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IFAD
INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
Governing Council – Twenty-Seventh Session
Rome, 18-19 February 2004

AGENDA AND PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

1. In line with the format introduced in recent years, the proceedings of the Twenty-Seventh Session of the Governing Council will include an interactive panel discussion, which, as shown in the Programme of Events, will be held in the plenary on the first day of the Session. Given the increasing relevance of markets and trade for the rural poor and the opportunities and challenges the new trade environment potentially creates for them, the President has proposed as the theme of this discussion “Trade and Rural Development: Opportunities and Challenges for the Rural Poor”.
2. On the second day of the Session, six round-table discussions on topics identified in consultation with the regions will be held simultaneously. Each round table will be chaired by a minister or senior representative from the region concerned; IFAD division directors, country programme managers and senior economists will assist the groups and introduce the relevant topic. National delegations are invited to attend the round-table discussions of their choice and, to maximize interaction, may even wish to have different members attend different discussion groups.

PROVISIONAL 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 Sixth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources
7. Audited Financial Statements of IFAD – 31 December 2002
8. Administrative Budget of IFAD and Its Office of Evaluation for 2004
9. Delegation of Authority to Establish Multi-Donor Trust Funds
10. Progress Report on the Implementation of the Performance-Based Allocation System
11. Progress Report on the Process Re-Engineering Programme (Strategic Change Programme)
12. Report on the Lessons Learned by the International Land Coalition
13. Progress Report on the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
14. Other Business

Approval of Disclosure of Documents

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 2004

Morning Meeting **10.00-13.00 hours**

10.00-13.00 hours **Inaugural Ceremony**
Commencement of Agenda Items

Afternoon Meeting **15.00-18.30 hours**

15.00-17.30 hours **Panel Discussion on the Theme of Trade and Rural**
Development: Opportunities and Challenges for the Rural
Poor

The interactive panel discussion will provide an opportunity for dialogue on the theme and will include a question-and-answer period. The panel will be composed of high-level experts together with the President of IFAD and the Chairman of the Governing Council.

17.30-18.30 hours **Continuation of Agenda Items**

THURSDAY, 19 FEBRUARY 2004

Morning Meeting **09.30-13.00 hours**

09.30-10.20 hours **Continuation of Agenda Items**

10.30-13.00 hours **Round-Table Discussions**

Six round tables will be held simultaneously by the Fund's operational regions on the following topics:

- Asia and the Pacific: *Rural Enterprises and Poverty Reduction*
- Central Eastern Europe and Newly Independent States: *Promoting Farmers' Access to Markets in Transitional Economies*
- Eastern and Southern Africa: *Challenges and Opportunities for Rural Development Arising from Sector-Wide Approaches*
- Latin America and the Caribbean: *Remittances and Rural Development*
- Near East and North Africa: *Managing Water Scarcity in the Near East and North Africa*
- Western and Central Africa: *Rural Finance in Western and Central Africa*

Afternoon Meeting **15.00-18.00 hours**

15.00-18.00 hours **Conclusion of Remaining Agenda Items, Including General**
Statements
Closure of the Session

