
Agenda

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Deirdre Mc Grenra

Secretary of IFAD, a.i.

Office of the Secretary

e-mail: d.mcgrenra@ifad.org

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Agenda for the 138th session of the Executive Board - Hybrid session

Information for Executive Board representatives

1. The 138th session of the Executive Board will be held in the Italian Conference room at IFAD headquarters in Via Paolo di Dono, 44, Rome on Wednesday, 10 and Thursday, 11 May. The meetings will take place from 9.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. each day, with a break for lunch from 1 to 2.30 p.m. One seat at the conference table and one seat behind it are provided for each delegation to accommodate the Board representative and their adviser. Additional delegates, not in plenary, will be able to follow proceedings from the Oval room. Delegates may also follow the proceedings virtually through the Zoom videoconferencing tool.

2. In order to streamline the meeting, the agenda items are organized into the following groups:

- I. items for consideration at the session;
- II. items for comments online;
- III. items for action 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 action through vote by correspondence in section III

4. Once the provisional agenda for the 138th session of the Executive Board has been adopted, representatives will be invited to take action on the items listed in section III through a vote by correspondence. Any of these items may be discussed during the session at the request of Executive Board representatives. Such requests should be submitted in writing to the Secretary of IFAD no later than one week before the session.

Items for information in section IV

5. Documents for information may 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 no later than one week before the session.

Schedule for the session

6. The agenda item numbers do not necessarily reflect the order in which items 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.

7. The schedule of work will include only items to be discussed during the Board session.

Agenda

I. Items for consideration in session

1. Opening of the session

2. Adoption of the agenda (EB 2023/138/R.1/Rev.1) [A]

3. Strategic discussion with the President of IFAD - Addressing fragility through a focus on rural livelihoods: a reflection on IFAD's present and future role (EB 2023/138/R.2) [R]

4. Corporate

(a) Policies and strategies

(i) Revised IFAD targeting policy (EB 2023/138/R.3) [A]

(b) Update from the Ethics Office and the Investigation Section of the Office of Audit and Oversight [R]

(c) Statement by the IFAD Staff Association (EB 2023/138/R.4) [I]

5. Evaluation [R]

(a) Corporate-level evaluation of IFAD's decentralization experience (EB 2023/138/R.5 + Add.1)

12. Operational matters [A]

(a) Project and programme proposals for consideration by the Executive Board

(i) Asia and the Pacific

a. Bangladesh – Programme on Agricultural and Rural Transformation for Nutrition, Entrepreneurship and Resilience (EB 2023/138/R.14 + Sup.1)

7. Financial matters [A]

(a) Update to IFAD's ordinary loans pricing (EB 2023/138/R.7)

(b) Update to the Integrated Borrowing Framework (EB 2023/138/R.8)

(c) Revised Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure of the Audit Committee (EB 2023/138/R.9)

8. Governance [A]

(a) Review of modalities of formal and informal sessions of the Executive Board and its subsidiary bodies (EB 2023/138/R.10)

9. Other business

(a) Proposed change of date of the September 2023 Executive Board session (EB 2023/138/R.23) [A]

(b) Update on the impact of the conflict in Sudan [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 5 May 2023. 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 after the Board session.

10. Corporate [R]

- (a) Update on IFAD's Approach to Address the United Nations Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Sexual Harassment, Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (EB 2023/138/R.11)

11. Progress reports [R]

- (a) Progress report on the IFAD Strategy on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (EB 2023/138/R.12 + Add.1)
- (b) Progress report on the implementation of the Regular Grants Policy (EB 2023/138/R.13)

III. Items for action through vote by correspondence

Upon request of an Executive Board representative, any of these items may be placed on the agenda for consideration in session. Requests for consideration in-session should be submitted to the Secretariat (igmr@ifad.org) at least one week prior to the commencement of the Board session. Once the provisional agenda for the 138th session of the Executive Board has been adopted, representatives will be invited to take action on the following items through a vote by correspondence. Executive Board representatives will be invited to cast the votes of the members they represent in favour of, against, or to abstain with respect to the recommendations contained in each of the proposals. A written reply, specifying the vote cast ("yes", "no" or "abstain") should be submitted by midnight (Rome time), 26 May 2023.

The Executive Board will be advised of the results of the vote by correspondence in a timely manner.

13. Financial matters [A]

- (a) Consolidated financial statements of IFAD as at 31 December 2022
(EB 2023/138/R.17)

IV. Items for information

14. Reports of subsidiary bodies

- (a) Minutes of the 120th session of the Evaluation Committee (EB 2023/138/R.18)
- (b) Minutes of the 168th meeting of the Audit Committee (EB 2023/138/R.19)
- (c) Report on the first session of the Consultation on the Thirteenth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources (EB 2023/138/R.20)

V. Documents for information only

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](#).

Agenda

Annotations

I. Items for consideration in session

1. Opening of the session

2. Adoption of the agenda [A]

The agenda is contained in the present document.

3. Strategic discussion with the President of IFAD - Addressing fragility through a focus on rural livelihoods: a reflection on IFAD's present and future role [R]

The paper aims to contribute to a discussion on IFAD's role in an environment where fragility appears increasingly complex and widespread. It will complement the updating of IFAD's approach to fragile situations currently under way and discussions at the June session of the Consultation on the Thirteenth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources (IFAD13). The paper provides an overview of IFAD's experience in fragile contexts and invites Member States to address some high-level questions about IFAD's role in this regard.

4. Corporate

(a) Policies and strategies

(i) Revised IFAD targeting policy [A]

This revision of the 2006 policy was presented at the 137th session of the Executive Board. Member States expressed the desire for further consultation on the revised policy. IFAD welcomed the opportunity and has received feedback from Board representatives through a series of bilateral and multilateral meetings and an informal seminar in March 2023. The document is presented for the Board's approval.

(b) Update from the Ethics Office and the Investigation Section of the Office of Audit and Oversight [R]

The Ethics Office and the Investigations Section of the Office of Audit and Oversight will brief the Executive Board on their respective corporate activities.

(c) Statement by the IFAD Staff Association [I]

As agreed at the 134th session of the Executive Board, the Executive Committee of the IFAD Staff Association will make a statement on staff-related issues to the Executive Board.

5. Evaluation [R]

(a) Corporate-level evaluation of IFAD's decentralization experience

This second corporate-level evaluation (CLE) of IFAD's decentralization experience will inform IFAD's ongoing decentralization efforts and the planning and decision-making process for IFAD13. The overarching objective of the evaluation was to assess the extent to which decentralization has contributed to the effective and efficient delivery of better development results. The evaluation also reviews IFAD's organizational readiness in this respect. The CLE of IFAD's decentralization experience and its addendum, which contains Management's response to the evaluation, are submitted to the Executive Board for review.

12. Operational matters [A]

(a) Project and programme proposals for consideration by the Executive Board

(i) Asia and the Pacific

- a. Bangladesh – Programme on Agricultural and Rural Transformation for Nutrition, Entrepreneurship and Resilience (PARTNER)

Initiating institution: World Bank

Duration of programme: 5 years

Total programme cost: US\$1,343.0 million

Amount of IFAD loan: US\$43.0 million

Cofinanciers:

World Bank: International Development Association:

US\$500.0 million

Government: US\$800.0 million

Blend terms are recommended.

7. Financial matters [A]

(a) Update to IFAD's ordinary loans pricing

Management will present a proposal for an update of IFAD's ordinary loans pricing in line with the current methodology with a view to aligning IFAD's practices with those of other international financial institutions and ensure optimal use of IFAD's resources. The proposal is submitted to the Executive Board for approval.

(b) Update to the Integrated Borrowing Framework

Management will present proposed updates to the Integrated Borrowing Framework (IBF) that are necessary to enhance IFAD's funding opportunities and reduce funding risk ahead of IFAD13. This proposal is presented to the Executive Board for approval.

(c) Revised Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure of the Audit Committee

To operationalize the enhanced complaints procedure for alleged non-compliance with IFAD's Social, Environmental and Climate Assessment Procedures (SECAP) approved by the Executive Board at its 136th session, a change in the Audit Committee's terms of reference is required to reflect the new responsibilities. Subject to the review by the Audit Committee, the document will be submitted to the Executive Board for approval.

8. Governance [A]

(a) Review of modalities of formal and informal sessions of the Executive Board and its subsidiary bodies

Management presented proposals for the review of modalities of formal and informal sessions of the Executive Board and its subsidiary bodies at its 137th session. Further to the Board's deliberations and subsequent consultations during the informal seminar in March 2023, Management will present revised proposals for the Board's approval.

9. Other business

(a) Proposed change of date of the September 2023 Executive Board session [A]

(b) Update on the impact of the conflict in Sudan [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 5 May 2023. 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 after the Board session.

10. Corporate [R]

(a) **Update on IFAD's Approach to Address the United Nations Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Sexual Harassment, Sexual Exploitation and Abuse**

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, Sexual Exploitation and Abuse.

11. Progress reports [R]

(a) **Progress report on the IFAD Strategy on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**

In compliance with section VII of the IFAD Strategy on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI), Management will present the annual progress report on the strategy's implementation.

(b) **Progress report on the implementation of the Regular Grants Policy**

The report offers an update on the development of new implementing procedures for the Regular Grants Policy approved by the Board in April 2021. It also provides information on how IFAD intends to address the five priority areas approved by the Board in December 2021 and how it will increase the focus on country-level support. A list of grants approved by the President under the global/regional and country-specific grant windows in 2022 is included in the report.

III. Items for action through vote by correspondence

Upon request of an Executive Board representative, any of these items may be placed on the agenda for consideration in session. Requests for consideration in-session should be submitted to the Secretariat (igmr@ifad.org) at least one week prior to the commencement of the Board session. Once the provisional agenda for the 138th session of the Executive Board has been adopted, representatives will be invited to take action on the following items through a vote by correspondence. Executive Board representatives will be invited to cast the votes of the members they represent in favour of, against, or to abstain with respect to the recommendations contained in each of the proposals. A written reply, specifying the vote cast ("yes", "no" or "abstain") should be submitted by midnight (Rome time), 26 May 2023.

The Executive Board will be advised of the results of the vote by correspondence in a timely manner.

13. Financial matters [A]

(a) Consolidated financial statements of IFAD as at 31 December 2022

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 2022, 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 2022. Furthermore, an information note will present a high-level review of IFAD's financial statements for 2022 and include selected highlights prepared by IFAD Management.