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Draft Programme of the Forty-fifth Session of the Governing Council

Note to Executive Board representatives

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Executive Board — 134th Session
Rome, 13-16 December 2021

For: Information

Draft Programme of the Forty-fifth Session of the Governing Council

The Executive Board is invited to take note of the draft programme of the forty-fifth session of the Governing Council contained in this document.

1. The forty-fifth session of the Governing Council will be held on Wednesday, 16 February 2022. Bearing in mind restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic and its recent evolution, and in line with the revised Rules of Procedure of the Governing Council, the session will be held virtually.¹ In addition, a number of informal events linked to the main theme of the session will be organized on Tuesday, 15 February. Further updates will be provided in due course.
2. The virtual forty-fifth session takes place at a very particular time. The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and a looming economic and food crisis threaten the world's poorest and most vulnerable people, reversing decades of development progress and endangering the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. Estimates from the 2021 State of Food and Nutrition Security in the World (SOFI) Report indicate that world hunger increased in 2020 under the shadow of the pandemic, with the prevalence of undernourishment increasing by 1.5 percentage points in just one year, and as many as 161 million more people facing hunger.
3. This Governing Council session comes after two recent events of global significance: the Food Systems Summit and the Twenty-Sixth Session of the Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP26). These events have given rise to international calls for urgent action that will build momentum towards addressing climate change and transforming food systems and livelihoods to provide food and nutrition security, and achieve environmentally sustainable outcomes.
4. The overarching theme of the session will therefore be "**Leveraging innovations and finance for climate-resilient and inclusive recovery**". Discussions under this theme will explore a number of interlinked areas, such as fostering green, low-carbon agriculture, building safe and healthy food systems, creating more inclusive value chains, shaping a digital rural world through innovation and technology, ensuring productive social protection measures and leveraging private sector partnerships to maximize impact.
5. The attached draft programme reflects the feedback received from the Governing Council Bureau and provides a preliminary overview of the Governing Council session. The session will not exceed four hours on the scheduled day, and will be organized so as to facilitate the participation of Governors from all time zones. Among the business items scheduled for consideration are the Election of the Bureau of the Governing Council, Amendments to IFAD's basic legal texts and the Report and recommendations in relation to a special session of the Governing Council.
6. A timetable will be issued in due course taking into account the final format of the session, once the various sections have been finalized and confirmation of attendance from invitees has been received.
7. Following the positive experience of recent years, Member States will once again be invited to provide their statements – preferably relating to the overarching theme – before the session in either written or audiovisual form. The statements will be made available on the IFAD website both in video and in text format.

¹ Rule 4 Place of Sessions – "[...] Governing Council sessions may be held by virtual means when the Chairperson, after consultation with the other members of the Bureau and the President, determines that holding a physical, in-presence session is not feasible or appropriate for all representatives. In such instances, Members, cooperating international organizations and institutions, and representatives of other entities as defined in Rule 43, may participate in the session by means of teleconference, videoconferencing or other electronic means. [...]"

Leveraging innovations and finance for climate-resilient and inclusive recovery

***Forty-fifth session of the Governing Council,
16 February 2022 (virtual session)***

Draft programme

Wednesday, 16 February 2022

Opening and inaugural session

Welcoming statement by the outgoing Chairperson of the Governing Council

Business items for approval

Adoption of the agenda

Election of the Bureau of the Governing Council

Adoption of the agenda

Inaugural ceremony

Welcoming statement by the Chairperson of the Governing Council

Welcoming statement by Mr Gilbert F. Hounou, President of IFAD

Keynote speakers from Lists A, B and C

Statement by Mr Gilbert F. Hounou, President of IFAD

Business items for consideration:

- Consolidated financial statements of IFAD for 2020
- IFAD's 2022 results-based programme of work and regular and capital budgets, the IOE results-based work programme and budget for 2022 and indicative plan for 2023-2024, and the HIPC and PBAS progress reports
- Amendments to IFAD's basic legal texts
- Report on the Twelfth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources
- Report and recommendations in relation to a special session of the Governing Council
- Other business

Break

IFAD Talk [TBC]