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Appointment of the Director of the Office of Evaluation

Executive Board — Ninety-third Session
Rome, 24-25 April 2008

For: **Approval**

Note to Executive Board Directors

This document is submitted for approval by the Executive Board.

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Recommendation for approval

The Executive Board is invited to endorse the nomination of Mr Luciano Lavizzari as Director, Office of Evaluation of IFAD, for a second and final term of five years commencing 1 May 2008.

Appointment of the Director of the Office of Evaluation

I. Background

1. In accordance with the recommendation included in the Report of the Consultation on the Sixth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources (GC 26/L.4) regarding a new independent role for the Office of Evaluation (OE), the Executive Board considered and approved the IFAD Evaluation Policy (EB 2003/78/R.17/Rev.1) in April 2003. In so doing, the Board approved the following with respect to human resource management and, more specifically, the appointment of the Director of OE:
 - "56. The President will nominate a candidate for the position of Director of OE to the Board for endorsement, as recorded in the Executive Board minutes, whereupon the President will appoint the Director for a fixed term of five years, which may be renewed only once.
 57. Similarly, the President will remove the OE Director upon and only upon the endorsement of the Board, as recorded in the Executive Board minutes.
 58. The OE Director will not be re-employed by IFAD upon completion of his or her term(s).
 59. The OE Director will be directly responsible to the Executive Board.¹⁸

¹⁸ The President's non-voting participation in the Board as its chairperson will not imply in any way the exercise of supervisory or other authority or responsibility by the President, in his or her capacity as chairperson or any other, over the OE Director."

2. The present incumbent, Mr Luciano Lavizzari, was appointed on 15 February 1999 to the post of Director, OE on a fixed-term two-year contract following an internationally advertised competitive selection process. At the end of this period, in accordance with IFAD's standard procedures, his performance was reviewed and his contract was renewed for a fixed-term period of five years, from 15 February 2001. This contract was prematurely terminated in the light of the Board's endorsement of Mr Lavizzari's nomination as Director of the IFAD Office of Evaluation, subsequent to the approval of the IFAD Evaluation Policy. He was then appointed by the President of IFAD as Director of OE for a five-year term of office, effective 1 May 2003.

II. Process

3. Following the practice developed regarding the overall responsibility of the President of IFAD for the institution, I have shared feedback on the performance of the Director, OE annually with the Chairperson of the Evaluation Committee of the Board. This feedback has been systematically prepared based on discussions and subsequent agreement with the Director, OE.
4. As Mr. Lavizzari's five-year term was coming to an end on 30 April 2008, I initiated consultations regarding the process for the nomination of the Director, OE. In this regard, I reviewed the feedback provided over the first term and consulted with the Chairperson of the Evaluation Committee to seek the views of the Committee on the substantive aspects of Mr Lavizzari's performance during his term in office. The Chairperson of the Evaluation Committee in turn consulted members of the Executive Board to which body the Director, OE is responsible.
5. Following these consultations, including those with the Chairperson of the Evaluation Committee, I have concluded that, as it is specified in the IFAD Evaluation Policy that the term of office of the Director, OE can be renewed once, there is no need to embark on a new external recruitment process.

III. Recommendation

6. It is my understanding that there is satisfaction among Executive Board members regarding the quality of the substantive evaluations that have been carried out since 1 May 2003 under the direction of Mr Lavizzari. Furthermore, Mr Lavizzari has played a valuable role in evaluation activities with partner institutions of IFAD, notably with the United Nations Evaluation Group, and with the African Development Bank through the joint evaluation currently under way. Having therefore considered the matter fully and carefully, I have decided that it would be appropriate to nominate Mr Luciano Lavizzari for a second and final term as Director of the Office of Evaluation of IFAD.
7. Accordingly, I submit to the Executive Board for its endorsement the nomination of Mr Luciano Lavizzari for a second and final five-year term as Director, OE commencing 1 May 2008.

