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Enabling poor rural people  
to overcome poverty

**Draft provisional agenda and  
programme of events for the  
thirty-first session of the  
Governing Council and IFAD's thirtieth  
anniversary**

Executive Board — Ninety-second Session  
Rome, 11-13 December 2007

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For: **Approval**

## **Note to Executive Board Directors**

This document is submitted for approval by the Executive Board.

To make the best use of time available at Executive Board sessions, Directors are invited to contact the following focal point with any technical questions about this document before the session:

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## **Recommendation for approval**

1. Rule 6 of the Rules of Procedure of the Governing Council provides that the President shall prepare, with the approval of the Executive Board, a provisional agenda for each session of the Governing Council. The draft provisional agenda submitted to the ninety-first session of the Executive Board has been amended to include an item on the emoluments of the President, in the light of the presidential elections to be held at the Council's thirty-second session in 2009. Accordingly, the Executive Board is invited to consider and approve the attached revised draft provisional agenda for the thirty-first session of the Governing Council.
2. The Executive Board is also invited to note the outline of events foreseen for the Governing Council session.



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## **Provisional agenda and programme of events**

### **IFAD's thirtieth anniversary**

Governing Council — Thirty-first Session  
Rome, 13-14 February 2008

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For: **Approval**

## Provisional agenda

1. The present document contains the provisional agenda as approved by IFAD's Executive Board. Annotations are also attached.
2. The thirty-first session of the Governing Council will mark the official opening of the one-year period commemorating IFAD's thirtieth anniversary. This anniversary year is an opportunity to reflect on both the achievements of IFAD over the last 30 years and the challenges it will face in the future in carrying out its mission of enabling rural poor people to overcome poverty.
3. To this end and in line with the format introduced in recent years, the proceedings of the thirty-first session of the Governing Council will include three simultaneous round-table discussions to be held on the morning of the second day. The topics identified for these discussions are of particular importance in today's changing development context and deal with issues that are critical to finding innovative and sustainable solutions to the problems faced by IFAD's target group – the rural poor.
4. National delegations are invited to attend the round-table discussions of their choice and, in order to maximize interaction, may wish to have different members attend different round tables.

## **Provisional agenda**

1. Opening of the session
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Election of the Bureau of the Governing Council
4. Application for non-original membership
5. Statement of the President of IFAD
6. General statements
7. Report on the Seventh Replenishment of IFAD's resources
8. Eighth Replenishment of IFAD's resources
9. Audited financial statements of IFAD for 2006
10. Administrative and capital budgets of IFAD and its Office of Evaluation for 2008
11. Special expenditure for IFAD's new headquarters
12. Progress report on implementation of the performance-based allocation system
13. Report on lessons learned by the International Land Coalition
14. Progress report on the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
15. Emoluments of the President
16. Other business

## Annotations

### 1. **Opening of the session**

The thirty-first session of the Governing Council will be held on Wednesday, 13 February and Thursday, 14 February 2008 at the Palazzo dei Congressi, Piazzale J. F. Kennedy, Rome (EUR). The session will be opened at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, 13 February 2008.

### 2. **Adoption of the agenda**

The provisional agenda, prepared by the President and approved by the Executive Board in accordance with rule 6 of the Rules of Procedure of the Governing Council, is contained in the present document (GC 31/L.1).

### 3. **Election of the Bureau of the Governing Council**

The Governing Council is invited to elect a chairperson and two vice-chairpersons for the coming two years, in accordance with rule 12 of its Rules of Procedure.

### 4. **Application for non-original membership**

The Executive Board considered the application for membership of IFAD from The Bahamas. The recommendation of the Board in this regard, together with a draft resolution thereon, will be presented in document GC 31/L.2.

### 5. **Statement of the President of IFAD**

Mr Lennart Båge will make a statement to the Governing Council.

### 6. **General statements**

Governors are invited to make general statements under this agenda item.

### 7. **Report on the Seventh Replenishment of IFAD's resources**

A report on the status of the Seventh Replenishment of IFAD's resources will be presented in document GC 31/L.3.

### 8. **Eighth Replenishment of IFAD's resources**

Article 4.3 of the Agreement Establishing the International Fund for Agricultural Development provides for periodic review by the Governing Council of the adequacy of IFAD's resources in order to assure continuity in the Fund's operations. Document GC 31/L.4 will be presented to the Council to facilitate its consideration of the Fund's future resource requirements and will contain a draft resolution on the establishment of the Consultation on the Eighth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources.

### 9. **Audited financial statements of IFAD for 2006**

In accordance with regulation XII.6 of the Financial Regulations of IFAD and section 9 of the By-Laws for the Conduct of the Business of IFAD, the Governing Council will be invited to consider document GC 31/L.5, which will contain the audited financial statements of IFAD for 2006 and the report of the external auditor. The ninetieth session of the Executive Board reviewed the statements in April 2007 and recommended that they be submitted for approval by the Governing Council.

### 10. **Administrative and capital budgets of IFAD and its Office of Evaluation for 2008**

The administrative and capital budgets of IFAD and its Office of Evaluation for 2008, as recommended by the Executive Board for approval, will be presented in document GC 31/L.6, together with a draft resolution thereon.



11. **Special Expenditure for IFAD's new headquarters**

In adopting resolution 139/XXVIII in February 2005, the Governing Council approved a special expenditure in the amount of EUR 3,400,000 to finance the common areas and facilities of IFAD's new headquarters at Via Paolo di Dono, 44, Rome, for a three-year period during financial years 2005-2007 inclusive. Due to delays in renovation works and related administrative approvals, an extension until 31 December 2008 will be required in order to utilize the budget for the expenditures intended. To this end, document GC 31/L.7 will contain a draft resolution, for the approval of the Governing Council, requesting the extension, as well as an interim report on the expenditures thus far incurred.

12. **Progress report on implementation of the performance-based allocation system**

Document GC 31/L.8 will provide the Council, for its information, with a fifth progress report on the implementation of the performance-based allocation system for IFAD.

13. **Report on lessons learned by the International Land Coalition**

Document GC 31/L.9 will provide a report on the lessons learned by the International Land Coalition on ways and means to improve access by the poor to productive resources, in the countries and regions where the coalition is currently operational.

14. **Progress report on the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification**

The twenty-first session of the Governing Council of IFAD approved the selection of IFAD to house the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. Document GC 31/L.10 will report on the operations of the Global Mechanism during 2007.

15. **Emoluments of the President**

As was done before the appointment of both the current President and his predecessor, a draft resolution to re-establish the Emoluments Committee will be presented for the consideration of the Governing Council (document GC 31/L.11). The Emoluments Committee is to report to the Governing Council prior to the appointment of the new President of IFAD in February 2009.

16. **Other business**

Under this item, the Governing Council will consider any additional matters not included in the provisional agenda that may be proposed by Members of the Council and/or the Secretariat.

## Provisional programme of events

### Wednesday, 13 February 2008

<b>Morning meeting</b>	<b>10 a.m. to 1 p.m.</b>
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Inaugural ceremony Commencement of consideration of agenda items
<b>Afternoon meeting</b>	<b>3 p.m. to 6 p.m.</b>
3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	Continuation of consideration of agenda items

### Thursday, 14 February 2008

<b>Morning meeting</b>	<b>9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.</b>
9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.	Continuation of consideration of agenda items
10.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Round-table discussions
	Three round tables will be held simultaneously on the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate change and the future of smallholder agriculture</li> <li>• Biofuels expansion: challenges, risks and opportunities for rural poor people</li> <li>• Rising prices of food and agriculture commodities: an opportunity for smallholder farmers?</li> </ul>
<b>Afternoon meeting</b>	<b>3 p.m. to 6 p.m.</b>
3 p.m. to 5.50 p.m.	Continuation of consideration of agenda items
5.50 p.m. to 6 p.m.	Closure of the session