
Arrangements for the 148th session of the Executive Board

Information for Executive Board participants

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Action: The Executive Board is invited to take note of the information provided in this document regarding the arrangements for the session.

Technical questions:

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Arrangements for the 148th session of the Executive Board

Information for Executive Board participants

1. **Date:** Tuesday, 15 September 2026.
2. **Location:** Italian Conference Room (S-105), lower-ground floor, IFAD headquarters, Via Paolo di Dono 44, Rome.
3. **The session will be held in a hybrid format:** in presence and virtually using the Zoom web-based videoconferencing tool.
4. **Timing:** The meeting will take place from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., with a break for luncheon from 12.30 p.m. to 2 p.m.
5. **Reception:** A reception for delegates will be held at the close of business.

I. Registration

6. All members are kindly requested to confirm participation, whether in person at IFAD headquarters or by virtual means, by close of business on Friday, 4 September, by e-mail to gms@ifad.org.
7. Representatives wishing to attend the meeting virtually should register online following the instructions provided in the invitation letter. This will automatically serve as confirmation of attendance.
8. Accredited Executive Board representatives do not require credentials specific to the session if they hold an accreditation stating that they have been nominated to represent their Government at sessions until further notice.

II. Documents and interpretation

9. Documents will be posted in Arabic, English, French and Spanish, as applicable, on the Member States Interactive Platform at <https://webapps.ifad.org/members/eb/148>, and the IFAD website: www.ifad.org/web/guest/executive-board. Please check these sites regularly for new documentation.
10. **The schedule of work** will be made available approximately two weeks before the start of the session.
11. **Simultaneous interpretation** will be provided in Arabic, English, French and Spanish.
12. If you intend to deliver a statement, kindly provide an advance copy for interpretation purposes (e-mail: conferencestaff@ifad.org). Such statements may also be posted on the relevant Executive Board page of the Member States Interactive Platform at the request of representatives (e-mail: gms@ifad.org).
13. Participants connected virtually are responsible for the quality of their connection and are required to use a headset with a microphone. Interpretation will be suspended if the audio quality is inadequate.

III. Procedures for hybrid meetings

In-person participation

14. In the Italian Conference Room, where the session will be held, one seat at the conference table and one seat behind it are provided for each delegation to accommodate the Board representative and their advisor. Additional delegates may follow the proceedings from the *salle d'écoute* (Oval Room [S-120]).
15. Please note that health and safety measures, in line with Italian Government and IFAD guidelines, will be in place at the meeting venue.
16. In this regard, all delegates are to take note of the following requirement:
 - Do not attend the meeting in person if you are suffering from a fever and flu-like symptoms such as cough, runny nose or sore throat.

Virtual participation

17. Representatives, including additional members of delegations, may participate in the meeting by virtual means.
18. Participants **connected virtually** will be responsible for the quality of their connection. Should a participant lose connectivity during the meeting, deliberations will continue as long as a quorum remains. Should a quorum be lost, the meeting will be suspended until such time as a quorum is re-established.
19. In order to participate actively in the meeting, participants will need a computer with an Internet connection. Participants are kindly requested to install the Zoom application on their devices. Installation instructions and a quick guide on how to use Zoom are available on the [meetings and events](#) section of the Member States Interactive Platform.
20. Participants having already installed Zoom on their devices are kindly requested to update the client and mobile app to the latest available version. Please use the following [link](#) for instructions on how to install the updated Zoom version on your devices.
21. To facilitate seamless engagement and high-quality interpretation services, participants are kindly requested to:
 - Speak at a reasonable pace to facilitate interpretation.
 - Use a headset with a microphone to enhance audio quality.
 - Turn on the video when speaking.

These measures are **essential** to ensure quality interpretation services.

Interpretation services

22. To ensure the highest quality of interpretation, participants are required to adhere to the technical recommendations outlined above. The Office of the Secretary cannot guarantee interpretation accuracy if these requirements are not met. To support delegates in meeting these standards, the Office of the Secretary offers individual virtual training sessions on technical requirements and meeting procedures. Delegates may request a session by contacting gms@ifad.org.

IV. IFAD headquarters

Key rooms in IFAD headquarters for Executive Board sessions

<i>Location</i>	<i>Where</i>	<i>Information</i>
Main entrance		
Security guardhouse	Via Paolo di Dono 44	Obtain temporary building entry pass here.
Ground floor		
Foyer	Inside main entrance to building	Lifts and stairs to conference area here.
Cafeteria	Entrance on right side of main foyer	Opening hours: 8.00–17.00.
Bank	End of foyer, on the left	BPER Banca, opening hours: Monday-Thursday: 8.30–13.30 and 14.35–16.40 Friday: 8.30–13.30 and 14.35–16.10
-1 floor/conference area (lower ground floor)		
Italian Conference Room	S-105	Session discussions held here. Meeting badges <u>must</u> be worn to gain access.
Oval room	S-120	<i>Salle d'écoute</i>
Governance/Registration desk	-	Participants may register and pick up their badges at this desk.

Arriving at IFAD headquarters

- The building is approximately a 35-minute drive from Leonardo da Vinci airport (Fiumicino).
- The nearest metro station is Laurentina (B Line).

Shuttle bus

- **Pick-up and drop-off points**
IFAD headquarters – across the road from the guardhouse at the main entrance, between Via Paolo di Dono 50 and 44; Laurentina metro station – Viale Luca Gaurico 9-11.
- **Morning shuttle service: Laurentina metro station to IFAD**
Times: 7.40, 7.55, 8.10, 8.25, 8.40, 8.55, 9.10 and 9.25 a.m.
- **Evening shuttle service: IFAD to Laurentina metro station**
Times: 4.45, 5.05, 5.20, 5.35, 5.50, 6.05, 6.20, 6.35, 6.50 p.m.

Taxis

- May be requested from the guardhouse at the main entrance.

Parking

- **Delegates without drivers:** A limited number of parking spaces (to be used on a first-come, first-served basis) are available at Via Paolo di Dono 38, the external parking lot at the front of the building.
- **Delegates with drivers:** Delegates may be dropped off in front of the headquarters' main entrance. No vehicles with drivers will be allowed to remain parked on the premises.

Services

- **Banking services:** BPER is located on the ground floor, close to the main reception area. Opening hours are Monday to Thursday from 8.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. and from 2.35 p.m. to 4.40 p.m., and Friday from 8.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. and from 2.35 p.m. to 4.10 p.m. (cash, payment and currency exchange transactions are carried out only in the morning). Two cash dispensers (ATMs) are located in front of the bank.

- **Medical services:** The IFAD Medical team will be on the premises during the session and first-aid facilities are available on the ground floor in rooms B-033, B-034, B-035 and B-036. In case of medical emergencies, arrangements will be made for an ambulance after an initial assessment and stabilization. Such services would be arranged through the IFAD medical team. Kindly observe that participants with fever and flu-like symptoms such as cough, runny nose or sore throat are to refrain from attending the meeting in person.
- **Wi-Fi:** Log on as **ifad_guest**; password **ifadguest**.
- **Internet cafe:** Near the bar in the conference area, on the lower-ground floor.
- **Cloakroom:** Conference area.
- **Snacks and coffee:** Coffee, light beverages, sandwiches and pastries are available from the cafeteria on the ground floor, and vending machine on the lower-ground floor, near the lifts.

V. Guidelines to Prevent Harassment, Sexual Harassment and Discrimination at IFAD Events

23. In line with its zero-tolerance policy on sexual harassment, sexual exploitation and abuse, IFAD has issued a set of guidelines to prevent harassment, sexual harassment and discrimination at IFAD events. With the release of these guidelines, IFAD joins the broader United Nations efforts to clarify the standard of conduct expected from participants and provide information on reporting mechanisms. The guidelines are available [here](#).

VI. Security and accessibility

Security

24. Strict security measures are in place, including metal detectors and X-ray machines for baggage scanning. Participants with implanted electronic devices such as pacemakers should not go through the metal detectors but notify the security guards of their condition. An alternative screening method shall be applied.
25. Only persons with a security badge issued by IFAD, FAO or WFP will be allowed access directly into the building. Otherwise, a temporary visitor security badge will be provided from the guardhouse at the main entrance to allow delegates to proceed through the building to the governance/registration desk in the conference area.

Accessibility

26. IFAD strives to host inclusive, accessible events that enable all participants, including those with disabilities, to engage fully. IFAD headquarters is fully wheelchair accessible, with restroom facilities for visitors with disabilities available on each floor. For enquiries about accessibility or any further assistance, please contact conferencestaff@ifad.org.

VII. Travel arrangements and payments

27. A representative of a member or a representative of an alternate member of the Executive Board, shall be entitled to payment of travel expenses to attend a Board session, unless such right is waived by the member concerned.
28. **Purchase of tickets and hotel bookings:** Executive Board representatives are responsible for purchasing their own travel tickets and arranging their own hotel accommodation. IFAD will pay the cost of a full fare economy air ticket to and from the place of the meeting as per the fixed quote in table 1 and a daily subsistence allowance (DSA) for the day of the meeting.

29. Payment of travel costs will be exclusively through a post-travel **fixed amount** including:
- (i) Fixed air ticket costs to and from the place of the meeting in full fare economy calculated through the Rome-based agencies dashboard and in line with IFAD's liability, as indicated in table 1, irrespective of the actual ticket cost; and
 - (ii) DSA paid from the day of arrival at the destination to the day before departure, irrespective of time differences. No DSA will be payable for the last calendar day of travel. The applicable DSA rate¹ for Rome currently is **US\$474** per day.
30. The fixed amount will be paid by bank transfer only, and at the conclusion of the meeting in order to properly calculate the days for which travel expenses may be paid. No invoices for accommodation or air tickets will be requested by IFAD. Members are encouraged to book air tickets and hotels as early as possible to avoid cost increases for late bookings close to the departure date.
31. Table 1 below details the fixed air ticket cost in full fare economy for the destinations from which accredited representatives of Executive Board members and accredited representatives of Executive Board alternates based in capitals may travel.

Table 1

Fixed air ticket cost in full fare economy (United States dollars)

Algiers-Rome-Algiers	1 023
Vienna-Rome-Vienna	1 819
Brasilia-Rome-Brasilia	4 394
Delhi-Rome-Delhi	2 106
Jakarta-Rome-Jakarta	3 841
Kuwait City-Rome-Kuwait City	2 644
Dubai-Rome-Dubai	1 865
Washington D.C.-Rome-Washington D.C.	4 990
Caracas-Rome-Caracas	3 749
Paris-Rome-Paris	1 528

32. Representatives wishing to avail themselves of fixed travel amounts as indicated above, are requested to complete the banking instructions form provided as an addendum to this document, and forward it to the Secretariat at gms@ifad.org.

Entry into Italy

33. Travel documents – national or service passport – should be valid for at least six months after expected date of departure from Italy.
34. Delegates who require an entry visa should:
- (i) **At least one month prior to travel** to Italy, send a copy of their national passport, and dates of intended stay, to the **IFAD Travel, Visa, Privileges and Immunities Unit** (visa-lp@ifad.org), copying the Secretariat at gms@ifad.org. This information will serve as the basis for a note verbale that IFAD will send to the relevant Italian embassy/consulate in support of the delegate's visa application;
 - (ii) Simultaneously, contact the **Italian embassy/consulate** in their country of residence to make an appointment. Visa procedures and processing times may vary by country; delegates are therefore advised to comply with the

¹ DSA rates may be recalculated at the time of the Executive Board session in accordance with updates provided from time to time by ICSC at <https://icsc.un.org/>.

deadlines established by the competent authorities. Late requests may not allow sufficient time for issuance.

35. Delegates from countries without an Italian embassy/consulate may be able to obtain a visa either from the representation of a Schengen country that has been authorized to represent Italy or from the Italian embassy/consulate nearest to the country of departure.

36. **Countries whose nationals are exempt from the requirement of short-stay visas:**

https://www.esteri.it/en/servizi-opportunita/ingressosoggiornoinitalia/visto_ingresso/paesi_esenti_visto/

37. **European Entry/Exit System (EES):**

Please note that the European Union has introduced a new Entry/Exit System (EES), a border management system that registers non-EU nationals travelling for short stays each time they cross the external borders of 29 European countries. The system became operational on 12 October 2025 and is being gradually implemented at border crossing points. During this transition period, travellers may encounter different procedures at various entry points. Non-EU nationals are therefore advised to allow additional time for border checks. Further information on the EES is available on the official EU portal: <https://travel-europe.europa.eu/pub>

VIII. Practicalities

38. It is essential that meetings start on time, therefore please be punctual. Representatives attending virtually are kindly requested to connect to the Zoom link 15 minutes before the meeting starts.
39. Please turn off mobile telephones before entering meeting rooms.
40. In adherence to environmental sustainability efforts, printed documents will not be distributed during the session. Participants are encouraged to access materials digitally.