



**IFAD**  
**INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT**  
**Executive Board - Seventy-First Session**

Rome, 6-7 December 2000

**INVITATION OF OBSERVERS TO SESSIONS OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL**

1. Observers have been invited to past sessions of the Governing Council in accordance with the provisions of the Agreement Establishing IFAD and various Governing Council and Executive Board rules and decisions. Such rules and decisions, together with a list of Observers that may be invited to each session of the Governing Council, are set out in documents EB 87/31/R.57 and EB 88/34/R.52, which were reviewed by the Executive Board at its Thirty-First and Thirty-Fourth Sessions in September 1987 and September 1988, respectively. At its Thirty-Fourth Session, the Executive Board decided, *inter alia*, to amend the existing criteria for the selection of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) as observers in order that they fall into one of the following categories:

- “ (a) well-established consensual or “umbrella” organizations, with a large and wide-ranging membership;
- (b) “Advocacy NGOs” that make major efforts to introduce IFAD’s objectives and activities to policy-makers and the general public;
- (c) “Operational NGOs”, which have already commenced collaboration with IFAD on a number of projects or which have demonstrated a strong interest in beginning such wide-ranging collaboration with IFAD; and
- (d) in the selection of NGOs from the groups specified in sub-paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) above, it shall be ensured that NGOs from the Developing Countries are adequately represented by consensual NGOs from Latin America and the Caribbean, the Near East and North Africa, Africa and Asia.”

2. In line with these criteria, the Executive Board may wish to increase the number of observer organizations that may be invited to attend sessions of the Governing Council. Two such additional institutions, the Arab Authority for Agricultural Investment and Development (AAAID) and the NGO Ingénieurs du Monde-Engineers of the World, have applied for observer status with IFAD. Therefore, it is proposed that AAAID and Ingénieurs du Monde-Engineers of the World be invited to the forthcoming Twenty-Fourth Session of the Governing Council and to all subsequent sessions. Information on the organizations is contained in the attached annexes.



### **Recommendation**

3. Given that AAAID and Ingénieurs du Monde-Engineers of the World meet the criteria established by the Executive Board, as stipulated in paragraphs 8 and 9 of document EB 87/31/R.57 and in paragraph 1 above, and as the activities of these organizations aim at improving the livelihoods of the poor sectors of the populations in the less developed countries, in conformity with IFAD's objectives, it is proposed that the Executive Board authorize the President to invite AAAID and Ingénieurs du Monde-Engineers of the World to attend the Twenty-Fourth and future sessions of the Governing Council as observers.



## **ARAB AUTHORITY FOR AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (AAAID)**

The Arab Authority for Agricultural Investment and Development (AAAID), a pan-Arab financial investment organization specialized in promoting agricultural development in its member countries, was established in 1976 as an independent Arab financial authority with administrative and financial autonomy. Its activities include all forms of investment in agricultural production and complementary or related activities.

### **Objectives**

The institution initially concentrated on establishing agricultural projects in The Sudan through equity participation, the aim being to make that country a major food exporter to Arab countries. However, in 1984, AAAID decided to investigate the agricultural resources and potential for agricultural development and related activities in other member states.

The main objectives of AAAID are to develop the agricultural resources of its member states, with particular emphasis on food security, and to step up exchanges of agricultural products and inputs between its member states.

### **Activities**

AAAID's main activities include:

- land reclamation;
- plant, animal and fish production;
- pasture, forest and other agricultural resources;
- transportation, storage, marketing, exportation and processing of all agricultural products, animal and fish production and their inputs, including agricultural material and machinery;
- implementation of projects or other related activities necessary for, or complementary to, investment and development, including infrastructure projects;
- research and feasibility studies relevant to the above-mentioned projects and activities; and
- financing the above-mentioned projects and activities and helping to ensure the availability of necessary financing.

### **Membership**

AAAID's member states are: Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, The Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, and the United Arab Emirates.

### **Structure**

All AAAID members are represented on the Board of Shareholders, normally by the respective Minister of Finance and an alternate representative. The Board of Shareholders meets once a year to review the activities of AAAID during the previous year and to decide on future policies.

The President of AAAID is elected by the Board of Shareholders for a term of five years, which is renewable. As Chief Executive of AAAID and Chairman of the Board of Directors, the President conducts the business of the Authority under the direction of the Board of Directors. The current President of AAAID is Mr Abdulkarim Al-Amri.



### **Countries of Operation**

AAAID is required by its mandate to operate only in its member states (listed above).

### **Funding**

AAAID has a paid-up capital of KWD 150 million (equivalent to USD 500 million).

### **Relationships with IFAD and Other International Organizations**

A cooperation agreement between IFAD and the AAAID was approved by the Executive Board in September 2000. That agreement opens up possibilities for substantial exchanges of knowledge and experience between the two organizations, as well as for the cofinancing of programmes and projects in countries of common membership.

AAAID has been working with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and is currently seeking cooperation with the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme, the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, the Arab Center for the Studies of Arid Zones and Dry Lands and the World Food Programme.

### **Location**

AAAID has its head office in Khartoum, The Sudan, and a regional office in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

#### Headquarters:

Block 9E,  
Osman Digna Street,  
P.O. Box 2102  
Khartoum  
Sudan

#### Regional Office:

P.O. Box 51250  
Dubai  
United Arab Emirates



## INGÉNIEURS DU MONDE-ENGINEERS OF THE WORLD

Ingénieurs du Monde-Engineers of the World was established in 1981 as “Association Hexa Consultants”. However, on 13 January 1999, it was renamed Ingénieurs du Monde-Engineers of the World to enable it both to acquire non-governmental organization (NGO) status and to continue pursuing its basic objective of assisting the most disadvantaged populations to enter the work market.

### Objectives

The objectives of the organization are to:

- Promote transfers of know-how to developing country enterprises engaged in the provision of training, consultancy services and technical assistance, in accordance with the charter of the International Association of Engineers.
- Deploy its activities for the purpose of improving the wellbeing and development of the people of the developing world and of emerging countries.

### Activities

The activities of the organization are to:

- favour exchanges of technical and technological information among enterprises throughout the world;
- promote transfers of professional know-how to enterprises, particularly those in the developing world;
- engage in activities in the domain of local intellectual property;
- create an operational centre within the organization with a view to providing technical services (electronic trading, telecommunications, informatics and telematics);
- pursue activities relating to consulting services, training and assistance, especially in favour of the developing countries (trading, international exchanges); and
- represent enterprises or institutions adhering to, or benefiting from, the services provided by Ingénieurs du Monde-Engineers of the World in regional or international courts of law.

### Membership

Ingénieurs du Monde-Engineers of the World has a membership of 3 524, geographically distributed as follows:

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Africa:        | Algeria, Benin, Côte d’Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Mauritania, Gabon, Kenya, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania     |
| Latin America: | Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, Venezuela   |
| North America: | Canada, United States   |
| Asia:          | India, Japan, Thailand, Philippines   |
| Europe:        | Albania, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom |
| Middle East:   | Israel.   |

The current President of Ingénieurs du Monde-Engineers of the World is Mr François Ullman.



### **Countries of Operation**

Ingénieurs du Monde-Engineers of the World operates in all its member countries.

### **Funding**

The organization is financed by contributions from its membership (USD 111 500, or 24% of revenues), grants and legacies (USD 2 500, or about 1% of revenues), and fees for services provided (USD 300 000, or about 75% of revenues). The 1998 budget totaled USD 414 000 (compared with USD 350 000 for 1996 and USD 398 000 for 1997).

### **Relationships with IFAD and Other International Organizations**

Ingénieurs du Monde-Engineers of the World is registered as an NGO with the United Nations. It cooperates actively with the International Trade Centre, the International Labour Organisation, the Commission for Human Rights and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. However, the organization is particularly interested in establishing collaboration with IFAD for the purpose of acquiring and exchanging knowledge and know-how.

### **Location**

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Switzerland  
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