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Enabling poor rural people  
to overcome poverty

## **Draft provisional agenda and programme of events for the thirty-second session of the Governing Council**

Executive Board — Ninety-fifth Session  
Rome, 15-17 December 2008

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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-fourth session of the Executive Board has been amended to include an item on the application for non-original membership of the Fund and a proposal for funding of a voluntary separation programme at IFAD. Accordingly, the Executive Board is invited to consider and approve the attached draft provisional agenda for the thirty-second 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**

Governing Council — Thirty-second Session  
Rome, 18-19 February 2009

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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. In line with the format introduced in recent years, the proceedings of the thirty-second session of the Governing Council will include three simultaneous round-table discussions to be held in the afternoon of the first day. The topics identified for discussion are of particular importance in today's changing development context and bear directly on finding innovative and sustainable ways to meet the challenges facing smallholder farmers, including high price volatility, the growing demand for land, and the need for research and innovation in a rapidly changing climate and environment.
3. Further information on the round-table discussions will be posted on the IFAD website. 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. Application for non-original membership
4. Statement of the President of IFAD
5. Appointment 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 2007
10. Administrative and capital budgets of IFAD and its Office of Evaluation for 2009
11. Proposal for a voluntary separation programme
12. Election of members and alternate members of the Executive Board
13. Report of the Emoluments Committee
14. Special expenditure for IFAD's new headquarters
15. Progress report on implementation of the performance-based allocation system
16. Progress report on the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
17. Other business

## Annotations

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

The thirty-second session of the Governing Council will be held on Wednesday, 18 February and Thursday, 19 February 2009.

### 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 32/L.1).

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

The Executive Board considered the application for membership of IFAD from the Republic of the Marshall Islands. The recommendation of the Board in this regard, together with a draft resolution thereon, will be presented in document GC 32/L.2.

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

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

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

In accordance with article 6, section 8(a) of the Agreement Establishing IFAD and section 6.2 of the By-laws for the Conduct of the Business of IFAD, the Governing Council is invited to consider the appointment of the President of IFAD<sup>1</sup>. In this respect, document GC 32/L.3 will provide the Council with the nominations received by the Secretary of IFAD for the presidency of IFAD and the curricula vitae of the candidates.

### 6. **General statements**

Governors are invited to make general statements under this agenda item and to comment on other items on the agenda, as appropriate.

### 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 32/L.4.

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

Document GC 32/L.5 will provide the Governing Council with the final Report of the Consultation on the Eighth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources. In addition, the document will contain a draft resolution on the Eighth Replenishment for approval by the Governing Council.

### 9. **Audited financial statements of IFAD for 2007**

In accordance with regulation XII 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 32/L.6, which will contain the audited financial statements of IFAD for 2007 and the report of the external auditor. The ninety-third session of the Executive Board reviewed the statements in April 2008 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 2009**

The administrative and capital budgets of IFAD and its Office of Evaluation for 2009, as recommended by the Executive Board for approval, will be presented in document GC 32/L.7, together with a draft resolution thereon.

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<sup>1</sup> The Governing Council shall appoint the President from the list of nominees through an election by a two-thirds majority of the total number of votes.

11. **Proposal for a voluntary separation programme**  
At its ninety-fifth session in December 2008, the Executive Board reviewed the proposal for a voluntary separation programme together with the draft resolution thereon (as contained in document GC 32/L.8.), and recommended its submission to the Governing Council for consideration.
12. **Election of members and alternate members of the Executive Board**  
The three-year term of office of the current membership of the Executive Board expires at the present Council session. In accordance with rule 40.1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Governing Council, "...the President shall circulate a list indicating the number of members and alternate members of the Executive Board that must be elected or appointed from among the Members of the Fund...". This information will be provided to the Governing Council in document GC 32/L.9. Rule 40.2 of the Rules of Procedure provides that: "During the course of the annual session the Governors shall meet in private to conduct such elections in accordance with procedures specified by the respective part of Schedule II to the Agreement..." (reproduced as an attachment to document GC 32/L.9). Arrangements for such private meetings may be made through the Office of the Secretary of IFAD.
13. **Report of the Emoluments Committee**  
At its thirty-first session, the Governing Council adopted resolution 150/XXXI, re-establishing a committee to review the overall emoluments and other conditions of the employment of the President of IFAD for presentation to the thirty-second session of the Governing Council. Accordingly, document GC 32/L.10 will contain the recommendations of that committee, as endorsed by the Executive Board at its ninety-fourth session, for the consideration of the Governing Council.
14. **Special expenditure for IFAD's new headquarters**  
In adopting resolution 149/XXXI in February 2008, the Governing Council approved the extension of the period for the use of the uncommitted amount of the special expenditure to finance the common areas and facilities of IFAD's new headquarters at Via Paolo di Dono 44, Rome, to 31 December 2008. In accordance with the Council's request, document GC 32/L.11 will provide the final report on the expenditures incurred in preparing the new headquarters.
15. **Progress report on implementation of the performance-based allocation system**  
Document GC 32/L.12 will provide the Council, for its information, with a sixth progress report on the implementation of IFAD's performance-based allocation system, approved by the Executive Board in September 2003.
16. **Progress report on the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification**  
The twenty-first session of the Governing Council approved the selection of IFAD to house the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. Document GC 32/L.13 will report on the operations of the Global Mechanism during 2008.
17. **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, 18 February 2009

#### **Morning meeting**                      **9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.                      Inaugural ceremony  
Commencement of consideration of agenda items

#### **Afternoon meeting**                      **3 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.**

3 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.                      Continuation of consideration of agenda items

3.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.                      Round-table discussions

Three round tables, held simultaneously, will focus on the challenges currently faced by smallholder farmers and on ways to help them meet these challenges. Discussions will centre on: how smallholder farmers can deal with unpredictable markets and high price volatility; the growing demand for land; and the need for research and innovation in the context of a rapidly changing climate and environment.

### Thursday, 19 February 2009

#### **Morning meeting**                      **9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.                      Continuation of consideration of agenda items

#### **Afternoon meeting**                      **3 p.m. to 6 p.m.**

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