

Document: EB 2020/130/INF.2
Date: 28 July 2020
Distribution: Public
Original: English

E



Investing in rural people

Results of the Votes by Correspondence by the Executive Board that ended in May 2020

Note to Executive Board representatives

Focal points:

Technical questions:

Luis Jiménez-McInnis
Secretary of IFAD
Tel.: +39 06 5459 2254
e-mail: l.jimenez-mcinnis@ifad.org

Dispatch of documentation:

Deirdre Mc Grenra
Chief
Institutional Governance and
Member Relations
Tel.: +39 06 5459 2374
e-mail: gb@ifad.org

Executive Board — 130th Session
Rome, 8-11 September 2020

For: **Information**

29 May 2020

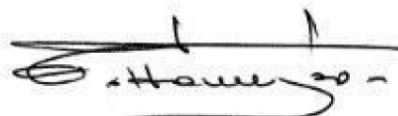
Distinguished Executive Board Representatives,

In accordance with rule 23 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, which prescribes that the President shall notify all members and alternates of the results of votes by correspondence, I am pleased to inform you of the positive outcome of recent votes by correspondence – as referred to in communications issued by the Office of the Secretary on 20, 23 and 29 April 2020 and 11 May 2020 and attached hereto for ease of reference.

Under rule 23 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, a vote is considered valid if replies are received from members having at least two thirds (3,697.952) of the total number of votes in the Executive Board (5,546.927). Under rule 19.1, all decisions of the Board are to be taken by a majority of three fifths of the votes cast, provided that such majority consists of more than one half of the total votes in the Executive Board. Rule 19.3 specifies that "votes cast" shall mean affirmative and negative votes.

The votes cast for each item are shown in the attachment. Replies received from members on all items submitted for consideration through vote by correspondence amounted to more than two thirds of the total number of votes in the Executive Board, thus the votes may be considered valid.

Accept, Distinguished Representatives, the assurance of my highest consideration.



Gilbert F. Hougbo

Executive Board Representatives of the
International Fund for Agricultural
Development and respective recipients
of copies for information

Results of the Vote by Correspondence by the Executive Board that ended on 4 May 2020

Proposal to Accept Supplementary Funds from the Adaptation Fund ([EB 2020/129/V.B.C.1](#))

Replies constituting 4,442.280 votes (approximately 80.3 per cent of the total of 5,546.927 votes) were received from Executive Board members or their alternates by the deadline. Thus the requirement of rule 23 was met.

All the votes cast were in favour of the proposal, meeting the majority required by rule 19.

As per the recommendation contained in document EB 2020/129/V.B.C.1, the Executive Board thus:

- (i) accepted supplementary funds from the Adaptation Fund to finance the Talent Retention for Rural Transformation-Adapt in the Republic of Moldova and authorized the President or his delegate to countersign the agreement with the Adaptation Fund presented in the appendix of the aforementioned document; and
- (ii) authorized the President to accept supplementary funds from the Adaptation Fund with no limitation on the amount, negotiate and conclude any project-specific agreements to finance pipeline or ongoing IFAD projects with grant-based Adaptation Fund resources.

Results of the Vote by Correspondence by the Executive Board that ended on 8 May 2020

Operational matters

Project/programme and grant proposals for consideration by the Executive Board

- (a) **China – Yunnan Rural Revitalization Demonstration Project
([EB 2020/129/R.16/Rev.1](#))**

Replies constituting 5,046.216 votes (approximately 91.2 per cent of the total of 5,546.927 votes) were received from Executive Board members or their alternates by the deadline. Thus the requirement of rule 23 was met.

438.815 votes were cast against the proposal, with the following explanation of the vote: "The United States, in light of its policies for certain development projects in countries whose governments are not addressing trafficking in persons and do not meet other requirements, opposes the following project and therefore does not join a Board decision that would support the Yunnan Rural Revitalization Demonstration Project."

4,609.400 votes were cast in favour of the proposal, meeting the majority required by rule 19.

The Executive Board, therefore, approved the proposed financing in terms of the following resolution:

"RESOLVED: that the Fund shall provide a loan on ordinary terms to the People's Republic of China in an amount of seventy-four million eight hundred thousand United States dollars (US\$74,800,000) and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein."

(c) **Pakistan – Gwadar-Lasbela Livelihoods Support Project II**
([EB 2020/129/R.18](#))

Replies constituting 5,046.216 votes (approximately 91.2 per cent of the total of 5,546.927 votes) were received from Executive Board members or their alternates by the deadline. Thus the requirement of rule 23 was met.

All the votes cast were in favour of the proposal, meeting the majority required by rule 19.

The Executive Board, therefore, approved the proposed financing in terms of the following resolutions:

“RESOLVED: that the Fund shall provide a loan on blend terms to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in an amount of sixty million one hundred and fifty-five thousand United States dollars (US\$60,155,000) 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 Islamic Republic of Pakistan in an amount of three million United States dollars (US\$3,000,000) and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.”

Financial matters

(b) **Consolidated Financial Statements of IFAD as at 31 December 2019**
([EB 2020/129/R.22](#))

Replies constituting 5,046.216 votes (approximately 91.2 per cent of the total of 5,546.927 votes) were received from Executive Board members or their alternates by the deadline. Thus the requirement of rule 23 was met.

One member, representing 291.494 votes, abstained. All other votes cast (4,754.721) were in favour of the proposal, thus meeting the majority required by rule 19.

The Executive Board, therefore, approved 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 2019 and the report of the external auditor thereon, including the independent external attestation on the effectiveness of internal controls over financial reporting, and agreed to submit them to the Governing Council at its forty-fourth session in February 2021 for approval.

In accordance with Financial Regulation XIII and considering the financial position and results at the end of 2019, it would not be recommended that any transfer to the General Reserve be made.”

(f) **Requirements for the Forty-first Drawdown of Member State Contributions in 2020** ([EB 2020/129/R.25](#))

Replies constituting 5,046.216 votes (approximately 91.2 per cent of the total of 5,546.927 votes) were received from Executive Board members or their alternates by the deadline. Thus the requirement of rule 23 was met.

All the votes cast were in favour of the proposal, meeting the majority required by rule 19.

The Executive Board, therefore, 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 second drawdown of IFAD11 contributions in April 2020, or as may be stipulated in instruments of contributions with individual Member States, to meet loan and grant disbursements for 2020. Any further funds required for disbursement needs in

2020 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.”

Governance

(a) Attendance of Observers at Executive Board Sessions during Consideration of Project, Programme and Grant Proposals (EB 2020/129/R.27)

Replies constituting 5,046.216 votes (approximately 91.2 per cent of the total of 5,546.927 votes) were received from Executive Board members or their alternates by the deadline. Thus the requirement of rule 23 was met.

All the votes cast were in favour of the proposal, meeting the majority required by rule 19.

The Executive Board, therefore, approved that when a project, programme or grant proposal for a Member State not represented on the Executive Board is under consideration, a single representative for such Member State be invited to follow the proceedings for that item as a silent observer in the Board room in accordance with the recommendation contained in paragraphs 9 to 11 of document EB 2020/129/R.27.

(b) Country visits of the IFAD Executive Board 2021-2023 (EB 2020/129/R.28)

Replies constituting 5,046.216 votes (approximately 91.2 per cent of the total of 5,546.927 votes) were received from Executive Board members or their alternates by the deadline. Thus the requirement of rule 23 was met.

All the votes cast were in favour of the proposal, meeting the majority required by rule 19.

The Executive Board, therefore, approved the draft rolling plan for its country visits for the next three years.

Sufficient votes to approve one of the proposed dates for the 2021 Executive Board country visit were not received. Management will revert to the Executive Board in due course with a proposal in this regard.

Other business

(c) Memorandum of Understanding between the World Food Law Institute and IFAD (EB 2020/129/R.33)

Replies constituting 5,046.216 votes (approximately 91.2 per cent of the total of 5,546.927 votes) were received from Executive Board members or their alternates by the deadline. Thus the requirement of rule 23 was met.

All the votes cast were in favour of the proposal, meeting the majority required by rule 19.

The Executive Board, therefore, in accordance with article 8, section 2 of the Agreement Establishing IFAD, authorized the President to negotiate and finalize a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between the World Food Law Institute and IFAD to establish a cooperation framework, substantially in accordance with the provisions presented in the annex to document EB 2020/129/R.33. The signed MoU will be submitted to the Board for information at a subsequent session.

Results of the Vote by Correspondence by the Executive Board that ended on 18 May 2020

Timebound delegation of authority for the approval of deviations from the Policy on Project Restructuring and the Proposal for Faster Implementation of Project Start-up Instruments ([EB 2020/129/V.B.C.2/Rev.1](#))

Replies constituting 4,570.159 votes (approximately 82.6 per cent of the total of 5,546.927 votes) were received from Executive Board members or their alternates by the deadline. Thus the requirement of rule 23 was met. All the votes cast were in favour of the proposal, meeting the majority required by rule 19.

As per the recommendation contained in document EB 2020/129/V.B.C.2/Rev.1, the Executive Board delegated authority to the President of IFAD to approve deviations from the IFAD Policy on Project Restructuring and the Proposal for Faster Implementation of Project Start-up Instruments, including the below:

- (i) IFAD Policy on Project Restructuring: (a) reallocation of amounts from cancellations beyond the 12-month rolling basis from the date of cancellation and recommitments of amounts from projects that have less than one year until completion; and (b) mandatory cancellation of a project's allocation if financing agreement has not entered into force within 18 months of the Board's approval or has not started disbursing within 18 months of the date of entry into force.
- (ii) Proposal for Faster Implementation of Project Start-up Instruments: waiver of the provision that requires approval of the faster implementation start-up facility to be provided at least six months prior to the approval of the project by the Executive Board.

The remaining provisions as contained in documents EB 2018/125/R.37/Rev.1 and EB 2018/125/R.38 remain unchanged.

These above delegations of authority will be in place until the 131st session of the Executive Board (December 2020), and subject to renewal at the Executive Board's discretion.



Investing in rural people
Investir dans les populations rurales
Invertir en la población rural
الاستثمار في السكان الريفيين

20 April 2020

Approval through vote by correspondence of the proposal to accept supplementary funds from the Adaptation Fund

Distinguished Executive Board Representatives,

On 10 October 2019, the Adaptation Fund (AF) Board approved the financing of US\$6,008,095 to cover the adaptation component of the Talent Retention for Rural Transformation (TRTP-Adapt) in the Republic of Moldova. Authority lies with the Executive Board to approve acceptance and use of supplementary funds in amounts exceeding US\$5 million to be administered by IFAD from public organizations such as the Adaptation Fund, for the purpose of financing activities related to IFAD's mandate.

In order to finalize and sign the financing agreement between the AF and IFAD, which was received on 4 March, and with a view to ensuring that future approvals may be acted upon expeditiously, the Executive Board is invited to consider the proposals contained in the attached document and approve, through a vote by correspondence, in accordance with rule 23 of the [Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board](#), the following recommendations:

- The acceptance of supplementary funds from the Adaptation Fund to finance the Talent Retention for Rural Transformation-Adapt in the Republic of Moldova (TRTP-Adapt), and to authorize the President or his delegate to countersign the agreement with the Adaptation Fund; and
- To authorize the President to accept supplementary funds from the Adaptation Fund with no limitation on the amount, negotiate and conclude any project-specific agreements to finance in-pipeline or ongoing IFAD projects with grant-based Adaptation Fund resources.

Executive Board Representatives of the
International Fund for Agricultural
Development and respective recipients
of copies for information

Executive Board representatives are invited to cast the votes of the members they represent in favour of, against, or to abstain with respect to each of these proposals. A written reply, specifying the vote cast ("yes", "no" or "abstain") should be submitted by midnight (Rome time), on Monday, 4 May 2020.

In accordance with rule 23 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, representatives are kindly reminded that:

- (a) Members and alternate members may cast a "yes", "no" or "abstain" vote by submitting a written reply by fax (+39 06 5459 3212) and/or e-mail (gb@ifad.org);
- (b) The absence of a written reply by the stipulated deadline will not indicate abstention but rather the absence of a member in the voting procedure; and
- (c) In the event of no reply from a member, the vote of the alternate member shall prevail.

The Executive Board will be informed of the result of this vote by correspondence in a timely manner.

Accept, Distinguished Executive Board Representatives, the assurance of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Luis Jiménez-McInnis', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Luis Jiménez-McInnis
Secretary of IFAD



Investing in rural people
Investir dans les populations rurales
Invertir en la población rural
الاستثمار في السكان الريفيين

23 April 2020

Approval through vote by correspondence of items originally scheduled for consideration at the 129th session of the Executive Board

Distinguished Executive Board Representatives,

In response to the evolving situation relative to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Executive Board approved, through a vote by correspondence, that its 129th session would be held virtually. It was further agreed that subsequent to such approval, the Secretariat, in consultation with List Convenors, would issue a revised agenda for the session. A number of agenda items originally scheduled for consideration at the 129th session of the Board were removed from the formal agenda and are herewith submitted to your attention for approval through a vote by correspondence.

To ensure business continuity, the Executive Board is invited to consider the items set forth in the attachment and approve the related recommendations through a vote by correspondence, in accordance with rule 23 of the [Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board](#).

Executive Board representatives are invited to cast the votes of the members they represent in favour of, against, or to abstain with respect to each of these proposals. A written reply, specifying the vote cast ("yes", "no" or "abstain") should be submitted by midnight (Rome time), Friday, 8 May 2020.

In accordance with rule 23 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, representatives are kindly reminded that:

- (a) Members and alternate members may cast a "yes", "no" or "abstain" vote by submitting a written reply by fax (+39 06 5459 3212) and/or e-mail (gb@ifad.org);
- (b) The absence of a written reply by the stipulated deadline will not indicate abstention but rather the absence of a member in the voting procedure; and
- (c) In the event of no reply from a member, the vote of the alternate member shall prevail.

Executive Board Representatives of the
International Fund for Agricultural
Development and respective recipients
of copies for information

The Executive Board will be informed of the results of these votes by correspondence in a timely manner.

Accept, Distinguished Executive Board Representatives, the assurance of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Luis Jiménez-McInnis'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent vertical stroke in the middle.

Luis Jiménez-McInnis
Secretary of IFAD

**ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD
THROUGH VOTE BY CORRESPONDENCE**

Operational matters

Project/programme and grant proposals for consideration by the Executive Board **[A]**

(a) **China – Yunnan Rural Revitalization Demonstration Project**

The Executive Board is invited to consider document [EB 2020/129/R.16/Rev.1](#) and approve the proposed financing in terms of the following resolution:

“RESOLVED: that the Fund shall provide a loan on ordinary terms to the People’s Republic of China in an amount of seventy-four million eight hundred thousand United States dollars (US\$74,800,000) and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.”

(c) **Pakistan – Gwadar-Lasbela Livelihoods Support Project II**

The Executive Board is invited to consider document [EB 2020/129/R.18](#) and approve the proposed financing in terms of the following resolutions:

“RESOLVED: that the Fund shall provide a loan on blend terms to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in an amount of sixty million one hundred and fifty-five thousand United States dollars (US\$60,155,000) 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 Islamic Republic of Pakistan in an amount of three million United States dollars (US\$3,000,000) and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.”

Financial matters

(b) **Consolidated Financial Statements of IFAD as at 31 December 2019 [A]**

The Executive Board, having considered document [EB 2020/129/R.22](#) and its addenda, is invited to approve 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 2019 and the report of the external auditor thereon, including the independent external attestation on the effectiveness of internal controls over financial reporting, and agreed to submit them to the Governing Council at its forty-fourth session in February 2021 for approval.

In accordance with Financial Regulation XIII and considering the financial position and results at the end of 2019, it would not be recommended that any transfer to the General Reserve be made.”

(f) **Requirements for the forty-first drawdown of Member States’ contributions in 2020 [A]**

The Executive Board is invited to consider document [EB 2020/129/R.25](#) and the requirements for the forty-first drawdown of Member States’ contributions to take place in 2020 and adopt 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 second drawdown of IFAD11 contributions in April 2020, or as may be stipulated in instruments of contributions with individual Member

States, to meet loan and grant disbursements for 2020. Any further funds required for disbursement needs in 2020 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.”

Governance [A]

(a) **Attendance of Observers at Executive Board sessions during consideration of project, programme and grant proposals**

The Executive Board is invited to consider document [EB 2020/129/R.27](#) and approve that when a project, programme or grant proposal for a Member State not represented on the Executive Board is under consideration, a single representative for such Member State be invited to follow the proceedings for that item as a silent observer in the Board room in accordance with the recommendation contained in paragraphs 9 to 11 of document R.27.

(b) **Dates for the 2021 country visit of the IFAD Executive Board**

The Executive Board is invited to consider document [EB 2020/129/R.28](#) and approve the draft rolling plan for the next three years as well as one of the following three proposed dates for the 2021 Executive Board country visit:

- (i) 17-21 May 2021
- (ii) 25-29 October 2021
- (iii) 1-5 November 2021

For this item, representatives are invited to cast their votes in favour of one of the three options specified above.

Other business

(c) **Memorandum of understanding with the World Food Law Institute (WFLI) [A]**

The Executive Board is invited to consider document [EB 2020/129/R.33](#) and in accordance with article 8, section 2 of the Agreement Establishing IFAD, authorizes the President to negotiate and finalize a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between WFLI and IFAD to establish a cooperation framework, substantially in accordance with the provisions presented in the annex to document EB 2020/129/R.33. The signed MoU will be submitted to the Board for information at a subsequent session.



Investing in rural people
Investir dans les populations rurales
Invertir en la población rural
الاستثمار في السكان الريفيين

29 April 2020

Approval through vote by correspondence of the proposal for timebound delegation of authority to the President of IFAD for the approval of deviations from the Policy on Project Restructuring and the Proposal for Faster Implementation of Project Start-up Instruments

Distinguished Executive Board Representatives,

IFAD is making every effort to be responsive to the challenges posed by COVID-19 and to adapt its operations accordingly. In this regard, and to mitigate the risk of non-compliance with the timelines prescribed in IFAD's Policy on Project Restructuring (EB 2018/125/R.37/Rev.1) and the Proposal for Faster Implementation of Project Start-up Instruments (EB 2018/125/R.38), approved by the Executive Board in December 2018, it is proposed that authority be delegated to the President to approve certain deviations from the aforementioned policies. In order to take rapid action to mitigate the impact of the crisis on rural farmers and rural communities in the countries where IFAD works, this proposal is submitted to the Board for approval through a vote by correspondence.

The Executive Board is invited to consider document EB 2020/129/V.B.C.2 and approve, through a vote by correspondence, in accordance with rule 23 of the [Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board](#), that authority be delegated to the President of IFAD to approve deviations from the IFAD Policy on Project Restructuring and the Proposal for Faster Implementation of Project Start-up Instruments. Such delegation would take immediate effect upon Board approval, and would remain in force until the 134th session of the Executive Board in December 2021, at which time, the Executive Board may choose to grant an additional extension to the delegation of authority. A report on the usage of the delegation of authority would be submitted at the 132nd session and would also be included in the regular reporting to the Executive Board on the COVID-19 response measures.

Executive Board representatives are invited to cast the votes of the members they represent in favour of, against, or to abstain with respect to this proposal. A written reply, specifying the vote cast ("yes", "no" or "abstain") should be submitted by midnight (Rome time), on Wednesday, 13 May 2020.

Executive Board Representatives of the
International Fund for Agricultural
Development and respective recipients
of copies for information

In accordance with rule 23 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, representatives are kindly reminded that:

- (a) Members and alternate members may cast a "yes", "no" or "abstain" vote by submitting a written reply by fax (+39 06 5459 3212) and/or e-mail (gb@ifad.org);
- (b) The absence of a written reply by the stipulated deadline will not indicate abstention but rather the absence of a member in the voting procedure; and
- (c) In the event of no reply from a member, the vote of the alternate member shall prevail.

The Executive Board will be informed of the result of this vote by correspondence in a timely manner.

Accept, Distinguished Executive Board Representatives, the assurance of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Luis Jiménez-McInnis', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Luis Jiménez-McInnis
Secretary of IFAD



Investing in rural people

11 May 2020

Call for a vote by correspondence

Distinguished Executive Board Representatives,

Further to our communication dated 29 April 2020, please note that **document EB 2020/129/V.B.C.2 has been amended** by Management and changes are shown in track changes mode. The changes refer to the proposed period of delegation of authority which would be reduced by one year, to close at the end of 2020, thus no longer at the end of 2021. This would allow the Executive Board to review the results of the Timebound delegation of authority for the approval of deviations from the Policy on Project Restructuring and the Proposal for Faster Implementation of Project Start-up Instruments in December 2020 and evaluate the merits of extending the period of delegation further.

In light of the above-mentioned amendment, the deadline for submission of votes by correspondence on the document (now revised as EB 2020/129/V.B.C.2/Rev.1) has been extended to **Monday, 18 May 2020** (midnight, Rome time). A written reply, specifying the vote cast ("yes", "no" or "abstain") should be submitted by fax (+39 06 5459 3212) and/or e-mail (gb@ifad.org).

Board members who have already cast their votes on the original proposal are also kindly invited to cast their votes on the revised document.

Highest regards,

Office of the Secretary