ACCESSION OF IFAD TO THE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT FOR UNCCD IMPLEMENTATION IN CENTRAL ASIAN REPUBLICS

1. At its Seventy-Ninth Session in September 2003, the Executive Board authorized the President to negotiate and finalize the legal documentation necessary for IFAD to adhere to the Strategic Partnership Agreement for Implementation of UNCCD\(^1\) in Central Asian Republics,\(^2\) established under the terms of a memorandum of understanding dated 10 October 2001.

2. IFAD’s adherence to the Strategic Partnership is reflected in an addendum to the aforementioned memorandum of understanding, signed by the President of the Fund on 23 October 2003.

3. In accordance with established reporting procedures, a conformed copy of the addendum to the memorandum of understanding, confirming IFAD’s adherence to the Strategic Partnership, is attached for the information of the Executive Board.

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\(^1\) United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and Desertification, Particularly in Africa.

\(^2\) Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.
1. The Strategic Partnership for Implementation of UNCCD in Central Asian Republics was established by a Memorandum of Understanding signed on 10 October 2001 between: (1) the Global Mechanism of the UNCCD (Global Mechanism); (2) the Asian Development Bank (ADB), through the Regional Technical Assistance 5941 (RETA 5941) on Combating Desertification in Asia; (3) the CCD Project of Deutsche Gesellschaft für technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ), on behalf of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development; and (4) the Government of Canada, through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) (collectively referred to as the “Partners”). By two separate Addendums to the Memorandum of Understanding signed on 30 June 2003, the International Centre for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) have joined the Partnership.

2. The intent of the Memorandum of Understanding is to delineate a broad framework to coordinate activities of the Partners in their efforts to implement the UNCCD in Central Asia. The Memorandum of Understanding describes the context, rationale and objectives of the Partnership and the Partners’ agreement on the initial joint activities and future activities of the Partnership, the resources available for its operation and its working modalities. The Memorandum of Understanding also envisages that other partners may subsequently adhere to the Partnership.

3. The Executive Board of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), at its 79th Session on 11 September 2003, approved of IFAD joining the Partnership. Subject to the approval of the current Partners, the undersigned, Lennart Båge, in his capacity as President of IFAD, hereby confirms IFAD’s adherence to the Partnership as party to the Memorandum of Understanding. On behalf of IFAD, the President hereby expresses IFAD’s commitment to uphold the spirit of the Memorandum of Understanding and respect the terms and conditions therein set forth. The terms and conditions set forth in the Memorandum of Understanding shall apply to IFAD in its entirety, subject to the amendments indicated in paragraph 4 below. Any operational and/or financial commitments of IFAD to the Partnership shall be considered additional to the commitments of the current Partners mentioned in the Memorandum of Understanding and its Addendums.
4. On the basis of the forgoing, IFAD agrees that the Memorandum of Understanding, as amended by the above-referred Addendums, is amended as follows:

(a) The cover page shall include the full name of IFAD;

(b) The names of IFAD shall be added to the current partners on page 2, and shall be included in the definition of “Partners”, “Party” or “Parties”, wherever used in the MOU;

(c) The following address shall be added on page 6:

“For the International Fund for Agricultural Development:

Director of the Asia and the Pacific Division
Programme Management Department
International Fund for Agricultural Development
Via del Serafico 107
00142 Rome
Italy

Facsimile Number: (39-06) 5043463”

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For the International Fund for Agricultural Development

Signed by: (Lennart Båge)
Lennart Båge
President

Date: (23 October 2003)