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## **Agenda – Virtual Session**

### **Note to Executive Board representatives**

Focal point for technical questions and dispatch of documentation:

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Executive Board — 132<sup>nd</sup> Session  
Rome, 19-21 April 2021

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## Provisional agenda for the 132<sup>nd</sup> session of the Executive Board – Virtual session

### Information for Executive Board representatives

1. In line with the precautionary measures being taken in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 132<sup>nd</sup> session of the Executive Board will be convened virtually. It will take place from Monday, 19 to Wednesday, 21 April 2021 from 12.30 to 5.30 p.m. each day.
2. In order to streamline the meeting, the agenda items have been colour coded and organized into the following groups:
  - I. items for consideration at the session;
  - II. items for comments online;
  - III. items for approval through vote by correspondence; and
  - IV. items posted online for information.
3. For ease of reference, each agenda item is assigned a letter to indicate the action required of the Board, as follows:

**[A]** = For approval; **[R]** = For review; **[I]** = For information; **[C]** = For confirmation

#### **Items for information in section IV**

4. Documents for information, which may be viewed at the following [link](#), will be discussed during the session only if deemed necessary by Management or at the request of Executive Board representatives. Such requests should be submitted in writing to the Secretary of IFAD not later than one week before the session.

#### **Schedule for the session**

5. The agenda item numbers do not necessarily reflect the order in which documents will be discussed. A schedule of work will be posted on the IFAD website and Member States Interactive Platform before the session, showing the timing and order of discussion.
6. The schedule of work will include only items to be discussed during the Board session.

## Provisional agenda

### I. Items for consideration in session

1. **Opening of the session**
2. **Adoption of the agenda** (EB 2021/132/R.1/Rev.1) **[A]**
3. **Strategic discussion with the President of IFAD** (EB 2021/132/R.2) **[R]**
4. **Corporate**
  - (a) Policies and strategies
    - i. IFAD Regular Grants Policy (EB 2021/132/R.3) **[A]**
  - (b) Report on Diversity at IFAD (EB 2021/132/R.4) **[R]**
5. **Evaluation**
  - (a) IFAD Evaluation Policy (EB 2021/132/R.5) **[A]**
  - (b) Revised Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedures of the Evaluation Committee (EB 2021/132/R.6) **[A]**
6. **Operational matters**
  - (a) Summary of project and programme proposals discussed at the Executive Board Consultation held on 14 April 2021 (EB 2021/132/R.7) **[I]**
  - (b) Update on the Rural Livelihoods Development Project in Yemen (EB 2021/132/R.8) **[R]**
7. **Financial matters**
  - (a) Topics from the IFAD12 Business Model and Financial Framework (2022-2024) **[A]**
    - i. Borrowed Resource Access Mechanism (EB 2021/132/R.9)
    - ii. Update to IFAD's Financing Conditions (EB 2021/132/R.10)
8. **Governance**
  - (a) Appointment of members to the subsidiary bodies of the Executive Board (EB 2021/132/R.11) **[A]**
9. **Other business**
  - (a) Oral update on IFAD's Engagement in the Reform of the United Nations Development System **[I]**
  - (b) Oral update on the preparatory activities for the Sixth Executive Board Retreat **[I]**

## II. Items for review online

Executive Board representatives are invited to submit any comments they may have on the following documents through the e-board on the Member States Interactive Platform, which will be open until 7 April 2021. Management will endeavour to provide timely responses to comments received online and a document including all comments and responses will be posted on the platform in the four official languages of the Fund as soon as possible.

### 10. Corporate

- (a) Update on IFAD's Approach to Address the United Nations Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Sexual Harassment, and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (EB 2021/132/R.12) **[R]**
- (b) Update on IFAD's efforts against hate speech, racism and other forms of discrimination (EB 2021/132/R.13) **[R]**
- (c) Update on the usage of carry-forward funds (EB 2021/132/R.14) **[R]**

### 11. Evaluation

- (a) Country strategy and programme evaluations **[R]**
  - (i) Nepal (EB 2021/132/R.15)
  - (ii) Uganda (EB 2021/132/R.16)
  - (iii) Sudan (EB 2021/132/R.17)

### 12. Operational matters

- (a) Progress report on the status of implementation of the Rural Poor Stimulus Facility and IFAD's wider operational response to COVID-19 (EB 2021/132/R.18) **[R]**
- (b) Country strategic opportunities programmes (COSOPs) and notes by the Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD **[R]**
  - (i) Asia and the Pacific
    - a. Nepal (EB 2021/132/R.19)
  - (ii) East and Southern Africa
    - a. Uganda (EB 2021/132/R.20)
  - (iii) Near East, North Africa and Europe
    - a. Sudan (EB 2021/132/R.21)

### 13. Financial matters

- (a) Update on Asset and Liability Management (EB 2021/132/R.22) **[R]**

### 14. Progress Reports

- (a) IFAD's Contribution to the Food Systems Summit (2021) (EB 2021/132/R.23) **[R]**

### III. Items for action through vote by correspondence

Once the provisional agenda for the 132<sup>nd</sup> session of the Executive Board has been adopted, representatives will be invited to take action on the following items through a vote by correspondence. A written reply, specifying the vote cast ("yes", "no" or "abstain") should be submitted by midnight (Rome time), 7 May 2021. The Executive Board will be advised of the results of the vote by correspondence in a timely manner.

#### 15. Operational matters

- (a) Project/programme and grant proposals for consideration by the Executive Board **[A]**
  - (i) Asia and the Pacific
    - a. India: Chhattisgarh Inclusive Rural and Accelerated Agriculture Growth Project (EB 2021/132/R.24)
  - (ii) East and Southern Africa
    - a. South Sudan: Livelihoods Resilience Programme (EB 2021/132/R.25)
  - (iii) Latin America and the Caribbean
    - a. Brazil: Extension of the time limit to conclude the loan negotiations for the Planting Climate Resilience in Rural Communities of the North-east Project (EB 2021/132/R.41)

#### 16. Financial matters

- (a) Consolidated Financial Statements of IFAD as at 31 December 2020 (EB 2021/132/R.26) **[A]**
- (b) Requirements for the forty-second drawdown of Member States' contributions in 2021 (EB 2021/132/R.27) **[A]**

#### 17. Other business

- (a) Memorandum of Understanding between the King Salman Centre and IFAD (EB 2021/132/R.28) **[A]**
- (b) Memorandum of Understanding between HELP Logistics and IFAD (EB 2021/132/R.29) **[A]**

## **IV. Items for information**

### **18. Reports of subsidiary bodies<sup>1</sup> [I]**

- (a) Minutes of the seventh special session of the Evaluation Committee (EB 2021/132/R.30)
- (b) Minutes of the 112<sup>th</sup> session of the Evaluation Committee (EB 2021/132/R.31)
- (c) Minutes of the fourteenth and fifteenth meetings of the Working Group on the Performance-Based Allocation System (EB 2021/132/R.32)
- (d) Report of the Chairperson on the 160<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Audit Committee (EB 2021/132/R.33)

### **19. Progress Report [I]**

- (a) People, Processes and Technology Plan: Implementation of a Targeted Investment in IFAD's Capacity (TCI) (EB 2021/132/R.34)

## **V. For information [I]/Fit-for-purpose**

Additional information documents, including information provided under the fit-for-purpose approach, will be posted on the Member States Interactive Platform at the following [link](#)

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<sup>1</sup> The Chairs of the subsidiary bodies will be given the floor to share a summary of the discussions related to items scheduled for in session discussion, as appropriate.

## Provisional agenda

### Annotations

#### I. Items for consideration in session

##### 1. Opening of the session

##### 2. Adoption of the agenda [A]

The provisional agenda is contained in the present document.

##### 3. Strategic discussion with the President of IFAD [R]

The Consultation on the Twelfth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources (IFAD12) concluded that several Member States appreciate the importance of continuing the conversation regarding market borrowing and agreed that the matter be discussed by the Executive Board. This note serves as a background paper for a strategic discussion about the appropriateness of and readiness for market borrowing by IFAD.

##### 4. Corporate

###### (a) Policies and strategies

###### i. IFAD Regular Grants Policy [A]

The revised IFAD Regular Grants Policy is submitted for approval by the Executive Board. The revised policy sets new objectives and pathways for regular grant funding with a focus on grants' catalytic role in enhancing the delivery of IFAD operations and contributing to the Fund's commitment to doubling its impact as part of the 2030 Agenda. The policy includes key principles that will guide the use of regular grants, including sustainable resource allocations, principles for prioritizing the funding of proposals, and mechanisms for oversight of the programme and reporting on the policy itself.

###### (b) Report on Diversity at IFAD [R]

Further to discussions at the 131<sup>st</sup> session of the Executive Board in November and in line with IFAD's commitment to promote diversity and inclusivity, Management will present an analysis of the diversity dimension of IFAD's workforce composition, its evolution over the past four years and a plan of action to address current and future challenges.

##### 5. Evaluation

###### (a) IFAD Evaluation Policy [A]

The document presents the draft revised IFAD Evaluation Policy for consideration by the Executive Board. Originally approved in 2003, the Evaluation Policy was revised in 2011 and amended in 2015. The 2019 external peer review of the IFAD evaluation function recommended a further revision of the policy. The document has been prepared jointly by the Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD (IOE) and Management. It was reviewed by the Evaluation Committee over the course of 2020 and at its 112<sup>th</sup> session in March 2021.

###### (b) Revised Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedures of the Evaluation Committee [A]

The Executive Board is invited to approve the revised Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedures of the Evaluation Committee. This item was discussed at

the Evaluation Committee at its sessions in 2020 and will be subject to a final review at the Committee's 112<sup>th</sup> session in March 2021.

## 6. Operational matters

### (a) Summary of project and programme proposals discussed at the Executive Board Consultation held on 14 April 2021 [I]

This report presents a summary of the Board's discussions at the consultation on project and programme proposals scheduled for submission to its 132<sup>nd</sup> session.

### (b) Update on the Rural Livelihoods Development Project in Yemen [R]

Further to discussions at the 131<sup>st</sup> reconvened session of the Executive Board in December, Management will present an update on the status of implementation of the Rural Livelihoods Development Project in Yemen.

## 7. Financial matters

### (a) Topics from the IFAD12 Business Model and Financial Framework (2022-2024) [A]

IFAD is seeking to expand its impact to meet the growing challenges of food insecurity, climate change and fragility. As noted in the IFAD12 Business model and Financial Framework 2022-2024, IFAD is implementing a series of activities under a transformational financial framework reform that will allow it to increase its programme of work, while ensuring financial sustainability and enhanced risk management. The papers being presented elaborate on the rationale for development of the Borrowed Resource Access Mechanism (BRAM) and its potential synergies with the PBAS mechanism, and on the elements of differentiation in financing conditions. The documents, which will be reviewed by the Audit Committee at its 160<sup>th</sup> meeting, are submitted for approval by the Executive Board.

- i. Borrowed Resource Access Mechanism
- ii. Update to IFAD's Financing Conditions

## 8. Governance

### (a) Appointment of members to the subsidiary bodies of the Executive Board [A]

The Executive Board is invited to approve the appointment of members of the subsidiary bodies of the Executive Board for the three-year period ending in April 2024.

## 9. Other business

### (a) Oral update on IFAD's Engagement in the Reform of the United Nations Development System [I]

Management will provide an oral update on IFAD's engagement in the implementation of the United Nations Reforms and IFAD's response to the United Nations General Assembly's adoption of the Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review (QCPR) resolution in December 2020.

### (b) Oral update on the preparatory activities for the Sixth Executive Board Retreat [I]

Management will provide an oral update on preparatory activities being undertaken in view of the sixth Executive Board retreat, scheduled to take place on 18 and 19 May.



## II. Items for review online

Executive Board representatives are invited to submit any comments they may have on the following documents through the e-board on the Member States Interactive Platform, which will be open until 7 April 2021. Management will endeavour to provide timely responses to comments received online and a document including all comments and responses will be posted on the platform in the four official languages of the Fund as soon as possible.

### 10. Corporate

- (a) [Update on IFAD's Approach to Address the United Nations Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Sexual Harassment, and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse \[R\]](#)

The Executive Board will be provided with an update on IFAD's approach to addressing the United Nations Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Sexual Harassment, and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse.

- (b) [Update on IFAD's efforts against hate speech, racism and other forms of discrimination \[R\]](#)

Further to the oral update provided at the 131<sup>st</sup> session of the Executive Board in November 2020, Management will present a status update on IFAD's efforts against hate speech, racism and other forms of discrimination.

- (c) [Update on the usage of carry forward funds \[R\]](#)

The document will contain a status update and other information on budget utilization of the estimated 10 per cent budget envelope carried forward from 2020.

### 11. Evaluation

- (a) [Country strategy and programme evaluations \[R\]](#)

- (i) Nepal
- (ii) Uganda
- (iii) Sudan

### 12. Operational matters

- (a) [Progress report on the status of implementation of the Rural Poor Stimulus Facility and IFAD's wider operational response to COVID-19 \[R\]](#)

The report provides information on progress regarding the implementation of the Rural Poor Stimulus Facility, including approved and planned financing, and an update on other areas of IFAD's response to COVID-19.

- (b) [Country strategic opportunities programmes \(COSOPs\) and IOE notes \[R\]](#)

- (i) Asia and the Pacific
  - a. Nepal
- (ii) East and Southern Africa
  - a. Uganda
- (iii) Near East, North Africa and Europe
  - a. Sudan

### 13. Financial matters

- (a) [Update on Asset and Liability Management \[R\]](#)

Management will present an update outlining the ongoing enhancement of the ALM function, methodology and systems.

## **14. Progress Reports**

### **(a) IFAD's Contribution to the Food Systems Summit (2021) [R]**

The report provides information on progress regarding IFAD's contribution towards the organization and content of the Food Systems Summit.

### III. Items for action through vote by correspondence

Once the provisional agenda for the 132<sup>nd</sup> session of the Executive Board has been adopted, representatives will be invited to take action on the following items through a vote by correspondence. A written reply, specifying the vote cast (“yes”, “no” or “abstain”) should be submitted by midnight (Rome time), 7 May 2021. The Executive Board will be advised of the results of the vote by correspondence in a timely manner.

#### 15. Operational matters

##### (a) Project/programme and grant proposals for consideration by the Executive Board [A]

###### (i) Asia and the Pacific

###### a. India: Chhattisgarh Inclusive Rural & Accelerated Agriculture Growth Project

Initiating institution: World Bank  
 Duration of project: 6 years  
 Total project cost: US\$238.0 million  
 Amount of IFAD loan: US\$67.0 million  
 Cofinanciers:  
     World Bank: US\$100.0 million  
     Government: US\$71.0 million  
 Ordinary terms are recommended.

###### (ii) East and Southern Africa

###### a. South Sudan: Livelihoods Resilience Programme

Initiating institution: IFAD  
 Duration of programme: 6 years  
 Total programme cost: US\$17.77 million  
 Amount of IFAD loan: US\$1.98 million  
 Amount of IFAD grant: US\$7.67 million  
 Cofinanciers:  
     African Development Bank (AfDB): US\$5.67 million  
     Government: US\$1.60 million  
     Beneficiaries: US\$0.86 million  
 Eligible for highly concessional assistance and classified as having high debt vulnerability.

###### (iii) Latin America and the Caribbean

###### a. Brazil: Extension of the time limit to conclude the loan negotiations for the Planting Climate Resilience in Rural Communities of the North-east Project

This document will contain a request to the Executive Board to approve an extension of three months of the deadline for negotiating the financing agreement and the guarantee agreement for the Planting Climate Resilience in Rural Communities of the North-east Project.

#### 16. Financial matters

##### (a) Consolidated Financial Statements of IFAD as at 31 December 2020 [A]

Regulation XII of the Financial Regulations of IFAD states that the Fund’s audited financial statements are to be submitted by the Executive Board to the annual session of the Governing Council for approval. Accordingly, the financial statements of IFAD for 2020, the report of the external auditor and

the external auditor's independent attestation on internal controls over financial reporting, in addition to Management's assertion report, will be presented for consideration by the Executive Board and for submission to the next session of the Governing Council. In accordance with article 6, section 11 of the Agreement Establishing IFAD, the statements will be included in IFAD's Annual Report for 2020. Furthermore, an information note will present a high-level review of IFAD's financial statements for 2020 and include selected highlights prepared by IFAD Management.

(b) **Requirements for the forty-second drawdown of Member States' contributions in 2021 [A]**

The document will set out a proposed level of drawdown of Member States' contributions in 2021.

**17. Other business**

(a) **Memorandum of Understanding between the King Salman Centre and IFAD [A]**

This document will contain a request to authorize the President to negotiate and finalize a memorandum of understanding between IFAD and the King Salman Centre.

(b) **Memorandum of Understanding between HELP Logistics and IFAD [A]**

This document will contain a request to authorize the President to negotiate and finalize a memorandum of understanding between IFAD and HELP Logistics.

## **IV. Items for information**

### **18. Reports of subsidiary bodies<sup>2</sup> [I]**

- (a) Minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> special session of the Evaluation Committee
- (b) Minutes of the 112<sup>th</sup> session of the Evaluation Committee
- (c) Minutes of the fourteenth and fifteenth meetings of the Working Group on the Performance-Based Allocation System
- (d) Report of the Chairperson on the 160<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Audit Committee

### **19. Progress Report [I]**

- (a) People, Processes and Technology Plan: Implementation of a Targeted Investment in IFAD's Capacity (TCI)

## **V. For information [I]/Fit-for-purpose**

Additional information documents, including information provided under the fit-for-purpose approach, will be posted on the Member States Interactive Platform at the following [link](#)

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<sup>2</sup> The Chairs of the subsidiary bodies will be given the floor to share a summary of the discussions related to items scheduled for in session discussion, as appropriate.