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Investing in rural people

Draft programme of events for the fortieth session of the Governing Council

Note to Executive Board representatives

Focal points:

Technical questions:

Cheryl Morden
Secretary of IFAD, a.i.
Tel.: +39 06 5459 2254
e-mail: c.morden@ifad.org

Dispatch of documentation:

William Skinner
Chief
Governing Bodies Office
Tel.: +39 06 5459 2974
e-mail: gb_office@ifad.org

Executive Board — 119th Session
Rome, 14-15 December 2016

For: Information

Draft programme of events for the fortieth session of the Governing Council

1. The Executive Board is invited to take note of the draft programme of events for the fortieth session of the Council contained in this document.
2. This session of the Governing Council takes place at a unique moment for IFAD: it will be the last Council held under President Nwanze's stewardship, after eight years at the helm of the organization. In those eight years, IFAD has become a major player in global policy dialogue, most recently in its advocacy work to gain recognition for the central role that smallholders must play in achieving a world free of hunger – as articulated by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted last year by world leaders and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Agenda 2030).
3. Looking to the future, Agenda 2030 offers clear evidence that IFAD's mandate of investing in rural people and enabling inclusive and sustainable transformation of rural areas is of greater relevance than ever, today and for the coming decade. IFAD has never been better placed to help countries fulfil their priorities relative to Agenda 2030: after several years of growth and rigorous reforms, IFAD is now recognized for its experience, knowledge and performance in this domain. It has also positioned itself as a major knowledge institution, generating fresh ideas, evidence and tools for the development community in support of policy dialogue to identify the best ways to transform rural livelihoods. In addition, IFAD has renewed and diversified sources of finance for agricultural development, gaining international recognition for its leadership in mobilizing investment. The new global framework for development finance – the Addis Ababa Action Agenda – makes specific reference to IFAD's pivotal role in channelling investment to smallholder development.
4. The 2017 Governing Council marks the beginning of a new chapter for IFAD. A new President will be elected – the sixth in the history of IFAD – at a time of dramatic global change. Demand for food is spiralling, migration has swelled to unprecedented levels and countries are increasingly feeling the impact of climate change and environmental degradation. The demand for IFAD's work continues to grow and the organization is uniquely placed to take its operations to a new level by working – to cite the Strategic Framework 2016-2025 – in a way that is "bigger, better and smarter".
5. These are the issues that set the stage for the fortieth session of IFAD's Governing Council and the third global meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum (IPF) that precedes it. These events will provide an opportunity to identify approaches and solutions for rural women and men that will enable them to transform their lives and their communities.
6. The 2017 Governing Council will include the following main events:
 - (a) Balloting for the selection of the next President of IFAD will begin on 14 February. The President of IFAD serves a four-year term, renewable once. The newly elected President will take office on 1 April 2017.
 - (b) This year a Governors' dialogue will be held on the afternoon of the first day. The purpose of this dialogue among the Governors is to examine the critical choices facing IFAD as it seeks to optimize its contribution to Agenda 2030, and the factors that will test IFAD's capacity and commitment relative to the SDGs. The Governors' dialogue will be held in the Plenary Hall and will be open to all participants.
 - (c) A panel on indigenous peoples will focus on the role that they can play in rural transformation for sustainable development. Within the framework of Agenda 2030, the panel will highlight the deep connection between human society and

the natural world. In particular, it will look at the multifaceted nature of sustainable development as perceived by indigenous peoples, which integrates both the social and cultural aspects and the economic and environmental dimensions of development within a holistic approach.

7. A networking breakfast on the second day will bring Governing Council participants and IFAD staff together to share information and lessons learned across all IFAD's regions of operation.
8. With a view to providing greater opportunities for discussion among Ministers and Governors, a programme of seminars will be held the day before the 2017 Governing Council.
9. Finally, preceding the Governing Council on Friday, 10 and Monday, 13 February 2017, the third global meeting of the IPF will be held at IFAD. The IPF was established under the IFAD Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples as an instrument to systematically engage with indigenous peoples at the local, national and international levels through a process of dialogue and consultation among representatives of indigenous peoples' institutions, IFAD staff and Member States. Furthermore, the Policy established that a global meeting of the IPF would be held every two years, in conjunction with the IFAD Governing Council. The closing session of the forum – which will take place on Monday, 13 February – will be open to Governors and Executive Board representatives.
10. The attached draft programme of events outlines a preliminary timetable for the Governing Council session and associated events. The timetable is designed to allow sufficient time to complete the formal agenda while maximizing opportunities for interactive dialogue on substantive issues related to the activities of the Fund.
11. The timetable is to be considered a work in progress and subject to change as confirmation of attendance is received.
12. The first session of the Consultation on the Eleventh Replenishment of IFAD's Resources will take place on Thursday, 16 and Friday, 17 February. Member States participating in the Consultation based on the deliberations of the Governing Council will receive relevant information.

2017 Governing Council

Draft programme of events

Monday, 13 February 2017

Programme of seminars	9.30 – 13.00 and 15.30 – 17.00
9.30 – 11.30	Briefings by Italy on the G7 Presidency and by Germany on the G20 Presidency
11.30 – 13.00	Knowledge-sharing event: International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) at 50 – Sustainable Food Futures
15.30 – 17.00	Closing session of the third global meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum. Governors and Executive Board representatives are invited to attend.

Tuesday, 14 February 2017

Morning session	9.00 – 13.30
9.00 – 10.30	Inaugural ceremony
10.30 – 11.00	Fortieth session of the Governing Council – Agenda items for approval and for information
11.00 – 13.00	Appointment of the President of IFAD (Italian Conference room – for Governors only)
13.00 – 13.30	General statements
Afternoon session	15.00 – 19.30
15.00 – 16.30	Appointment of the President of IFAD (Italian Conference room – for Governors only)
16.30 – 18.00	Governors' dialogue
18.00 – 19.30	General statements
19.30	Reception for all delegates

Wednesday, 15 February 2017

Morning session	8.30 – 13.30
8.30 – 9.00	Networking breakfast
9.00 – 9.30	General statements
9.30 – 11.00	Appointment of the President of IFAD (Italian Conference room – for Governors only)
11.00 – 12.30	Panel: Indigenous peoples' issues
12.30 – 13.15	Continuation of agenda items, including general statements
13.15 – 13.25	President's concluding remarks
13.25 – 13.30	Closure of the session

Thursday, 16 February and Friday, 17 February 2017

First session of the Consultation on the Eleventh Replenishment of IFAD's Resources (IFAD11) (For Member States participating in IFAD11)