



IFAD
INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
Governing Council – Twenty-Fifth Session
Rome, 19-20 February 2002

**PROGRAMME OF WORK AND
AGENDA OF THE
TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL**

1. On 6 September 2001, President Båge wrote to all IFAD Governors soliciting ideas for making the Twenty-Fifth Session of the Governing Council – his first as President of the Fund – more interactive, substantive and productive. To that end, the President proposed ‘Financing Development – the Rural Dimension’ as the overall theme of the Council. The replies received fully endorsed the proposed theme.
2. The Twenty-Fifth Session of the Governing Council will be held at a particularly important time in terms of world events, including the International Conference on Financing for Development to be held in Mexico in March 2002. That being the case, IFAD feels it would be particularly appropriate to focus on the goal set forth in the United Nations Millennium Declaration “To halve, by the year 2015, the proportion of the world’s people whose income is less than one dollar a day”. As a result of that declaration, many multilateral institutions and donor countries now accord greater priority to reducing poverty. With its longstanding focus on rural poverty, IFAD is now faced with new opportunities – and a corresponding level of responsibility – for playing a stronger catalytic role in promoting poverty-alleviation efforts in the developing world and in helping to attain the Millennium goal, which will call for greater resources in terms of external development assistance and domestic investment, especially in the rural sector. In this regard, the proposed theme of the Council will have a strong link with discussions in other fora and may also contribute to their outcome.
3. It is proposed to hold an interactive policy discussion – guided by a panel of high-level development experts – in plenary during the first day of the Session. On the second day, it is also proposed to hold, at one and the same time, six roundtable discussions on specific regions and topics, drawing on the regional assessments and strategies currently being developed by IFAD. These roundtable discussions will cover the regions indicated in the Programme of Work.
4. Each roundtable will be chaired by a minister or senior representative from the region concerned; IFAD division directors and senior economists will assist the groups and introduce the relevant regional strategies. National delegations are invited to attend the roundtable discussions of their choice and, in order to maximize interaction, may even wish to have different members attend different discussion groups.

PROGRAMME OF WORK

TUESDAY, 19 FEBRUARY 2002

Morning Session

10.00 – 13.00 hrs

Opening of the Session
Commencement of agenda items as indicated on the Provisional Agenda

Afternoon Session

14.30 – 18.45 hrs

14.30 – 16.30 hrs

Interactive dialogue on the theme of the Governing Council. The panel will be composed of the President of IFAD, the Chairperson of the Governing Council, two-to-three guest speakers and two-to-three heads of delegation, each of whom will speak for five minutes. That will be followed by a question-and-answer period.

16.30 – 18.45 hrs

Further agenda items

19.00 hrs

Reception

WEDNESDAY, 20 FEBRUARY 2002

Morning Session

9.00 – 13.00 hrs

9.00 – 11.00 hrs

Six roundtables will be held simultaneously on specific regions and topics, based on IFAD's Strategic Framework, regional assessments and strategies. The roundtables may be chaired by either ministers or senior representatives from the regions involved and include heads of delegations, the IFAD staff concerned and, if possible, guests invited to the Council. These roundtable discussions will cover the following regions:

- (a) Asia and the Pacific;
- (b) Central Eastern Europe and Newly Independent States;
- (c) Eastern and Southern Africa;
- (d) Latin America and the Caribbean;
- (e) Near East and North Africa; and
- (f) West Africa.

11.00 – 13.00 hrs

Continuation of agenda items

13.00 – 14.30 hrs

Lunch hosted by President Båge for heads of delegation

Afternoon Session

15.00 – 18.00 hrs

Conclusion of remaining agenda items, including general statements.

Closure of the Session



AGENDA

1. Opening of the Session
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Election of the Bureau of the Governing Council
4. Statement of the President of IFAD
5. General Statements
6. Report on the Fifth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources
7. Sixth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources
8. Audited Financial Statements of IFAD – 31 December 2000
9. Proposed Administrative Budget of IFAD for 2002
10. Progress Report on the IFAD V: Plan of Action (2000-2002)
11. Progress Report on the Process Re-Engineering Programme
12. Membership of the Executive Board
13. Progress Report on the Popular Coalition to Eradicate Hunger and Poverty
14. Progress Report on the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
15. Other Business

Approval of Disclosure of Documents