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Enabling poor rural people
to overcome poverty

Minutes of the fifty-seventh session of the Evaluation Committee

Evaluation Committee — Fifty-ninth Session
Rome, 9 October 2009

For: **Approval**

Note to Evaluation Committee members

This document is submitted for the approval of the Evaluation Committee.

To make the best use of time available at Evaluation Committee 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

The Evaluation Committee is invited to approve amendments to the minutes of its fifty-seventh session, as shown in the present document, and to adopt the revised minutes.

Minutes of the fifty-seventh session of the Evaluation Committee

The representative of Canada has requested that the minutes of the fifty-seventh session of the Evaluation Committee be amended as shown below. For ease of reference, all insertions have been underlined.

Peer review of the Office of Evaluation

1. **Paragraph 5, third bullet point:** Peer Review Panel composition.
The Committee expressed satisfaction with the proposed composition of the Peer Review Panel, and encouraged the ECG to identify consultants experienced in agriculture to support the work of the panel in the immediate future. The Committee advised that recruitment should proceed as soon as possible once the revised approach paper and terms of reference had been considered by the Executive Board in September 2009.
 2. **Paragraph 5, fifth bullet point:** Peer review timeline.
The Evaluation Committee discussed the timeline for the peer review and suggested that adequate time be allocated to allow for a more thorough assessment of OE and IFAD's evaluation function. In this regard, the possibility of providing the final report to the Evaluation Committee and Executive Board in April 2010 was discussed; however, the sense of the discussion was for the Peer Review to proceed as expeditiously as possible.
 3. **Paragraph 12:**
Following an introduction by the Director, OE on the topic, the Assistant President of PMD underlined that Management was satisfied with the consultation process that OE followed in defining its three-year rolling evaluation work programme. With regard to corporate-level evaluations (CLE) in the pipeline, he proposed the undertaking of a CLE on either the sustainability or the efficiency of IFAD operations, instead of the planned CLE on policy dialogue in 2012. The Committee requested OE to develop a final proposal of CLEs to be undertaken in the future, following further consultation with Management. The Committee noted that the Governing Council, in approving the Eighth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources, set objectives for IFAD in terms of the new and revised policies that should be put in place. OE's planning for CLEs should therefore, to the extent possible, contribute to the successful delivery by IFAD of policies in support of the replenishment objectives.
- Preview of the Office of the Evaluation's three-year rolling work programme for 2010-2012 and resource issues for 2010**
4. **Paragraph 15:**
Some members stressed the importance of developing partnerships in evaluation; however, this should not come at the expense of the quality or independence of evaluations. On a related issue, a member asked for clarification of the timeline, further information on the results of the joint evaluation on agriculture with the African Development Bank, and the role and value added of senior independent advisers (SIAs) used in higher-plane evaluations.

The President's Report on the Implementations Status of Evaluation recommendations and Management Actions together with OE's comments

5. **Paragraph 21:**

On a related topic, the Committee's attention was drawn to the fact that around 57 per cent of total evaluation recommendations had been fully implemented, which needs improvement. On this issue, it was recommended that Management provide ["deeper analysis and" deleted] explanations of why a particular recommendation could not be followed up or was seen as no longer relevant.

