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2018 Joint Progress Report on RBA Collaboration

Addendum

Executive Board — 125th Session
Rome, 12-14 December 2018

For: Approval

2018 Joint Progress Report on RBA Collaboration

Addendum

1. Purpose. The purpose of this addendum to the 2018 Joint Progress Report on RBA Collaboration (EB 2018/125/R.55) is to invite the IFAD Executive Board to take decisions on ways to further strengthen dialogue between IFAD and its Member States on topics of importance for promoting sustainable and inclusive rural transformation. In tabling this addendum, IFAD aligns itself with similar decisions taken by the Governing Bodies of FAO and WFP (see below) in December and November 2018.

Decisions at FAO and WFP

2. Based on recommendations captured in the report of the joint meeting of the 125th session of the Programme and Finance Committee, the 160th session of the FAO Council held from 3-7 December 2018 adopted the following recommendations:
 - "greater engagement with Members in the preparatory and follow-up activities of the joint annual informal meetings of the Governing Bodies of FAO, IFAD and WFP via: (a) briefings (informal seminars) of the membership after meetings of the Senior Consultative Group, especially on the progress in the implementation of the United Nations General Assembly resolution 72/279 (Repositioning the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system); and (b) involving the Membership through the ICC informal meetings with the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the Regional Groups of FAO, the Bureau of the Executive Board of WFP and Convenors and Friends of IFAD, in preparing the joint annual informal meeting of the Governing Bodies of FAO, IFAD and WFP".
 - "that future reports focus on lessons learned, challenges faced, impacts, realized financial benefits and planned areas of collaboration, considering also changes to the format of the document in order to improve its clarity and conciseness".
3. At its second regular session from 26-29 November 2018, the WFP Executive Board took key decisions related to RBA collaboration. In particular, it:
 - "requested regular informal engagement between interested Members and the Rome-based agencies' deputy principals on progress in the implementation of United Nations development system reform, following each of the Rome-based agencies Senior Consultative Group quarterly meetings".¹
 - "requested that a joint informal meeting of the governing bodies of the Rome-based agencies (the council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Executive Board of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the WFP Executive Board) be held annually, with greater engagement of Members in the preparatory work (agenda setting, format and similar matters) and in follow-up activities, involving the membership through the Independent Chairperson of the FAO Council meetings with the Chairs of the Regional Groups of FAO, the Bureau of the Executive Board of WFP and the Convenors and Friends of IFAD".

¹ Following the adoption of the decision the representative of the Netherlands, as an observer, said that his country could not support the adoption of the decision as orally amended.

- "requested that a joint progress report on Rome-based agencies collaboration be included as a regular agenda item of the annual joint informal meeting of the governing bodies of the Rome-based agencies".
4. Recommendations to the IFAD Executive Board. Consistent with the spirit of the decisions taken by the FAO Council and WFP Executive Board, the IFAD Executive Board is invited to take the following three decisions:
- (i) Greater engagement with Members in the preparatory and follow-up activities of the joint annual informal meetings of the Governing Bodies of FAO, IFAD and WFP via: (a) briefings (informal seminars) of the membership after meetings of the Senior Consultative Group, especially on the progress in the implementation of the United Nations General Assembly resolution 72/279 (Repositioning the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system); and (b) involving the Membership through the ICC informal meetings with the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the Regional Groups of FAO, the Bureau of the Executive Board of WFP and Convenors and Friends of IFAD, in preparing the joint annual informal meeting of the Governing Bodies of FAO, IFAD and WFP;
 - (ii) that a joint progress report on RBA collaboration be included as a regular agenda item of the annual joint informal meeting of the above-mentioned governing bodies; and
 - (iii) that future reports focus on lessons learned, challenges faced, impacts, realized financial benefits and planned areas of collaboration, considering also changes to the format of the document in order to improve its clarity and conciseness.