



Governing Council
Twenty-First Session
Rome, 11-12 February 1998
Agenda Item 2

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

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ANNOTATIONS

1. Opening of the Session

The Twenty-First Session of the Governing Council will be held on Wednesday 11 February and Thursday 12 February 1998, at the Palazzo dei Congressi, Piazzale J.F. Kennedy, Rome (EUR). The Session will be opened at 10.00 hours on Wednesday 11 February 1998.

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 this document (GC 21/L.1/Rev.1).

3. Election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Governing Council

The Governing Council is invited, in accordance with Rule 12 of its Rules of Procedure, to elect a Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen for the coming two years.

4. Applications for Non-Original Membership

If any application for membership of IFAD by a Government of a Non-Member State is received and recommended for approval by the Executive Board, it will be submitted to the Governing Council for its consideration under this agenda item. (Document GC 21/L.2)

5. Statement of the President of IFAD

President Al-Sultan will make a statement to the Governing Council reviewing IFAD's operations in 1997.

6. Progress Report on the Fourth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources

A report on the status of the Fourth Replenishment of IFAD will be presented in document GC 21/L.3, which will be tabled at the beginning of the Session.

7. General Statements

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

8. Audited Financial Statements of IFAD - 31 December 1996

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 is invited to consider document GC 21/L.4, containing the Audited Financial Statements of IFAD for 1996, together with the report of the External Auditor thereon. The Sixtieth Session of the Executive Board reviewed the statements in April 1997 and recommended their submission to the Governing Council for its approval.

9. Proposed Budget of IFAD for 1998

The Budget of IFAD for 1998, as recommended by the Executive Board for approval, will be presented in document GC 21/L.5.

10. Establishment of an IFAD Heavily-Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative Trust Fund

In accordance with the recommendation of the Executive Board regarding the Proposed Involvement of the Fund in the Debt Initiative for Heavily-Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC): IFAD's Operational Policy Framework, document GC 21/L.6 will present the proposal and a draft resolution thereon for the establishment of an IFAD Heavily-Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative (HIPC DI) Trust Fund. The IFAD HIPC DI Trust Fund will constitute the mechanism whereby IFAD will provide Debt Relief on a country-by-country basis.

11. IFAD's Policy Framework for Managing Partnerships with Countries in Arrears

In accordance with the recommendation of the Sixty-First Session of the Executive Board regarding IFAD's Policy Framework for Managing Partnerships with Countries in Arrears, document GC 21/L.7 will present the Governing Council with the policy framework proposal and a draft resolution thereon.

12. IFAD Policy on the Disclosure of Documents

Following consideration by the Executive Board at its Sixty-First and Sixty-Second Sessions, IFAD Policy on the Disclosure of Documents will be submitted to the Governing Council in document GC 21/L.8 together with a draft resolution thereon. The purpose of the policy is to endow IFAD with the means to increase its accountability, transparency and service to its stakeholder community while further disseminating general knowledge of its role in promoting sustainable development.

13. The Establishment of an IFAD Fund for Gaza and the West Bank

A proposal for the establishment of an IFAD Fund for Gaza and the West Bank so as to permit the Fund to use its own and other resources to finance loans and grants in the Palestinian Autonomous Territories was presented to the Sixty-Second Session of the Executive Board. This Fund would be necessitated because the Palestinian Autonomous Territories is not a Member State of IFAD and, thus, ineligible to receive loans for projects in line with IFAD's mandate. In accordance with the recommendation of the Executive Board, document GC 21/L.9 and a resolution thereon will be presented to the Governing Council for its consideration.

14. Housing the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

The results of the deliberations of the Conference of Parties, held in Rome from 29 September to 10 October 1997, whereby by the Fund was selected to house the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, were presented to the Sixty-Second Session of the Executive Board. In accordance with the recommendation of the Executive Board, document GC 21/L.10 and a resolution thereon to accept this decision, will be presented to the Governing Council for its consideration.

15. Membership of the Executive Board

In accordance with the decision of the Twentieth Session of the Governing Council with regard to the election of the Members and Alternate Members of the Executive Board, the Governing Council is invited to endorse the exchange of seats within Sub-Lists C1 and C2 Countries as presented in document GC 21/L.11. This document will also provide the Council with the new List B membership on the Executive Board subsequent to the entry of Nigeria.

16. IFAD's Follow-up to the Conference on Hunger and Poverty

As a follow-up to the recommendations of the Conference on Hunger and Poverty, a Coalition comprising the European Commission, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Bank, the World Food Programme, and seven regional and international non-governmental organizations, has established a number of collaborative programmes. A report on the progress and results achieved to date will be presented to the Session in document GC 21/L.12.

17. IFAD's Follow-up to the World Food Summit

Information on IFAD's Follow-up to the World Food Summit since the Twentieth Session of the Governing Council, will be provided in document GC 21/L.13.

18. Report on the Commemoration of the Twentieth Anniversary of IFAD

A report on the celebration of IFAD's Twentieth Anniversary will be presented in document GC 21/L.14, to be tabled at the beginning of the Session.

19. Report on the Status of the Headquarters Agreement

An oral report on this subject will be presented to the Twenty-First Session of the Governing Council.

20. Other Business

Other business matters arising, if any, will be treated under this item.