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Enabling poor rural people
to overcome poverty

Minutes of the fifty-eighth session of the Evaluation Committee

Evaluation Committee — Sixtieth Session
Rome, 1-2 December 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-eighth session, as shown in the present document, and to adopt the revised minutes.

Minutes of the fifty-eighth session of the Evaluation Committee

The Chairperson has requested that the minutes of the fifty-eighth session of the Evaluation Committee be amended as shown below.

Peer Review of the Office of Evaluation and IFAD's Evaluation Function

1. *The order of paragraphs 13 and 14 will be reversed, to better reflect the chronology of discussions; for ease of reference, all new insertions have been underlined.*
2. *Paragraph 13 will now read: In response to the remarks of the Committee, the ECG representatives explained that the proposed increase in the peer review budget is due to: (i) the inclusion of the costs associated with the three planned country visits; and (ii) a more accurate estimation of costs, which had only been possible after the July session, following the identification and selection of the two consultants to support the ECG peer review panel. They also reassured the Committee that the proposed cost of the IFAD peer review was in line with the costs for similar peer reviews of evaluation functions in multilateral and bilateral organizations, which range between US\$250,000 to US\$400,000, depending on the nature of the institution and its evaluation function. Based on this explanation, the Committee agreed to recommend the Board to approve the increase requested in the peer review budget. It was also agreed to discuss the final report in April 2010, as this would provide the ECG with more time to conduct a thorough analysis.*
3. *Paragraph 14 will now read: Furthermore, the ECG representatives explained the usefulness of conducting a few country visits, as these would grant them an opportunity to hear the views of partners at the country level who had previously been involved in IFAD evaluation processes. They also clarified that the three countries chosen had been selected based on the fact that they had each been exposed to an OE country programme evaluation in the recent past, which would facilitate interactions and the capturing of insights from partners at the country level about the quality and usefulness of the respective evaluations. With the clarifications provided, the Committee agreed that a few well-focused country visits should be included as part of the peer review process.*