0.85 million in 2013, which represented a notable reduction with respect to previous years. Management underlined the important contribution made by Italy over the years to meet part of the cost.

27. Further to queries on the relationship between the performance-based allocation system (PBAS) and the Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme (ASAP), Management clarified that the two instruments allocated and distributed funding in accordance with different sets of criteria and were therefore not linked to each other. Members were encouraged to participate in meetings of the PBAS Working Group, which had helped to improve the methodology used for performance scores.
28. Recalling the evaluation of IFAD's gender policy and noting the request for further information on gender-related expense reporting and resource allocation, the Board requested Management to review the lessons of other United Nations system agencies and international financial institutions and to seek ways of reflecting the substance of this review in next year's budget submission. Management also provided clarification on the Fund's strategic approach to the grant programme to reduce the number of grants, thus promoting more efficient use of resources. The reduction in the number of Debt Sustainability Framework (DSF) grants foreseen for 2013 was partly due to the composition of the programme of loans and grants and to the fact that some countries were graduating from eligibility for DSF funding. With respect to the IFAD resources channelled to the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative, Members were encouraged to make contributions with a view to reducing the impact on IFAD of financing one third of the debt forgiveness.
29. List A requested that future IOE budget proposals present a clearer link between expenditures and outcomes; greater detail in the breakdown of budgeted costs, including costs associated with consultants; and increased clarity regarding actual expenditures. Furthermore, IOE was requested to undertake a review of next year's budget based on a critical assessment of needs, rather than simply using the current budget as a baseline.
30. Further to concerns raised, the Executive Board was assured that IOE had the staff resources as well as the capacity required to undertake the impact evaluations proposed in the programme of work. A draft approach paper outlining the methodology, scope and resource implications of the impact evaluation to be carried out in 2013 would be shared with the Evaluation Committee in April 2013.
31. The Board noted IOE's proposal for the corporate-level evaluation (CLE) of grant financing to be undertaken prior to the CLE on policy dialogue.
32. The Board approved the recommendations and resolutions contained in the document relating to the:
  - (a) IFAD programme of work for 2013;
  - (b) Submission of the administrative budget comprising: first, the regular budget of IFAD for 2013; second, the capital budget of IFAD for 2013; and third, the IOE budget to the thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council for approval;
  - (c) Proposed top-ups of IFAD's contribution to the reduction of the debt of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire and the Republic of Guinea to IFAD;
  - (d) Submission of the substance of a progress report on IFAD's participation in the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative to the thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council for information; and
  - (e) Submission of a progress report on implementation of the PBAS to the thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council in 2013 for information.
33. The representative for the United States of America requested that, in light of the inclusion in the current budget proposal of a retroactive salary increase for General

Service staff, and bearing in mind the difficult financial climate, her country's abstention on IFAD's regular budget be recorded in the minutes.

34. Under the proposed regular budget, which envisages a retroactive increase of General Service staff salaries, the representative for Mexico informed the Executive Board that his Government was applying a strict austerity policy including substantial measures aimed at containing public expenditure. In this regard, he made reference to the 5 per cent decrease in senior civil service staff salaries recently implemented by his Government, as well as to the need for the United Nations system organizations, including IFAD, to consider similar measures in the future in order to maintain their spending at a high level of efficiency.
35. While supporting the budget, the representative for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela underlined her country's objection to any decrease in cluster 4, specifically relating to translation services, in light of the central importance of IFAD's multilingualism to guarantee full participation for all Member States in IFAD's governing bodies.

**C. Support to IFAD's governance: Measures and implementation plan for achieving greater efficiency (agenda item 4)**

36. Turning to document EB 2012/107/R.4, the Executive Board, as mandated by the Consultation on the Ninth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources (IFAD9) and further to its discussions at its 106<sup>th</sup> session, considered the issue of cost efficiencies relating to support to IFAD's governance.
37. After an extensive discussion, there was agreement on the proposed reduction of document length, while ensuring that the substance of the documents was maintained.
38. Several representatives emphasized the importance of maintaining the principle of multilingualism at IFAD in order to ensure a level playing field for all Member State representatives, and expressed their disagreement with any reduction in the translation or interpretation services provided. In this regard, the possibilities for complementary funding to support the maintenance of multilingualism were raised as worth exploring, as was the possibility of channelling efficiency savings made throughout IFAD to translation and interpretation services.
39. With regard to field visits by Member State representatives, their importance in ensuring the Board's ability to discharge its duties was reiterated. Discussion on this issue would take place in connection with the Evaluation Committee reports, given the Committee's deliberations on this issue at its seventy-fourth session.
40. The Board therefore approved the following measures as steps towards achieving the IFAD9 targets set for the portion of cluster 4 related to the work of the Office of the Secretary:
  - (a) Setting limits on document length as set out in paragraph 7(a), sub-points (i) to (x) of document EB 2012/107/R.4, while maintaining the quality of documents; and
  - (b) On a trial basis, discontinuing the translation of information documents and annexes, with representatives being informed beforehand of the documents affected.
41. Management would undertake a review of the status of measures adopted to date at the December 2013 session, at which point the Executive Board could decide on further actions as appropriate.
42. Sub-List C3, together with the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, underlined that they did not agree with the decision taken with respect to discontinuing the translation of information documents and annexes, but that they would nonetheless join the consensus.



## **D. Evaluation (agenda item 5)**

### **(a) Corporate-level evaluation on efficiency – Selected findings**

43. An overview of the main findings to date of the Corporate-level evaluation (CLE) of IFAD's institutional efficiency and the efficiency of IFAD-funded operations was presented to the Board, along with the Chairperson's summary of the Evaluation Committee's deliberations on this item.
44. Reiterating the importance attached to this evaluation, representatives welcomed this update, highlighting its relevance also to bilateral institutions and expressing a wish for the final report to present clear recommendations that could be implemented in a systematic manner. List A expressed regret at the delay in receiving the final report and recalled its request for Management's response, which had been delivered orally at the seventy-fourth session of the Evaluation Committee, to be distributed in writing. Management complied with this request (see document EB 2012/107/C.R.P.1).
45. The Board was advised that the next steps foreseen by IOE were as follows:
  - (a) 7 January 2013 – share the draft final report with Management;
  - (b) Beginning of February – receive Management's comments;
  - (c) Beginning to end of February – finalize the report taking into account Management's comments;
  - (d) End of February/beginning of March – submit the report to Executive Board representatives and to the Office of the Secretary for language processing; and
  - (e) April 2013 – discussion of the CLE and Management's response first at the Evaluation Committee and then at the 108<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board.
46. List A agreed that in light of the desire to receive a strong report with clear, focused recommendations for improving IFAD's efficiency, Board representatives would receive the final report in late February or early March. However, the request for a legal opinion on this matter was recalled and this opinion was duly tabled for the Executive Board's information (see document EB 2012/107/R.53).
47. Further to the legal opinion, List A stated that, while accepting the agreed way forward with regard to the sharing of this CLE report, their reading of the legal opinion was such that the Evaluation Committee and the Executive Board maintained the right to request and receive copies of a draft report on the basis of paragraph 52 of the revised IFAD Evaluation Policy. The representative of the United States noted that her country's position differed from that of the rest of List A, in as much as the United States supported the best practice among multilateral development banks of allowing Management to provide its comments on reports prior to these being distributed. Management also noted that its interpretation of the legal opinion differed from that outlined in the List A statement.

### **(b) Reports of the Chairperson of the Evaluation Committee**

- (i) **Report of the Chairperson on the seventy-third session of the Evaluation Committee**
  - (ii) **Report of the Chairperson on the seventy-fourth session of the Evaluation Committee**
48. The Executive Board reviewed the reports of the Chairperson on the seventy-third and seventy-fourth sessions of the Evaluation Committee (EB 2012/107/R.5 and EB 2012/107/R.6), taking note of the information contained therein.
49. The Chairperson briefed the Board on, inter alia, the ongoing selection process for the Director, IOE. In this context, the Executive Board was informed of the nomination of Mr Indran Naidoo, Director, Evaluation Office, United Nations

Development Programme; and Ms Caroline Heider, Director-General, Independent Evaluation Group, World Bank to join the search panel as independent experts, and the nomination of His Excellency Jostein Leiro, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Norway to IFAD as Chairperson of the panel. The relevant vacancy announcement had been advertised and the deadline for receipt of applications was 9 January 2013. Subsequent to that date, the search panel aimed to complete its work, in accordance with the stipulations of the revised IFAD Evaluation Policy, and present its report to the Evaluation Committee prior to a final recommendation to the Executive Board in April 2013.

50. With regard to the Evaluation Committee's deliberations on country visits, the Board welcomed the Committee's suggestions regarding the future structure of such visits, amended as per the Board's discussions as follows:
  - (i) The Board will decide the destination of future annual visits.
  - (ii) Country visits will comprise nine members: four from List A, two from List B and three from List C.
  - (iii) Visits will also be open to participation by Executive Board members who are not members of the Evaluation Committee.
  - (iv) The Lists will decide who should go on behalf of each List.
  - (v) Visits will be fully funded by IFAD and efforts will be made to keep costs low to the extent possible.
  - (vi) A maximum of three additional members of the Executive Board who are not members of the Evaluation Committee would accompany country visits on a self-financing basis.
51. The above new rules for the annual country visit would apply from 2014 onwards. They would not affect the 2013 planned country visit of the Evaluation Committee to Viet Nam. In general, the Board also encouraged all those in a position to do so, to self-finance their participation in country visits in future, whenever possible. Furthermore, all representatives were invited to visit IFAD-funded projects in conjunction with their own travel.

**(c) Annual Report on Results and Impact of IFAD Operations (ARRI)**

52. The Executive Board reviewed the ARRI, together with Management's response thereto (EB 2012/107/R.7 + Add.1). The Executive Board took note of the information contained therein and commended the quality of the report, as well as IFAD's overall good results and improvements over the last few years, while also noting that sustainability, project efficiency, policy dialogue and, specifically, performance in fragile states remained areas for improvement. On this last issue, List A encouraged Management to elaborate options on possible programmatic changes to increase IFAD's success rate in fragile states. Management committed to taking more proactive action in this respect and revert to the Board accordingly.
53. The Board supported the recommendations contained in the ARRI and encouraged IOE to include strategic recommendations in future iterations of the document, and also to elaborate on the methodologies used for measuring performance and achievement in the main report.
54. The Board encouraged IOE to support governments in evaluation capacity development. IOE noted that this was included in its 2013 priorities and work programme, though the level of support would be determined by the resources available to the Office.
55. The Board and Management appreciated the efforts made in the ARRI to benchmark the performance of IFAD operations with other organizations, but noted the associated challenges in this regard.

56. On another matter of methodology, representatives noted the age of the portfolio of the projects evaluated in the ARRI as compared to those included in the Report on IFAD's Development Effectiveness (RIDE), specifically that the ARRI drew on an older cohort of projects. Noting that earlier design methodologies had resulted in lower assessment scores, it was recognized that IFAD had contributed to the improvement of these projects during implementation. Management pointed out that challenges in design could not always be rectified during implementation, and that topics such as policy advocacy were not areas of focus in older projects. It was further pointed out that this issue would likely become less relevant as newer project cohorts began to be evaluated.
57. The Board encouraged further collaboration between IOE and Management in terms of harmonizing methodologies and enhancing the comparability of results between the ARRI and RIDE.
58. Finally, the Executive Board, having noted that Canada would cease to be a member of the Evaluation Committee, and in accordance with rule 11.1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, approved the appointment of Germany to the Evaluation Committee to serve for the remainder of the term of office, that is until April 2015.

#### **E. Report on IFAD's Development Effectiveness (RIDE) (agenda item 6)**

59. The Executive Board reviewed the Report on IFAD's Development Effectiveness (RIDE), together with IOE's comments thereon and the Annual Report on Quality Assurance in IFAD's Projects and Programmes (EB 2012/107/R.8 + Add.1 + Add.2). The Board welcomed the report and IOE's comments, and further welcomed the improvements detailed in the report, noting the utility of discussing this topic in conjunction with the quality assurance report.
60. While recognizing the positive signs contained in the RIDE, representatives called on IFAD to explore further possibilities to better highlight and illustrate these emerging positive results to external audiences and encouraged the production of concise executive summaries. Acknowledging the differences between the ARRI and the RIDE, several representatives called for increased efforts to deal with methodological issues, which would enhance comparability between the reports. Furthermore, representatives underlined the need to highlight within the RIDE the reasons for success and address areas where targets had not been met.
61. Further information was also provided on IFAD's engagement with the private sector and its ongoing work on improving policy dialogue at country level. Management also noted the correlation between government implementation capacity and the efficiency of IFAD projects. While acknowledging IOE's concerns regarding estimates based on extrapolations from RIMS data on project outputs, Management assured the Board that it was aware of this issue and that this was being addressed.

#### **F. Country strategic opportunities programmes (COSOPs) (agenda item 7)**

##### **(a) Ghana**

62. The Executive Board reviewed and endorsed the new results-based country strategic opportunities programme (COSOP) for Ghana and commended its quality, which was attributable to the fact that the design was based on a prior country programme evaluation and to enhanced engagement in partnership and in-country processes through IFAD's country presence. The Board endorsed the focus on enhancing efficiency and effectiveness through a programmatic approach for systematic scaling up. Board members noted that the policy dialogue objectives seemed ambitious, given that while the underlying processes were supported by

IFAD, they were not under IFAD's control. The deliberations highlighted the critical role IFAD was playing in Ghana despite the relatively limited resources for investment. In this context, the country programme provided excellent opportunities to partner with other donors working in Ghana to increase the effectiveness of official development assistance for smallholder agriculture.

**(b) Honduras**

63. The Executive Board reviewed the results-based country strategic opportunities programme for Honduras, which was fully in line with the IFAD Strategic Framework 2011-2015 and the Government's strategies. Board representatives stressed the importance of greater visibility in the country and the need to coordinate efforts and cofinancing with other agencies operating in Honduras. Representatives also emphasized the need to pay special attention to climate change and environmental issues. The policy dialogue associated with the COSOP consultation exercise was commended.

**(c) Nicaragua**

64. The Executive Board reviewed the results-based country strategic opportunities programme for Nicaragua, which was fully in line with the IFAD Strategic Framework 2011-2015 and the Government's strategies. Representatives recommended that special attention be paid to climate change and environmental issues (using ASAP funds). They also highlighted the importance of policy dialogue that included grass-roots organizations and local government. The importance of strong coordination among the Rome-based agencies was also stressed.

**(d) Niger**

65. The Executive Board reviewed the results-based country strategic opportunities programme (COSOP) 2013 -2018 for Niger and endorsed the three strategic objectives proposed therein: (i) production by small-scale agro-sylvo-pastoral producers is sustainably diversified and increased; (ii) post-production and commercialization activities by small-scale agro-sylvo-pastoral producers and the private sector are improved; and (iii) the social capital is strengthened to improve the sustainability of local institutions and productive and commercial activities. During the Board session, clarification was provided with respect to the critical role of relations between Niger and Nigeria, specifically regarding agricultural trade, livestock and sustainable water management. Positive comments were received and it was felt that these issues had been adequately taken into account in the COSOP.

**G. Resources available for commitment (agenda item 8)**

66. The Executive Board considered the document Resources available for commitment (EB 2012/107/R.13) and approved the use of additional advance commitment authority (ACA) of US\$341.6 million, noting that the ACA requested was a maximum ceiling and that Management anticipated that actual net usage might be lower. In this regard, Management would update the Executive Board at its next session on the actual ACA usage, based on the audited financial statements for the year ending on 31 December 2012. Furthermore, the Board authorized the President to conclude agreements for loans and grants approved by the Board at its 107<sup>th</sup> session, and for those approved under the lapse-of-time procedure.

**H. Project/programme proposals for consideration by the Executive Board (agenda item 9)**

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

**(a) West and Central Africa**

**(i) Benin: Adapted Rural Financial Services Development Project**

The Executive Board considered the project proposal contained in document EB 2012/107/R.14, with its negotiated financing agreement and adopted the following resolutions:

RESOLVED: that the Fund shall provide a loan on highly concessional terms to the Republic of Benin in an amount equivalent to eight million seven hundred fifty thousand special drawing rights (SDR 8,750,000), 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 Benin in an amount equivalent to eight million seven hundred fifty thousand special drawing rights (SDR 8,750,000) and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.

**(ii) Burkina Faso: Participatory Natural Resource Management and Rural Development Project in the North, Centre-North and East Regions (*Neer-tamba* Project)**

The Executive Board considered the project proposal contained in document EB 2012/107/R.15, and adopted the following resolution:

RESOLVED: that the Fund shall provide a grant to Burkina Faso in an amount equivalent to thirty-three million two hundred thousand special drawing rights (SDR 33,200,000) and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.

**(b) East and Southern Africa**

**Madagascar: President's memorandum: Support Programme for Rural Microenterprise Poles and Regional Economies (PROSPERER) - supplementary loan**

The Executive Board considered the proposal contained in document EB 2012/107/R.17, and adopted the following resolution:

RESOLVED: that the Fund shall provide a supplementary loan on highly concessional terms to the Republic of Madagascar in an amount equivalent to seven million three hundred thousand special drawing rights (SDR 7,300,000), and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.

The Board was informed by the representative of the United States that, in keeping with her country's legislative mandates, the United States could not join in the consensus approval with regard to the Support Programme for Rural Microenterprise Poles and Regional Economies in Madagascar.

**(c) Asia and the Pacific**

**(i) Afghanistan: Community Livestock and Agriculture Project**

The Executive Board considered the project proposal contained in document EB 2012/107/R.18, and adopted the following resolution:

RESOLVED: that the Fund shall provide a grant to the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan in an amount equivalent to thirty-seven million six hundred and fifty thousand special drawing rights (SDR 37,650,000) and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.

**(ii) China: Yunnan Agricultural and Rural Improvement Project**

The Executive Board considered the project proposal contained in document EB 2012/107/R.19 with its addendum and negotiated financing agreement, and adopted the following resolution:

RESOLVED: that the Fund shall provide a loan on ordinary terms to the People's Republic of China in an amount equivalent to thirty million four hundred fifty thousand special drawing rights (SDR 30,450,000), and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.

**(d) Latin America and the Caribbean**

**Guatemala: President's memorandum: Sustainable Rural Development Programme in El Quiché – Extension of the time limit for signature of the financing agreement**

The Executive Board considered the proposal contained in document EB 2012/107/R.49, and approved an extension of six months – to 15 June 2013 – in the deadline for signing the financing agreement for the Sustainable Rural Development Programme in El Quiché.

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

**(i) Gaza and the West Bank: President's memorandum: Participatory Natural Resource Management Programme – supplementary grant**

The Executive Board considered the proposal contained in document EB 2012/107/R.22, and adopted the following resolution:

RESOLVED: that the Fund shall provide a supplementary grant to the Palestinian Authority in various currencies in an amount equivalent to approximately one million nine hundred and forty-two thousand special drawing rights (SDR 1,942,000) from the IFAD Fund for Gaza and the West Bank, upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions approved by the Executive Board at its ninety-fifth session in December 2008.

In addition, some representatives, recalling the recent approval by the United Nations of non-Member Observer State status for Palestine, encouraged IFAD to look into the proper terminology to be adopted in the future in this regard.

**(ii) Turkey: Murat River Watershed Rehabilitation Project**

The Executive Board considered the project proposal contained in document EB 2012/107/R.25, and adopted the following resolutions:

RESOLVED: that the Fund shall make a loan on ordinary terms to the Republic of Turkey in an amount equivalent to seventeen million nine hundred and fifty-five thousand one hundred and sixty-two special drawing rights (SDR 17,955,162) 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 Turkey in an amount equivalent to two hundred and eighty thousand special drawing rights (SDR 280,000) and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.

**I. Grant under the private-sector grants window to Making Cents International for the Scaling up IFAD Rural Youth Employment Interventions Programme in the NENA Region (agenda item 10)**

68. The Executive Board considered the information contained in document EB 2012/107/R.26 and, after receiving additional information on the scope, partners, targets, design and disbursement structure of the grant, approved the proposed grant by adopting the following resolution:

RESOLVED: that the Fund, in order to finance, in part, the programme for Scaling Up IFAD Rural Youth Employment Interventions in the NENA Region, shall provide a grant not exceeding two million five hundred thousand United States dollars (US\$ 2,500,000) to Making Cents International for a three-year programme upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented to the Executive Board herein.

**J. Proposed revisions to grants under the global/regional grants window to CGIAR-supported international centres (agenda item 11)**

69. The Executive Board considered the proposed revisions to grants under the global/regional grants window to CGIAR-supported international centres contained in document EB 2012/107/R.50 and approved the proposed revisions by adopting the following resolutions:

RESOLVED: that the financial structure of the grant approved by the Executive Board on 24 September 2012 under the lapse-of-time procedure to finance the Integrated Crop-Livestock Conservation Agriculture for Sustainable Intensification of Cereal-based Systems in North Africa and Central Asia Programme shall be modified, and the grant shall be channelled through the World Bank, as trustee of the CGIAR Fund, in accordance with funding Window 3 of the CGIAR Fund;

FURTHER RESOLVED: that the financial structure of the grant approved by the Executive Board on 24 September 2012 under the lapse-of-time procedure to finance the Innovative Beef Value Chain Development Schemes in Southern Africa shall be modified, and the grant shall be channelled through the World Bank, as trustee of the CGIAR Fund, in accordance with funding Window 3 of the CGIAR Fund.

**K. Progress report on the Spanish Food Security Cofinancing Facility Trust Fund (agenda item 12)**

70. Document EB 2012/107/R.27 containing a Progress report on the Spanish Food Security Cofinancing Facility Trust Fund was presented to the Board for information purposes.

**L. Planned project activities 2012-2015 (agenda item 13)**

71. Document EB 2012/107/R.29 on Planned project activities 2012-2015 was presented to the Board for information purposes.

**M. Financial matters (agenda item 14)**

**(a) Report of the 125<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Audit Committee**

72. The Executive Board considered the report on the 125<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Audit Committee (EB 2012/107/R.30) and noted the information contained therein.
73. List A highlighted the importance of the Committee's work regarding IFAD's development of an accountability framework. It also looked forward to the Audit Committee's consideration of a document on this issue at its next meeting, and subsequently, receipt by the Executive Board of a draft outline and update on this issue at its April 2013 session.
74. Furthermore, the Board received clarifications on the process for internal control attestation, IFAD's audit-related capacity-building activities and its project audit process.

**(a) Review of the Lending Policies and Criteria**

75. Recalling the work of the Working Group on Blend Terms, the Executive Board considered the proposed review of the Lending Policies and Criteria, as outlined in

document EB 2012/107/R.31 and its corrigendum (to be revised as EB 2012/107/R.31/Rev.1).

76. The representative for Sweden recognized that steps had been taken towards aligning IFAD's lending products with those offered by the International Development Association, but regretted that this attempt had not achieved full alignment and that differences remained with regard to eligibility criteria.
77. The Executive Board confirmed that loans on blend terms would be provided at a fixed interest rate of 1.25 per cent plus a service charge of 0.75 per cent per annum, and Management provided clarification with respect to, inter alia, the grace period applicable to loans on ordinary terms and the approach to the resolution of arrears.
78. The Executive Board decided to recommend to the Governing Council at its thirty-sixth session in February 2013 the adoption of the draft resolution contained in document R.31, by which the revised Policies and Criteria for IFAD Financing would take immediate effect.
79. This resolution would also seek the Governing Council's authorization to consolidate the policies and guidelines adopted pursuant to the Lending Policies and Criteria document, specifically those listed in paragraphs 8-13 of annex I of document R.31; this would then be made available on IFAD's public website.

**(b) IFAD's Investment Policy Statement**

80. The Executive Board approved IFAD's Investment Policy Statement (IPS), as contained in document EB 2012/107/R.32 and noted the additional information contained in addenda 1-4. The Board also welcomed the Audit Committee's request that the annual review of the IPS be accompanied by either a revised Internal Control Framework (ICF) for the Board's information, or a document confirming that the ICF would remain unchanged. In this regard, the Board was informed that the changes to the ICF were non-substantive in nature.
81. Noting IFAD's unique mandate, the representative for Belgium encouraged IFAD to consider investing in socially and environmentally responsible investments. Further information was provided on IFAD's investments, including on their management and relevant guidelines. Further to a query on IFAD's ongoing development of a sustainable cash flow approach, Management provided a brief update and informed representatives that a paper in this regard would be presented to the Board at its next session.

**(c) Workplan for IFAD's Office of Audit and Oversight for 2013**

82. The Executive Board considered and confirmed the workplan of the Office of Audit and Oversight for 2013 as outlined in EB 2012/107/R.33. The Board noted that, at the request of the Audit Committee, the Office of Audit and Oversight would prioritize the consideration of the audits related to management of the grant programme and institutional performance measurement when identifying the "yet to be determined" assignments to be performed in 2013. Furthermore, Management had taken note of the request of the Audit Committee for audit feedback on the special expenditure for reform actualization and was exploring ways of addressing this.

**(d) Question concerning preferred creditor status and the rescheduling of loans**

83. As agreed at the 106<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board, document EB 2012/107/R.34 on the question concerning preferred creditor status and the rescheduling of loans was presented to the Board for information purposes.



**(f) Status reports****(i) Report on the status of contributions to the Eighth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources**

84. A report on the status of contributions to the Eighth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources (EB 2012/107/R.35) was presented to the Board for information purposes.

**(ii) Report on the status of contributions to the Ninth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources**

85. A report on the status of contributions to the Ninth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources (EB 2012/107/R.36) was presented to the Board for information purposes.

**(iii) Report on IFAD's investment portfolio for the third quarter of 2012**

86. Document EB 2012/107/R.37 on the investment portfolio for the third quarter of 2012 was presented to the Board for information purposes.

**N. Housing arrangements for the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (agenda item 15)**

87. The Executive Board approved the submission of the report on the housing arrangements for the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (EB 2012/107/R.38) to the thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council.
88. While approving the document's transmittal to the Governing Council, List A underlined that it was not endorsing the content, as the document did not address the issue of possible liability of IFAD in the event of cases being brought to the International Labour Organization Administrative Tribunal on the basis of the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice.

**O. Thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council (agenda item 16)****(a) Established good practice for the process leading to the appointment of the President of IFAD**

89. The Executive Board considered and approved document EB 2012/107/R.39 describing the established practice regarding the process leading to the appointment of the President of IFAD. Welcoming this document, which had been prepared with input by the Convenors and Friends and in response to the Board's request at its 106<sup>th</sup> session, the Executive Board recommended the draft resolution contained in page 3 thereof to the Governing Council for adoption.
90. Further to a question raised, the Board was assured that the membership's meeting with candidates would take place also in the event of only one candidate being proposed for the Presidency of IFAD.

**(b) Revised provisional agenda for the thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council**

91. Turning to document EB 2012/107/R.40, the Executive Board considered and approved the revised provisional agenda for the thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council. The Board noted that the amendments related to the document on: established good practice for the process leading to the appointment of the President of IFAD; the applications for non-original membership received from Nauru, Tuvalu and the Republic of Vanuatu; and the request for authorization to consolidate the Lending Policies and Criteria as agreed under agenda item 14(b). In

addition, the Executive Board noted the draft programme of events for the Council, as contained in document EB 2012/107/INF.3.

## **P. Change and Reform (agenda item 17)**

### **(a) Update on Change and Reform Implementation**

92. The Executive Board noted the report (EB 2012/107/R.41) detailing Management's initiatives to deepen and consolidate the Change and Reform Agenda launched in 2009 with the strong support of the Board, and welcomed the progress made to date.
93. Further information was provided to the Board on Management's response to the IFAD staff survey, and representatives welcomed the clear action plan outlined. Management also referred to the workforce audit undertaken at IFAD and the associated strategic workforce plan.

### **(b) Interim report on the special expenditure for reform actualization**

94. The Executive Board noted the interim report (EB 2012/107/R.42) on the special expenditure for reform actualization. The Board also welcomed confirmation that the final report on this expenditure would be submitted to the Governing Council in February 2014.

## **Q. Other business (agenda item 18)**

### **(a) Proposed dates for sessions of the Executive Board in 2014**

95. The Executive Board approved the proposed dates of the upcoming sessions of the Executive Board, as proposed in EB 2012/107/R.43 as follows: the 111<sup>th</sup> session was scheduled to be held on Thursday, 10 and Friday, 11 April 2014; the 112<sup>th</sup> session on Thursday, 18 and Friday, 19 September 2014; and the 113<sup>th</sup> session on Monday, 15 and Tuesday, 16 December 2014.

### **(b) Procedure for the negotiation, signature and approval of agreements and similar legal instruments**

96. In accordance with the request at its 106<sup>th</sup> session, the Board reviewed document EB 2012/107/R.44 on the procedure for the negotiation, signature and approval of agreements and similar legal instruments.
97. In their statement, List A recalled that all memorandums of understanding and assimilated exterior agreements were to be presented to the Executive Board for approval according to article 8.2 of the Agreement Establishing IFAD. Consultations were held among the Lists and further to these discussions, with a view to enhancing transparency, reducing bureaucracy and maintaining practicality, Management committed to providing a document to the Executive Board in April 2013, codifying the various types of memorandums of understanding and related procedures. This document would be informed by discussions with Convenors and Friends.

### **(c) Applications for non-original membership**

#### **(i) Tuvalu**

#### **(ii) Republic of Vanuatu**

98. Turning to documents EB 2012/107/R.45 and EB 2012/107/R.46, the Executive Board considered the applications of Tuvalu and the Republic of Vanuatu for admission to IFAD as non-original members. The Board recommended to the Governing Council that both Tuvalu and the Republic of Vanuatu be admitted as non-original members to the Fund, as per the draft resolutions contained in the respective documents.

**(d) Authorization to sign an agreement with the Adaptation Fund Board on the Climate Smart Agriculture: Enhancing Adaptive Capacity of the Rural Communities in Lebanon (AgriCAL) project**

99. The Executive Board, noting the recommendations in EB 2012/107/R.47, duly authorized the President to countersign the Agreement between the Adaptation Fund Board and IFAD concerning the Climate Smart Agriculture: Enhancing Adaptive Capacity of the Rural Communities in Lebanon (AgriCAL) project.

**(e) Election of representatives of the Governing Council to the IFAD Staff Pension Committee**

100. Thanking him for his service, the Executive Board noted the departure of Mr Marguccio as an elected representative of the Governing Council to the IFAD Staff Pension Committee and appointed Ms Donatienne Hissard of France to serve as First Alternate Member for the remaining portion of the current term, ending on 30 September 2013.

**(f) Minutes of the 106<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board**

**(i) Revision to the minutes of the 106<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board**

101. The Executive Board adopted the minutes of the 106<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board, as amended in document EB 2012/107/R.51. The final minutes will be duly posted on IFAD website.

**(ii) Revision to the minutes of the 106<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board (closed session on the Global Mechanism)**

102. The Executive Board adopted the minutes of the closed session of the 106<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board, as amended by document EB 2012/107/R.52. Given the confidential nature of these minutes, the final revised document will be posted on IFAD restricted website.

**R. Closing of the session**

103. Having summarized the session's proceedings, the President took a moment to reflect on the achievements and successes reached during the IFAD8 period. IFAD's advocacy efforts had raised awareness in international forums as to the enormous potential of smallholder agriculture and had led to recognition of the importance of smallholder agriculture as a business at the highest policy levels, including at the level of the G8, the G20, the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) and the Committee on World Food Security. The IFAD8 programme of loans and grants had been delivered at a level of close to US\$3 billion - a 50 per cent increase when compared to IFAD7 - for a total value of US\$7.2 billion when taking into consideration cofinancing from external sources. The implementation of a far-reaching change and reform agenda had strengthened the Fund through, inter alia, the operationalization of IFAD's business model, expansion of country presence, reinforced knowledge management activities, a more robust financial management system and improved human resources management to ensure that the Fund's workforce met the strategic needs of the organization. On the eve of IFAD9, the organization was in a position to strive for and achieve the ambitious target set for the IFAD9 period of moving 80 million people out of poverty. The President expressed his gratitude to the Board for its continued support and confidence, which had contributed greatly to the achievements and progress made, as well as to IFAD's staff for their unwavering commitment to IFAD's goals.



المشاركون في الدورة السابعة بعد المائة للمجلس التنفيذي

**Delegations at the 107<sup>th</sup> session of  
the Executive Board**

**Délégations à la cent septième session  
du Conseil d'administration**

**Delegaciones en el 107º período de  
sesiones de la Junta Ejecutiva**

Executive Board — 107<sup>th</sup> Session  
Rome, 12-13 December 2012

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**OBSERVATEURS**  
**OBSERVADORES**

**COSOP's Deliberations:<sup>1</sup>**

**GHANA**

Nii QUAYE-KUMAH  
 Minister Counsellor  
 Alternate Permanent Representative of  
 the Republic of Ghana to IFAD  
 Rome

**HONDURAS**

Mayra Aracely REINA de TITTA  
 Ministro  
 Representante Permanente Alterno  
 de la República de Honduras  
 ante los Organismos de las  
 Naciones Unidas  
 Roma

**NICARAGUA**

Junior Andrés ESCOBAR FONSECA  
 Agregado  
 Representante Permanente Alterno  
 de la República de Nicaragua  
 ante los Organismos de las  
 Naciones Unidas  
 Roma

**NIGER**

Amadou TOURÉ  
 Ambassadeur  
 Représentant permanent  
 de la République du Niger  
 auprès du FIDA  
 Rome

<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to document EB 2002/77/R.12: Procedure for the Review of Country Strategic Opportunities Papers (COSOPS) by the Executive Board. Paragraph 15 (2) Process.



## List of documents placed before the 107<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board

Document No.	Agenda item	Title
EB 2012/107/R.1/Rev.1	2	Provisional agenda
EB 2012/107/R.1/Rev.1/Add.1 + Add.1/Rev.1	2	Schedule of work for the session
EB 2012/107/R.2 + Add.1 + Add.2	3	IFAD's 2013 results-based programme of work and regular and capital budgets, the IOE results-based work programme and budget for 2013 and indicative plan for 2014-2015, and the HIPC and PBAS progress reports
EB 2012/107/R.3	3	Report of the Audit Committee on IFAD's 2013 results-based programme of work and regular and capital budgets, the IOE results-based work programme and budget for 2013 and indicative plan for 2014-2015, and the HIPC and PBAS progress reports
EB 2012/107/R.4	4	Support to IFAD's governance: Measures and implementation plan for achieving greater efficiency
EB 2012/107/R.53 <sup>2</sup>	5(a)	Legal Opinion on the Question concerning the draft corporate level evaluation on efficiency
EB 2012/107/R.5	5(b)(i)	Report of the Chairperson on the seventy-third session of the Evaluation Committee
EB 2012/107/R.6	5(b)(ii)	Report of the Chairperson on the seventy-fourth session of the Evaluation Committee
EB 2012/107/R.7 + Add.1	5(c)	Annual Report on Results and Impact of IFAD Operations Evaluated in 2011
EB 2012/107/R.8 + Add.1 + Add.2	6	Report on IFAD's Development Effectiveness
EB 2012/107/R.9	7(a)	<b>Ghana:</b> Country strategic opportunities programme
EB 2012/107/R.10	7(b)	<b>Honduras:</b> Results-based country strategic opportunities programme
EB 2012/107/R.11	7(c)	<b>Nicaragua:</b> Country strategic opportunities programme
EB 2012/107/R.12	7(d)	<b>Niger:</b> Country strategic opportunities programme
EB 2012/107/R.13	8	Resources available for commitment

<sup>2</sup> Document distributed in English only.

EB 2012/107/R.14 + Sup.1 <sup>3</sup>	9(a)(i)	<b>Republic of Benin:</b> Adapted Rural Financial Services Development Project
EB 2012/107/R.15	9(a)(ii)	<b>Burkina Faso:</b> Participatory Natural Resource Management and Rural Development Project in the North, Centre-North and East Regions (Neer-tamba Project)
EB 2012/107/R.16 <sup>4</sup> + Add.1	9(a)(iii)	<b>Mali:</b> President's memorandum: Rural Microfinance Programme – supplementary loan and grant
EB 2012/107/R.17	9(b)	<b>Madagascar:</b> President's memorandum: Support Programme for Rural Microenterprise Poles and Regional Economies (PROSPERER) – supplementary loan
EB 2012/107/R.18	9(c)(i)	<b>Afghanistan:</b> Community Livestock and Agriculture Project
EB 2012/107/R.19 + Add.1 + Sup.1 <sup>5</sup>	9(c)(ii)	<b>China:</b> Yunnan Agricultural and Rural Improvement Project
EB 2012/107/R.49	9(d)	<b>Republic of Guatemala:</b> President's memorandum: Sustainable Rural Development Programme in El Quiché – Extension of the time limit for signature of the financing agreement
EB 2012/107/R.22	9(e)(i)	<b>Gaza and the West Bank:</b> President's memorandum: Participatory Natural Resource Management Programme – supplementary grant
EB 2012/107/R.25	9(e)(ii)	<b>Turkey:</b> Murat River Watershed Rehabilitation Project
EB 2012/107/R.26	10	Grant under the private-sector grants window to Making Cents International
EB 2012/107/R.50	11	Proposed revisions to grants under the global/regional grants window to CGIAR-supported international centres
EB 2012/107/R.27	12	Progress report on the Spanish Food Security Co-financing Facility Trust Fund
EB 2012/107/R.29	13	Planned project activities 2012-2015
EB 2012/107/R.30	14(a)	Report of the Chairperson on the 125 <sup>th</sup> meeting of the Audit Committee
EB 2012/107/R.31 + Corr.1	14(b)	Review of the Lending Policies and Criteria
EB 2012/107/R.32 + Add.1 + Add.2 + Add.3 + Add.4	14(c)	IFAD's Investment Policy Statement
EB 2012/107/R.33	14(d)	Workplan for IFAD's Office of Audit and

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<sup>3</sup> Document distributed in French only.

<sup>4</sup> Withdraw from the agenda.

<sup>5</sup> Document provided in English only.

		Oversight for 2013
EB 2012/107/R.34	14(e)	Question concerning preferred creditor status and the rescheduling of loans
EB 2012/107/R.35	14(f)(i)	Report on the status of contributions to the Eighth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources
EB 2012/107/R.36	14(f)(ii)	Report on the status of contributions to the Ninth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources
EB 2012/107/R.37	14(f)(iii)	Report on IFAD's investment portfolio for the third quarter of 2012
EB 2012/107/R.38	15	Report on IFAD's Hosting of the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa
EB 2012/107/R.39	16(a)	Established good practice for the process leading to the appointment of the President of IFAD
EB 2012/107/R.40	16(b)	Revised provisional agenda for the thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council
EB 2012/107/R.41	17(a)	Update on Change and Reform Implementation
EB 2012/107/R.42	17(b)	Interim report on the special expenditure for reform actualization
EB 2012/107/R.43	18(a)	Proposed dates for sessions of the Executive Board in 2014
EB 2012/107/R.44	18(b)	Procedure for the negotiation, signature and approval of agreements and similar legal instruments
EB 2012/107/R.45	18(c)(i)	Application for non-original membership of IFAD by Tuvalu
EB 2012/107/R.46	18(c)(ii)	Application for non-original membership of IFAD by the Republic of Vanuatu
EB 2012/107/R.47	18(d)	Agreement with the Adaptation Fund Board on the Climate Smart Agriculture: Enhancing Adaptive Capacity of the Rural Communities in Lebanon (AgriCAL) project
EB 2012/107/R.48	18(e)	Election of representatives of the Governing Council to the IFAD Staff Pension Committee
EB 2012/107/R.51	18(f)(i)	Minutes of the 106 <sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board
EB 2012/107/R.52 <sup>6</sup>	18(f)(ii)	Revision to the minutes of the 106 <sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board (closed session on Global Mechanism)

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<sup>6</sup> Confidential document.

EB 2012/107/INF.1	Arrangements for the 107 <sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board
EB 2012/107/INF.2	Status report on arrears in principal, interest and service charge payments
EB 2012/107/INF.3	Draft programme of events for the thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council
EB 2012/107/INF.4	Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) concerning the establishment of a Strategic Partnership between the European Union and the International Fund for Agricultural Development
EB 2012/107/INF.5	Discontinuing fax dispatches to the Executive Board and its subsidiary bodies
EB 2012/107/INF.6	Partnership agreement between IFAD and Agence Française de Développement
EB 2012/107/INF.7	Methodologies for Impact Assessments for IFAD9
EB 2012/107/INF.8	IFAD Initiative for Mainstreaming Innovation
EB 2012/107/INF.9 <sup>6</sup>	List of documents for the 107 <sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board
EB 2012/107/INF.10	Grants, projects/programmes approved under the lapse-of-time procedure

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<sup>6</sup> Document posted in English only.

Document:	<u>EB 2012/107/R.1/Rev.2</u>
Agenda:	<u>2</u>
Date:	<u>12 December 2012</u>
Distribution:	<u>Public</u>
Original:	<u>English</u>

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## Agenda

### Note to Executive Board representatives

Focal point for technical questions and dispatch of documentation:

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Executive Board — 107<sup>th</sup> Session  
Rome, 12-13 December 2012

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## 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]**
3. IFAD's 2013 results-based programme of work and regular and capital budgets, the IOE results-based work programme and budget for 2013 and indicative plan for 2014-2015, and the HIPC and PBAS progress reports **[A]**
4. Support to IFAD's governance: Measures and implementation plan for achieving greater efficiency **[A]**
5. Evaluation
  - (a) Corporate-level evaluation on efficiency – Selected findings
  - (b) Reports of the Chairperson of the Evaluation Committee **[R]**
    - (i) Report of the Chairperson on the seventy-third session of the Evaluation Committee
    - (ii) Report of the Chairperson on the seventy-fourth session of the Evaluation Committee
  - (c) Annual Report on Results and Impact of IFAD Operations (ARRI) **[R]**
6. Report on IFAD's Development Effectiveness (RIDE) **[R]**
7. Country strategic opportunities programmes (COSOPs) **[R]**
  - (a) Ghana
  - (b) Honduras
  - (c) Nicaragua
  - (d) Niger
8. Resources available for commitment **[A]**
9. Project/programme proposals for consideration by the Executive Board **[A]**
  - (a) West and Central Africa
    - (i) Benin: Adapted Rural Financial Services Development Project
    - (ii) Burkina Faso: Participatory Natural Resource Management and Rural Development Project in the North, Centre-North and East Regions (Neer-tamba Project)
  - (b) East and Southern Africa
 

Madagascar: President's memorandum: Support Programme for Rural Microenterprise Poles and Regional Economies (PROSPERER) - supplementary loan
  - (c) Asia and the Pacific
    - (i) Afghanistan: Community Livestock and Agriculture Project
    - (ii) China: Yunnan Agricultural and Rural Improvement Project
  - (d) Latin America and the Caribbean
 

Guatemala: President's memorandum: Sustainable Rural Development Programme in El Quiché – Extension of the time limit for signature of the financing agreement

- (e) Near East, North Africa and Europe
  - (i) Gaza and the West Bank: President's memorandum: Participatory Natural Resource Management Programme – supplementary grant
  - (ii) Turkey: Murat River Watershed Rehabilitation Project
- 10. Grant under the private-sector grants window to Making Cents International for the Scaling up IFAD Rural Youth Employment Interventions Programme in the NENA Region **[A]**
- 11. Proposed revisions to grants under the global/regional grants window to CGIAR-supported international centres **[A]**
- 12. Progress report on the Spanish Food Security Cofinancing Facility Trust Fund **[I]**
- 13. Planned project activities **[I]**
- 14. Financial matters
  - (a) Report of the 125<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Audit Committee **[R]**
  - (b) Review of the Lending Policies and Criteria **[A]**
  - (c) IFAD's Investment Policy Statement **[A]**
  - (d) Workplan for IFAD's Office of Audit and Oversight for 2013 **[C]**
  - (e) Question concerning preferred creditor status and the rescheduling of loans **[I]**
  - (f) Status reports **[I]**
    - (i) Report on the status of contributions to the Eighth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources
    - (ii) Report on the status of contributions to the Ninth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources
    - (iii) Report on IFAD's investment portfolio for the third quarter of 2012
- 15. Housing arrangements for the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification **[A]**
- 16. Thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council **[A]**
  - (a) Established good practice for the process leading to the appointment of the President of IFAD
  - (b) Revised provisional agenda for the thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council
- 17. Change and Reform **[I]**
  - (a) Update on Change and Reform: Implementation
  - (b) Interim report on the special expenditure for reform actualization
- 18. Other business
  - (a) Proposed dates for sessions of the Executive Board in 2014 **[A]**
  - (b) Procedure for the negotiation, signature and approval of agreements and similar legal instruments **[R]**
  - (c) Applications for non-original membership **[A]**
    - (i) Tuvalu
    - (ii) Republic of Vanuatu



- (d) Authorization to sign an agreement with the Adaptation Fund Board on the Climate Smart Agriculture: Enhancing Adaptive Capacity of the Rural Communities in Lebanon (AgriCAL) project **[A]**
- (e) Election of representatives of the Governing Council to the IFAD Staff Pension Committee **[A]**
- (f) Minutes of the 106<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board **[A]**
  - (i) Revision to the minutes of the 106<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board
  - (ii) Revision to the minutes of the 106<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board (closed session on Global Mechanism)