Executive Board

Minutes of the Ninety-seventh Session
Note to Executive Board Directors

Directors are invited to contact the following focal point with any technical questions about this document:

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Minutes of the ninety-seventh session of the Executive Board

I. Introduction
1. The ninety-seventh session of the Executive Board was held in Rome from 14-15 September 2009. A list of delegations is attached as annex I.
2. The Executive Board had before it the documents listed in annex II.

II. Opening of the session
3. President Kanayo F. Nwanze opened the ninety-seventh session of the Executive Board.

III. Decisions of the Executive Board
A. Adoption of the agenda (agenda item 2)
4. The Executive Board adopted the agenda as proposed in document EB 2009/97/R.1 (to be revised as EB 2009/97/R.1/Rev.1) and amended to reflect additions agreed to by the Board.
5. The Executive Board noted that the schedule of work for the session included only items to be discussed during the Board session (i.e. items for approval or review and items for information for which a written request for discussion at the Board had been received three weeks before the Board session).

B. Oral update on global trends in food security and rural development (agenda item 3)
6. The Executive Board began the session with a presentation on the agriculture and development issues currently affecting farmers in developing countries and their impact on IFAD’s operations.
7. This was followed by a productive discussion, during which the Executive Board thanked IFAD for a forward-looking presentation focused on the strategic issues facing the international development community and, in particular, IFAD. The discussion centred on developments following the L’Aquila G8 Summit and members encouraged IFAD to participate actively in the coordinated international response. In this regard, IFAD is working energetically to make progress in its collaboration with the other Rome-based agencies. Members were asked to use their position within these agencies to further this collaborative relationship. IFAD Management undertook to inform the Board in December 2009 of initiatives taken in response to the food price crisis since 2008, including the US$200 million made available from existing loans and grants to boost agricultural development.

C. Results Measurement Framework for the Eighth Replenishment period (2010-2012) (agenda item 4)
8. In accordance with the recommendations of the Consultation on the Eighth Replenishment of IFAD’s Resources, the Executive Board considered and approved IFAD’s Result Measurement Framework for the Eighth Replenishment period 2010-2012 (EB 2009/97/R.2). The Executive Board welcomed the framework as an important tool that will enable IFAD to measure and improve its development effectiveness and foster a results-based culture within the institution.
9. The Executive Board requested clarification on several points, including specific indicators, the monitoring and assessment of results and the practical implementation of the framework. Aware that managing for development results is
an evolving area, the Executive Board noted that the proposed results measurement framework is, nonetheless, state of the art. Board members requested that future editions of the Report on IFAD’s Development Effectiveness reflect the suggestions and recommendations made therein. They also emphasized the importance of country ownership and IFAD’s collaboration with Member States to the implementation of the framework.

10. Finally, the Executive Board stressed the importance of the indicators in measuring progress on human resource matters and encouraged Management to be ambitious on this key reform issue. In this regard, IFAD Management confirmed, in the context of the commitment made under the Eighth Replenishment of IFAD’s resources, to report progress on human resources reform to the Board in December 2009 and 2010.

D. IFAD Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples (agenda item 5)

11. The Executive Board considered and approved the IFAD Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples, as presented in document EB 2009/97/R.3 (to be revised as EB 2009/97/R.3/Rev.1), noting the work of the Evaluation Committee and the comments of the Office of Evaluation (EB 2009/97/R.3/Add.1). The Board appreciated that IFAD recognized indigenous peoples as a distinct target group and welcomed the introduction of the policy. The Executive Board acknowledged the inclusive process pursued in drafting the policy and commended the incorporation of several points raised by Board members at previous discussions.

12. The Executive Board underscored the integral role of national governments and requested that the section on policy dialogue with governments (paragraph 36) be revised; it was agreed that these changes would be made accordingly. The Board requested that annex III be revised to include the newly approved safeguard policy of the Asian Development Bank.

13. There was a rich exchange of views regarding “informed consultation” and “informed consent”. In this regard, some Executive Board Directors requested that their preference for the principle “free, prior and informed consultation” be taken into account. In addressing these issues, it was noted that given IFAD’s strong participatory approach, particularly in its demand-driven projects, IFAD’s existing mode of engagement already included – and often exceeded – informed consent.

14. Members welcomed the idea of an indigenous peoples forum; however, they recognized that the specific arrangements for this, in particular in relation to IFAD’s Farmers’ Forum, require further elaboration. The Executive Board also expressed support for the Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility.

E. High-level preview of IFAD’s 2010 results-based programme of work and administrative and capital budgets, and the Office of Evaluation’s three-year (2010-2012) rolling work programme and 2010 resource issues (agenda item 6)

15. The Executive Board reviewed the high-level preview of IFAD’s 2010 results-based programme of work and administrative and capital budgets, and the Office of Evaluation’s three-year rolling work programme and 2010 resource issues (EB 2009/97/R.4). The preview had been considered by the Audit Committee at its 106th meeting on 13 July 2009, and by an informal seminar of the Executive Board on 11 September 2009. The Executive Board recognized that the document represented a key step towards completing IFAD’s results management system, and that IFAD continued to be in the lead among the international financial institutions in this area. The Board endorsed the proposals to expand the programme of work in line with commitments made under the Consultation on the Eighth Replenishment of IFAD’s Resources, and to raise the real level of resources in the administrative
budget intended to support the objective of increasing the volume and quality of operations. However, the Executive Board underlined the need to pursue efficiency relentlessly and ensure comparability with the cost structure of other international financial institutions, particularly in the administration area. The Executive Board highlighted the critical importance of establishing control over staff costs and of effectively managing human resources to support IFAD’s demanding objectives.

16. To better align staff incentives with institutional performance by September 2011, Management undertook to present the December Executive Board with an approach paper for an external assessment of human resource management in IFAD, which would examine:
   - Results based incentive systems; and,
   - Compensation and entitlement systems (ICSC), including the desirability and feasibility of adopting alternatives, particularly the financial and system implications.

17. The Executive Board was provided with further guidance on the preparation of the final document for submission to the Audit Committee in November and to the Board at its December session. The Executive Board was invited to address its comments and questions to the Audit Committee before the November meeting to allow a thorough review to be carried out and reported on to the Board in December.

18. The document also provided the Board with a preview of the three-year rolling work programme and 2010 resource issues for the Office of Evaluation (OE). Welcoming the presentation of the document, the Executive Board requested a more detailed overview of the work programme for the upcoming year, including information on the planned evaluation of IFAD’s gender policy and the Office of Evaluation’s response to its scheduled peer review. Management undertook to present a more detailed document at the Executive Board’s December session.

F. Evaluation (agenda item 7)

(a) Reports of the Chairperson of the Evaluation Committee


(b) Peer Review of IFAD’s Office of Evaluation and Evaluation Function – Review Approach Paper

20. The Executive Board considered and approved the approach paper/terms of reference for the peer review of IFAD’s Office of Evaluation and evaluation function. In so doing, members endorsed the budget increase of US$50,000 with respect to the OE budget approved by the thirty-second session of the Governing Council, and the new date for the presentation of the final report to the Executive Board of April 2010. The approach paper, prepared by the Evaluation Cooperation Group, defines the main objectives, scope, process, methodology and timeline for the peer review. The Executive Board noted that it had been reviewed by the Evaluation Committee at both its fifty-seventh and its fifty-eighth sessions.

21. Following discussion in the Board and in consultation with the chair of the Peer Review Panel, the Board agreed to amend paragraph 6 (c) of the Terms of Reference and Review Approach Paper to read as follows:
   “reviewing the adequacy of the role and mandate of the Evaluation Committee;”
G. President’s Report on the Implementation Status of Evaluation Recommendations and Management Actions (agenda item 8)

22. The Board reviewed the President’s Report on the Implementation Status of Evaluation Recommendations and Management Actions (PRISMA) (EB 2009/97/R.9 and its addendum), including comments from OE. In particular, the Executive Board welcomed the report’s inclusion of the status of recommendations issued in the last four years. The discussion also highlighted the centrality of government performance in achieving development results and the need for IFAD to increase its follow-up to encourage implementation of evaluation recommendations.

H. Country strategic opportunities programmes (agenda item 9)

(a) Chad

23. The Executive Board reviewed the COSOP for the Republic of Chad (EB 2009/97/R.10) and commended the appropriateness of the objectives. In its review, the Executive Board highlighted the need to ensure coordination with ongoing donors’ initiatives, including those by Germany and the European Union in rural development and natural resource management. Executive Board Directors also emphasized the necessity of having the capacity in place within the Government to manage the country strategy. The Western and Central Africa Division highlighted that in a fragile state such as Chad, coordination with other donors and partnership-building are at the core of IFAD’s strategy. Indeed, IFAD initiatives under the COSOP are built upon the experiences and lessons learned from French, German, Swiss and European Union development initiatives. The implementation of the strategy will be supported by the establishment of a portfolio implementation unit within the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Cooperation.

(b) Peru

24. The Executive Board welcomed the COSOP for Peru (EB 2009/97/R.11) and enquired into: (i) why Peru would be managed from Colombia if IFAD has an office in Peru; (ii) how the recently approved IFAD Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples is linked to IFAD’s practices in Peru with indigenous peoples. The Director, Latin America and the Caribbean Division (PL) explained that PL has pioneered field presence through its country office in Peru and that this office would be reinforced to enable operations in Peru to be directly managed in the country. The Country Programme Manager (CPM) explained how a cultural practice of the indigenous Quechua and Aymara communities known as Pachamama Raymi (collective agricultural and festive practices celebrating “mother earth” that promote natural resource management) has been used in several countries. The CPM noted that the knowledge and cultural values of these indigenous communities had informed the IFAD Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples. For IFAD, Peru is a learning country: a university of good practices.

(c) Philippines

25. The Executive Board commended the thorough analysis of the agriculture and rural poverty situation and of the symptoms of underdevelopment in the Philippines. It endorsed the three strategic objectives of the 2010-2014 Philippines COSOP (EB 2009/97/R.12 to be revised as EB 2009/97/R.12/Rev.1) and their proposed results management framework. The Board encouraged IFAD to pursue policy dialogue during the COSOP period, in particular, on: (i) producer pricing mechanisms that would enable the transmission of high international prices down to the farm gate; (ii) natural resource management to stop the overexploitation of forest resources and promote reforestation and agroforestry; and (iii) the incorporation of best practices for engaging with indigenous peoples in development activities. The United States Agency for International Development offered to collaborate with IFAD in implementing the strategic objectives of the COSOP.
I. **Resources available for commitment (agenda item 10)**

26. The resources available for commitment (EB 2009/97/R.13 and its addendum) were reviewed by the Executive Board. The Board noted that with net inflows from January to August 2009 estimated at US$337.2 million and a required total for loan and grant proposals at this session of approximately US$229.4 million, as well as loans and grants already approved of US$215.7 million, and advance commitment authority (ACA) already approved of US$76.5 million, no additional ACA was required.

J. **Project/programme proposals for consideration by the Executive Board (agenda item 11)**

27. The Board noted the oral report provided on the status of effectiveness of proposals already approved at previous sessions of the Board. The average time lapse between approval and effectiveness had been reduced since the April session from 13.9 months to 13.7 months.

28. The Executive Board then considered the proposals submitted to the current session and approved fourteen project and programme proposals – eight in Africa and the Near East, two in Asia and four in Latin America and the Caribbean.

29. Regarding the President’s memorandum for Madagascar, the President had requested that the project be assessed by the competent officers because of recent developments in the country. As this assessment was not completed at the time of the Board’s consideration of this project, deliberations on the project were postponed until the ninety-eighth session of the Executive Board, in December 2009.

30. The Executive Board considered the following project/programme proposals:

   (a) **Western and Central Africa**

      (i) Chad: Pastoral Water and Resource Management Project in Sahelian Areas

31. The Executive Board considered the project proposal contained in document EB 2009/97/R.14 with its negotiated financing agreement, and adopted the following resolution:

   “RESOLVED: that the Fund shall provide a grant to the Republic of Chad in various currencies in an amount equivalent to twelve million five hundred and ninety-five thousand special drawing rights (SDR 12,595,000) and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.”

      (ii) Mauritania: Value Chains Development Programme for Poverty Reduction

32. The Executive Board considered the programme proposal contained in document EB 2009/97/R.15 with its negotiated financing agreement, and adopted the following resolutions:

   “RESOLVED: that the Fund shall make a loan on highly concessional terms to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania in an amount equivalent to three million eight hundred and fifty-six thousand special drawing rights (SDR 3,856,000) and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.

   RESOLVED FURTHER: that the Fund shall provide a grant under the Debt Sustainability Framework to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania in an amount equivalent to three million eight hundred and fifty-six thousand special drawing rights (SDR 3,856,000) and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.”
(b) **Eastern and Southern Africa**

(i) *Ethiopia: Pastoral Community Development Project II*

33. The Executive Board considered the project proposal contained in document EB 2009/97/R.16 with its addendum and negotiated financing agreement, and adopted the following resolutions:

“RESOLVED: that the Fund shall make a loan on highly concessional terms to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia in an amount equivalent to twelve million five hundred and seventy-five thousand special drawing rights (SDR 12,575,000), and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.

RESOLVED FURTHER: that the Fund shall provide a grant to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia in an amount equivalent to twelve million five hundred and seventy-five thousand special drawing rights (SDR 12,575,000) and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.”

(ii) *Uganda: District Livelihoods Support Programme – Supplementary loan and grant and modifications to the financing agreement*

34. The Executive Board considered the programme proposal contained in document EB 2009/97/R.18 with its negotiated financing agreement, and adopted the following resolutions:

“RESOLVED: that the Fund shall make a supplementary loan to the Republic of Uganda on highly concessional terms in an amount equivalent to eleven million six hundred thousand special drawing rights (SDR 11,600,000), and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.

RESOLVED FURTHER: that the Fund shall provide a supplementary grant to the Republic of Uganda in an amount equivalent to one million two hundred and ninety thousand special drawing rights (SDR 1,290,000) and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.

APPROVE that the existing programme financing agreement for the District Livelihoods Support Programme be amended to reflect the modifications contained in the report.”

(iii) *Uganda: Community Agricultural Infrastructure Improvement Programme – Supplementary loan*

35. The Executive Board considered the programme proposal contained in document EB 2009/97/R.19 with its negotiated financing agreement, and adopted the following resolution:

“RESOLVED: that the Fund shall make a supplementary loan to the Republic of Uganda on highly concessional terms in an amount equivalent to ten million nine hundred thousand special drawing rights (SDR 10,900,000) and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.”

(iv) **Zambia: Smallholder Agribusiness Promotion Programme**

36. The Executive Board considered the programme proposal contained in document EB 2009/97/R.20 with its addendum and negotiated financing agreement, and adopted the following resolution:

“RESOLVED: that the Fund shall make a loan on highly concessional terms to the Republic of Zambia in an amount equivalent to twelve million nine hundred thousand special drawing rights (SDR 12.9 million), and upon such terms and conditions presented therein.”
conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.”

(c) Asia and the Pacific

(i) Bangladesh: Participatory Small-scale Water Resources Sector Project

37. The Executive Board considered the project proposal contained in document EB 2009/97/R.21 with its negotiated financing agreement, and adopted the following resolution:

“RESOLVED: that the Fund shall make a loan on highly concessional terms to the People’s Republic of Bangladesh in an amount equivalent to fourteen million one hundred and sixty thousand special drawing rights (SDR 14,160,000), and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.”

(ii) Pakistan: Crop Maximization Support Project

38. The Executive Board considered the project proposal contained in document EB 2009/97/R.22 with its addendum and negotiated financing agreement, and adopted the following resolution:

“RESOLVED: that the Fund shall make a loan on highly concessional terms to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in an amount equivalent to eleven million seven hundred thousand special drawing rights (SDR 11,700,000) and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.”

(d) Latin America and the Caribbean

(i) Brazil: Semi-arid Sustainable Development Project in the State of Piauí (Viva o Semi-Arido)

39. The Executive Board considered the project proposal contained in document EB 2009/97/R.23 with its addendum, and adopted the following resolution:

“RESOLVED: that the Fund shall make a loan on ordinary terms to the State of Piauí of the Federative Republic of Brazil in an amount equivalent to twelve million eight hundred thousand special drawing rights (SDR 12,800,000) and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.”

40. The Executive Board approved the loan proposal for Brazil, for which negotiations had not been finalized prior to the Board’s consideration, subject to the completion of negotiations within six months of Board approval and the condition that any significant variations to the terms presented to this session be brought to the attention of the Board at a future session.

(ii) Ecuador: Ibarra-San Lorenzo Development Project

41. The Executive Board considered the project proposal contained in document EB 2009/97/R.24 with its addendum, and adopted the following resolution:

“RESOLVED: that the Fund shall make a loan on ordinary terms to the Republic of Ecuador in an amount equivalent to five million five hundred fifty thousand special drawing rights (SDR 5,550,000), and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.”

42. The Executive Board approved the loan proposal for Ecuador, for which negotiations had not been finalized prior to the Board’s consideration, subject to the completion of negotiations within six months of Board approval and the condition that any important variations to the terms presented to this session be brought to the attention of the Board at a future session.
(iii) **Haiti: Small-scale Irrigation Development Project (PPI-2) – Supplementary grant**

43. The Executive Board considered the project proposal contained in document EB 2009/97/R.25 with its addendum and negotiated financing agreement, and adopted the following resolution:

“RESOLVED: that the Fund shall provide a supplementary grant in the form of a Debt Sustainability Framework grant to the Republic of Haiti in an amount equivalent to three million six hundred and fifty thousand special drawing rights (SDR 3,650,000) and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.”

(iv) **Mexico: Community-based Forestry Development Project in Southern States (Campeche, Chiapas and Oaxaca)**

44. The Executive Board considered the project proposal contained in document EB 2009/97/R.26 with its addendum and negotiated financing agreement, and adopted the following resolution:

“RESOLVED: that the Fund shall make a loan on ordinary terms to the United Mexican States in an amount equivalent to three million and two hundred thousand special drawing rights (SDR 3,200,000), upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.”

(v) **Paraguay: President’s memorandum: Proposed supplementary financing for the Empowerment of Rural Poor Organizations and Harmonization of Investments (Paraguay Rural) Project**

45. The Executive Board considered the proposal contained in document EB 2009/97/R.27 with its addendum, and adopted the following resolution:

“RESOLVED: that the Fund shall make a supplementary loan on intermediate terms to the Republic of Paraguay in an amount equivalent to two million special drawing rights (SDR 2,000,000) and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.”

(e) **Near East and North Africa**

   (i) **Djibouti: President’s memorandum: Microfinance and Microenterprise Development Project – Amendment to the loan agreement**

46. The Executive Board considered the proposal contained in document EB 2009/97/R.28 and approved the proposed amendment to the loan agreement of the Microfinance and Microenterprise Development Project.

   (ii) **Lebanon: Hilly Areas Sustainable Agricultural Development Project**

47. The Executive Board considered the project proposal contained in document EB 2009/97/R.29 with its negotiated financing agreement, and adopted the following resolutions:

“RESOLVED: that the Fund shall make a loan on ordinary terms to the Lebanese Republic in an amount equivalent to two million six hundred thousand special drawing rights (SDR 2,600,000), and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.

RESOLVED FURTHER: that the Fund shall provide a grant to the Lebanese Republic in an amount equivalent to four hundred thousand special drawing rights (SDR 400,000) and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.”
(iii) Sudan: Revitalizing The Sudan Gum Arabic Production and Marketing Project

48. The Executive Board considered the project proposal contained in document EB 2009/97/R.30 with its addendum, and negotiated financing agreement, and adopted the following resolution:

“RESOLVED: that the Fund shall provide a grant to the Republic of The Sudan in an amount equivalent to one million nine hundred thirty-two thousand special drawing rights (SDR 1.932 million) and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.”

49. In accordance with the United States' legislative mandates against assistance from international financial institutions that benefits the Government of The Sudan, the United States opposed the grant proposal for The Sudan.

(iv) The West Bank and Gaza: President’s memorandum: Proposal to channel the net balance due under the Rehabilitation and Development Project in Gaza and the West Bank (Phase II) (RDP-II) into the IFAD Fund for Gaza and the West Bank

50. The Executive Board considered the proposal contained in document EB 2009/97/R.31 and approved the channelling of the RDP-II net balance due, in addition to the Arab Authority for Agricultural Investment and Development funds, into the IFAD Fund for Gaza and the West Bank for use in new programmes for the West Bank and Gaza to be developed by end-2010, by adopting the following resolution:

“RESOLVED: that the net balance due under the Rehabilitation and Development Project (Phase II) (RDP-II) in Gaza and the West Bank and, in addition, Arab Authority for Agricultural Investment and Development funds be channelled into the IFAD Fund for Gaza and the West Bank for subsequent use pursuant to the provisions of resolution 107/XXI establishing the IFAD Fund for Gaza and the West Bank.”

(f) President’s memorandum: Modification of supervision arrangements

51. The Executive Board considered the proposal contained in document EB 2009/97/R.32 and approved a change in the supervision arrangements for the 19 projects listed in table 1 on page 5 of said document, whereby supervision by cooperating institutions would be replaced by direct IFAD supervision. The respective loan agreements will be amended and the letters of appointment of the respective cooperating institutions terminated.

(g) IFAD Policy on the Disclosure of Documents

52. The Executive Board considered the information contained in document EB 2009/97/R.33 and approved the amendment to the IFAD Policy on the Disclosure of Documents, with immediate effect, to allow for public disclosure of project/programme design documents prior to the Executive Board session at which the project/programme is to be considered.

53. Management undertook to provide a comprehensive list of actions taken since the adoption of the policy (EB 2006/89/R.5/Rev.1). The Governing Council will be informed of this update to the IFAD Policy on the Disclosure of Documents.
K. Grant proposals for consideration by the Executive Board (agenda item 12)

(a) Grant under the global/regional grants window to a Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)-supported international centre

54. The Executive Board considered the information contained in document EB 2009/97/R.34 and, by adopting the following resolution, agreed to support one agricultural research and training programme to be implemented through a CGIAR-supported centre:

“RESOLVED: that the Fund, in order to finance, in part, the Programme for Impact Evaluation Approaches for Agricultural Research for Development, shall make a grant not exceeding one million United States dollars (US$1,000,000) to Bioversity International for a four-year programme upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented to the Executive Board herein.

(b) Grants under the global/regional grants window to non-CGIAR-supported international centres

55. The Executive Board considered the information contained in document EB 2009/97/R.35 and, by adopting the following resolution, agreed to support the following agricultural research and training programme to be implemented through a non-CGIAR-supported organization:

“RESOLVED: that the Fund, in order to finance, in part, Development Marketplace 2009: Climate Adaptation (DM2009), shall make a grant not exceeding one million and one hundred United States dollars (US$1,100,000) to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) for a four-year programme upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented to the Executive Board herein.

56. The Board approved a change in recipient of the grant supporting the Asian Project Management Support Programme by adopting the following resolution:

FURTHER RESOLVED: that the recipient of the grant approved by the Executive Board at its ninety-second session in December 2007, in order to finance, in part, the Asian Project Management Support Programme, shall be changed from the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) to the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT).”

(c) Grant under the global/regional grants window to the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), for the Programme for Designing Integrated Financing Strategies for UNCCD Implementation in Selected Countries of Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean - Second instalment

57. The Executive Board considered the information contained in document EB 2009/97/R.36 and approved the proposed grant by adopting the following resolution:

“RESOLVED: that the Fund, in order to finance, in part, the second instalment of the grant approved by the Executive Board at its ninety-third session in April 2008 for the Programme for Designing Integrated Financing Strategies for UNCCD Implementation in Selected Countries of Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean, shall make available to the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, an amount of one million two hundred and fifty thousand United States dollars (US$1,250,000), upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.”
L. **Planned project activities (agenda item 13)**
58. The Board reviewed the document on planned project activities for 2009-2010 (EB 2009/97/R.37), and took note of the information provided on the COSOPs to be undertaken and/or finalized in 2009 – including the projects/programmes that will enter the pipeline as a result – and on the projects/programmes to be submitted to the Board in 2009-2010.

M. **High-level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis and the administered account for its financial coordination mechanism (agenda item 14)**
59. The Executive Board reviewed the information provided in document EB 2009/97/R.38 on the High-Level Task Force (HLTF) on the Global Food Security Crisis, its programme of work and IFAD’s engagement in the task force.
60. The Board welcomed the update on the initiative and encouraged further collaboration by IFAD, particularly at the country level, on this important undertaking.
61. With regard to the proposed administered account, the Board was informed that this would not be set up without a specific decision by HLTF and the necessary funds being made available for the functioning of the mechanism.

N. **Directions for collaboration among the Rome-based agencies (agenda item 15)**
62. The Executive Board reviewed the document on the directions for collaboration among the Rome-based agencies (EB 2009/97/R.39). The document was prepared jointly by IFAD, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Food Programme (WFP). It was presented to the Joint Session of the FAO Programme and Finance Committees in July 2009, and will be presented to WFP’s Executive Board at a future session.
63. The Executive Board welcomed the document’s emphasis on maximizing the impact of collaborative work by drawing on each institution’s comparative advantage. Discussions centred on the importance of active collaboration in a number of areas, in particular at the country level and within the context of the Committee on World Food Security. With regard to IFAD’s engagement in the FAO World Food Summit, IFAD’s participation will be consistent with previous events approved by the FAO Council, in conformity with international protocol arrangements for similar events.
64. Within the context of inter-agency collaboration, IFAD undertook to pursue further discussions through the Rome-based agencies coordination forum at the apical and the operational level. Finally, the Executive Board looked forward to future updates on collaboration among the Rome-based agencies.

O. **Financial matters (agenda item 16)**
   (a) **Report on the Eighth Replenishment of IFAD’s resources**
65. The Executive Board considered and approved the Report on the Eighth Replenishment of IFAD’s resources (EB 2009/97/R.40), which provides information on the pledges to the Eighth Replenishment received by 19 August 2009. The report also provides details of the votes created under the Eighth Replenishment, the final target level and the status of contributions as at 19 August 2009.
66. The Director for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela announced his country’s intention to pledge US$6.569 million. The report was revised accordingly and adopted as EB 2009/97/R.40/Rev.1 (to be revised as EB 2009/97/R.40/Rev.2). The Board also approved the use of a complementary contribution of SEK 100 million from Sweden.
(b) **Status reports**

67. As referred to in paragraph 5, the Report on the status of contributions to the Seventh Replenishment of IFAD’s resources (EB 2009/97/R.41) and the Report on IFAD’s investment portfolio for the second quarter of 2009 (EB 2009/97/R.42), were presented to the Executive Board without discussion.

(c) **Reports of the Audit Committee**

68. The Executive Board reviewed the reports of the 105th, 106th and 107th meetings of the Audit Committee (EB 2009/97/R.43, EB 2009/97/R.44 and EB 2009/97/R.45). The Chairperson of the Audit Committee provided the Board with an oral report on the Committee’s 108th meeting.

69. The Executive Board agreed that the Committee should proceed with the development of a code of conduct for Executive Board members, while noting Cameroon’s opposition to this.

70. The Executive Board considered and approved the final version of the revised Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure of the Audit Committee (reviewed and finalized at the Committee's 107th and 108th meetings), as presented in document EB 2009/97/R.50 and its addendum (to be revised as EB 2009/97/R.50/Rev.1).

71. The provision contained in paragraph 3.1(k) may be subject to further review in order to keep IFAD’s practices aligned with evolving best practices in international financial institutions (IFIs). The published Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure of the Audit Committee will include a footnote to this effect.

(d) **IFAD’s lending terms and conditions: interest rates for the year 2010 for loans on ordinary and intermediate terms**

72. The Executive Board considered IFAD’s lending terms and conditions: interest rates for the year 2010 for loans on ordinary and intermediate terms (EB 2009/97/R.46/Rev.2). In approving the document, the Executive Board approved the following:

   
   "(a) That the periodicity of the update of the IFAD reference interest rate be amended from 12 months to 6 months on the basis that IFAD is moving into line with practices currently applied by other international financial institutions;

   (b) That the applicable rate will be based on the SDR LIBOR six-month composite rate, with due regard to IFAD’s unique mandate;

   (c) That the Board will henceforth be informed of the applicable interest rate through publication on the IFAD website; and

   (d) That the amendment will take effect as of January 2010."

73. The Board requested further clarification on a number of issues, including the practices of other IFIs, the proposed methodology, and the long-term implications of the revisions. IFAD Management will provide the Board with this information at the December session.

**P. Draft provisional agenda for the thirty-third session of the Governing Council (agenda item 17)**

74. In accordance with rule 6 of the Rules of Procedure of the Governing Council, the Executive Board approved the draft provisional agenda for the thirty-third session of the Governing Council (EB 2009/97/R.47). The dates for the Governing Council were set for Wednesday and Thursday, 17 and 18 February 2010. The Executive Board had a productive discussion on how to add to the dynamism of this key event. IFAD Management welcomed the Board’s interest and suggestions in this regard. Management will bring additional proposals regarding Governing Council events to the December Executive Board.
Q. **Other business (agenda item 18)**

(a) **Appointment of members to the Working Group on the Performance-based Allocation System**

75. The Executive Board considered the appointment of members to the Working Group on the Performance-based Allocation System (PBAS) (EB 2009/97/R.48 + Corr. 1 to be revised as EB 2009/97/R.48/Rev.1) and appointed the following members to represent it on the working group: France, Italy, Sweden and the United States from List A; Nigeria and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela from List B; and, within the List C Members of the Board, from sub-List C1: Burkina Faso for the period April 2009 to December 2010 and Cameroon from January 2011 to April 2012; from sub-List C2: Turkey (2009); and from sub-List C3: Mexico.

76. The Executive Board noted that, pursuant to rule 11.1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, the working group will elect a chairperson from among its members and the Board will be informed accordingly.

(b) **Minutes of the ninety-sixth session of the Executive Board**

77. The Executive Board noted the amendment to the minutes of its ninety-sixth session, as requested by the representative of the United States (EB 2009/97/R.49) and approved the revised minutes accordingly.
Delegations at the ninety-seventh session of the Executive Board

Délégations à la quatre-vingt-dix-septième session du Conseil d’administration

Delegaciones en el 97º período de sesiones de la Junta Ejecutiva

Executive Board — Ninety-seventh Session
Rome, 14-15 September 2009

For: Information
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<td>EB 2009/97/R.46 + Rev.1 + Rev.2</td>
<td>16(d)</td>
<td>IFAD’s lending terms and conditions: interest rates for the year 2010 for loans on ordinary and intermediate terms</td>
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<tr>
<td>EB 2009/97/R.47</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Draft provisional agenda for the thirty-third session of the Governing Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>EB 2009/97/R.49</td>
<td>18(b)</td>
<td>Minutes of the ninety-sixth session of the Executive Board</td>
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<td>EB 2009/97/INF.1</td>
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<td>Arrangements for the ninety-seventh session of the Executive Board</td>
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<td>EB 2009/97/INF.2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Status report on arrears in principal, interest and service charge payments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EB 2009/97/INF.3</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Republic of Nicaragua:</strong> Implementation of the second cycle of the Technical Assistance Fund Programme for the Departments of León, Chinandega and Managua under the Flexible Lending Mechanism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EB 2009/97/INF.4</td>
<td></td>
<td>List of documents for the ninety-seventh session of the Executive Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EB 2009/97/INF.6⁶</td>
<td></td>
<td>Summary of project, programme and grant proposals discussed by the Executive Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EB 2009/97/INF.7⁶</td>
<td></td>
<td>Decisions and deliberations of the ninety-seventh session of the Executive Board</td>
</tr>
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⁶ Document provided in English only
Executive Board — Ninety-seventh Session
Rome, 14-15 September 2009

For: Approval
**Agenda**

As communicated to the Executive Board at its ninety-sixth session, the Chairperson of the Board – the President of IFAD – has proposed the implementation of a number of measures to enhance the effectiveness of the Executive Board.

Among these is the proposal that items presented for information will be discussed during a Board session only at the specific request of a Board member. Such requests should be submitted in writing to the Secretary of IFAD three weeks before the Board session.

The schedule of work will include only items to be discussed during the Board session (i.e. items for approval or review and items for information for which a written request for discussion at the Board has been received) and will be posted on the IFAD website two weeks before the session.

For ease of reference, each agenda item is assigned a letter to indicate the action required of the Board, as follows:

- **A** = For approval
- **I** = For information
- **R** = For review

Directors are invited to note rule 6 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board relative to the distribution of documents:

“...The four-week dispatch limit with respect to documents presented for and requiring action by the Executive Board at a session shall not be exceeded. However, if necessary, information relating to matters that do not require decisions by the Board, or additional information regarding projects, may be provided subsequently.”
Agenda

1. Opening of the session
2. Adoption of the agenda [A]
3. Oral update on global trends in food security and rural development [I]
4. Results Measurement Framework for the Eighth Replenishment period (2010-2012) [A]
5. IFAD Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples [A]
6. High-level preview of IFAD’s 2010 results-based programme of work and administrative and capital budgets, and the Office of Evaluation’s three-year (2010-2012) rolling work programme and 2010 resource issues [R]
7. Evaluation
   (a) Reports of the Chairperson of the Evaluation Committee
      (i) Report of the Chairperson on the fifty-sixth session of the Evaluation Committee [A]
      (ii) Report of the Chairperson on the fifty-seventh session of the Evaluation Committee [A]
      (iii) Report of the Chairperson on the fifty-eighth session of the Evaluation Committee [R]
   (b) Peer Review of IFAD’s Office of Evaluation and Evaluation Function – Review Approach Paper [A]
9. Country strategic opportunities programmes [R]
   (a) Chad
   (b) Peru
   (c) Philippines
10. Resources available for commitment [A]
11. Project/programme proposals for consideration by the Executive Board [A]
   (a) Western and Central Africa
      (i) Chad: Pastoral Water and Resource Management Project in Sahelian Areas
      (ii) Mauritania: Value Chains Development Programme for Poverty Reduction
   (b) Eastern and Southern Africa
      (i) Ethiopia: Pastoral Community Development Project II
      (ii) Uganda: District Livelihoods Support Programme – Supplementary loan and grant and modifications to the financing agreement
      (iii) Uganda: Community Agricultural Infrastructure Improvement Programme – Supplementary loan
      (iv) Zambia: Smallholder Agribusiness Promotion Programme
(c) Asia and the Pacific
   (i) Bangladesh: Participatory Small-scale Water Resources Sector Project
   (ii) Pakistan: Crop Maximization Support Project

(d) Latin America and the Caribbean
   (i) Brazil: Semi-arid Sustainable Development Project in the State of Piauí (Viva o Semi-Árido)
   (ii) Ecuador: Ibarra-San Lorenzo Development Project
   (iii) Haiti: Small-scale Irrigation Development Project (PPI-2) – Supplementary grant
   (iv) Mexico: Community-based Forestry Development Project for Southern States (Campeche, Chiapas and Oaxaca)
   (v) Paraguay: President's memorandum: Proposed supplementary financing for the Empowerment of Rural Poor Organizations and Harmonization of Investments (Paraguayan Rural) Project

(e) Near East and North Africa
   (i) Djibouti: President's memorandum: Microfinance and Microenterprise Development Project – Amendment to the loan agreement
   (ii) Lebanon: Hilly Areas Sustainable Agricultural Development Project
   (iii) Sudan: Revitalizing The Sudan Gum Arabic Production and Marketing Project
   (iv) The West Bank and Gaza: President's memorandum: Proposal to channel the net balance due under the Rehabilitation and Development Project in Gaza and the West Bank (Phase II) (RDP-II) into the IFAD Fund for Gaza and the West Bank

(f) President's memorandum: Modification of supervision arrangements

(g) IFAD Policy on the Disclosure of Documents [A]

12. Grant proposals for consideration by the Executive Board [A]
   (a) Grant under the global/regional grants window to a Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)-supported international centre
   (b) Grants under the global/regional grants window to non-CGIAR-supported international centres and organizations
   (c) Grant under the global/regional grants window to the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), for the Programme for Designing Integrated Financing Strategies for UNCCD Implementation in Selected Countries of Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean – Second instalment

13. Planned project activities [I]

14. High-Level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis and the administered account for its financial coordination mechanism [R]

15. Directions for collaboration among the Rome-based agencies [R]

16. Financial matters
   (a) Report on the Eighth Replenishment of IFAD’s resources [A]
(b) Status reports [I]
   (i) Report on the status of contributions to the Seventh Replenishment of
       IFAD’s resources
   (ii) Report on IFAD’s investment portfolio for the second quarter of 2009

(c) Reports of the Audit Committee
   (i) Report of the Chairperson on the 105th meeting of the Audit Committee
       [R]
   (ii) Report of the Chairperson on the 106th meeting of the Audit Committee
       [R]
   (iii) Report of the Chairperson on the 107th meeting of the Audit Committee [R]
   (iv) Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure of the Audit Committee of
        the Executive Board [A]

(d) IFAD’s lending terms and conditions: interest rates for the year 2010 for loans
     on ordinary and intermediate terms [A]

17. Draft provisional agenda for the thirty-third session of the Governing Council [A]

18. Other business
   (a) Appointment of members to the Working Group on the Performance-based
       Allocation System [A]
   (b) Minutes of the ninety-sixth session of the Executive Board [A]