

Document:	<u>GC 36</u>
Date	<u>May 2013</u>
Distribution:	<u>Public</u>
Original:	<u>English</u>

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Enabling poor rural people  
to overcome poverty

**Governing Council**

**Thirty-sixth Session Report**

**Rome, 13-14 February 2013**

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## Chapter 1

### Inauguration and proceedings

1. The thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council of IFAD was held in Rome on 13-14 February 2013. The list of participants is attached as annex I.
  2. The Council held a total of three meetings, the summary records of which are contained in chapter 3, part A.
- A. Opening of the session and inaugural meeting**
3. The session was opened by Her Excellency Marie-Josée Jacobs, Chairperson of the Governing Council and Governor of IFAD for the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. The full text of her opening statement is reproduced in chapter 4.
  4. Archbishop Dominique Mamberti, Secretary for Relations with States of the Holy See, delivered a message from His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI. The full text of the address is reproduced in chapter 4.
- B. Agenda and documentation**
5. At the request of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, an item concerning action to support efficient governance of IFAD, with particular reference to the principle of linguistic equality, was included on the agenda of the thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council.
  6. Mr Kanayo F. Nwanze, President of IFAD, welcomed the special guests to the inaugural meeting of the session. These welcoming statements are reproduced in chapter 4.
  7. His Excellency Hui Liangyu, Vice Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, delivered a keynote address. This address is reproduced in full in chapter 4.
  8. His Excellency Vittorio Grilli, Minister for Economy and Finance of the Italian Republic, delivered a keynote address to the Governing Council, the full text of which is reproduced in chapter 4.
  9. The Governing Council adopted the revised agenda, shown together with the programme of events for the session in annex II. The documents placed before the Council are listed in annex III. The resolutions adopted by the Governing Council appear in annex IV.
- C. Statement by the President of IFAD**
10. The full text of President Nwanze's statement to the Governing Council appears in chapter 4.
- D. Panel discussions**
11. The panel discussion "Secrets of mutually beneficial and successful partnerships" brought together representatives from cooperatives, local business people and other private sector actors to talk about how partnerships between smallholder farmers and other private-sector actors can create win-win situations along the agricultural value chain. The speakers reflected on their experiences to examine the challenges and opportunities of organizing smallholder farmers; enabling them to expand their operations in a cost-effective manner and gain access to markets; providing them with access to knowledge, research, technology and finance; and developing policies that cater to the needs of all stakeholders and partners.
  12. At the plenary panel discussion "The power of partnerships: Investing in sustainable rural development", the audience heard from James Mwangi, Chief Executive Officer

and Managing Director of Equity Bank, Kenya, who was interviewed by United Nations Special Representative David Nabarro. Their dialogue explored the potential opportunities for promoting smallholder farmers' access to financial resources by forging alliances with public and private-sector entities. Following that, a panel of experts discussed the characteristics of effective partnership between smallholder partners, other private-sector actors and the public sector, in agribusiness value chains.

13. Details of the discussions at the Governing Council events can be found in a separate report entitled "The power of partnerships: Forging alliances for sustainable smallholder agriculture, Proceedings of the Governing Council events".

**E. High-level round table with Governors**

14. A summary of the proceedings of the high-level round table with Governors entitled "Partnerships for financing agricultural and rural development" is provided in chapter 3, part B.

**F. General statements**

15. The general statements delivered by Governors in the plenary session are summarized in the summary records contained in chapter 3, part A. General statements submitted in writing by Member State representatives who did not make oral presentations are reproduced in full in chapter 3, part C. A synthesis of the deliberations of the First Global Meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum, held on 11-12 February in conjunction with the Council session, is included in chapter 4.

**G. Closure of the session**

16. The President of IFAD presented closing remarks to the Council; these are reproduced in full in chapter 4.
17. The Vice-Chairperson of the Governing Council, His Excellency Miguel Ruiz Cabañas Izquierdo, summarized the results of the Council's main deliberations and then closed the thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council. The text of the closing statement is reproduced in full in chapter 4.



**Her Excellency Marie-Josée Jacobs, Minister for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Action of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg**



**Mr Bambang Brodjonegoro,  
Director International Relation  
Policy, Fiscal Policy Office,  
Ministry of Finance of the  
Republic of Indonesia**



**His Excellency Miguel Ruiz Cabañas  
Izquierdo, Ambassador and  
Permanent Representative of the  
United Mexican States to IFAD**

## Chapter 2

### Decisions of the Governing Council

#### **A. Applications for non-original membership**

18. The Governing Council considered document GC 36/L.2 and, on 13 February 2013, adopted resolutions 171/XXXVI, 172/XXXVI and 173/XXXVI, approving the membership of the Republic of Nauru, Tuvalu and the Republic of Vanuatu.

#### **B. Report of the Emoluments Committee**

19. The Governing Council was informed that subsequent to the re-establishment of a committee to review the emoluments of the President of IFAD at its thirty-fourth session, the Emoluments Committee, chaired by the representative of Germany, had completed its review and made its recommendations to the Council.
20. The Council took note of the Report of the Emoluments Committee on the terms and conditions of employment of the President of IFAD as contained in document GC 36/L.3, and adopted resolution 174/XXXVI on 13 February 2013. The Kingdom of Sweden registered its reservation on this report.

#### **C. Consolidated financial statements of IFAD for 2011**

21. The Governing Council considered and approved the financial statements showing the financial position of IFAD as at 31 December 2011 and the results of its operations for the year ended on that date, as contained in appendices A to K inclusive of document GC 36/L.7 and the report of the external auditor thereon.

#### **D. Appointment of the President of IFAD**

22. The Governing Council considered document GC 36/L.4 concerning the appointment of the President of IFAD and, at its first meeting, the Governing Council appointed, by acclamation, Mr Kanayo F. Nwanze, of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, for a second four-year term of office as President of IFAD, with effect from 1 April 2013. The Council adopted resolution 175/XXXVI thereon on 13 February 2013.

#### **E. Established good practice for the process leading to the appointment of the President of IFAD**

23. The Governing Council considered document GC 36/L.5 and adopted, on 13 February 2013, resolution 176/XXXVI regarding the established good practice for the process leading to the appointment of the President of IFAD.

#### **F. IFAD's 2013 results-based programme of work and regular and capital budgets, the IOE results-based work programme and budget for 2013 and indicative plan for 2014-2015, and the HIPC and PBAS progress reports**

24. After considering the proposed administrative budget comprising the regular and capital budgets of IFAD for 2013 and the budget of the Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD for 2013, as presented in document GC 36/L.8/Rev.1, the Governing Council adopted resolution 177/XXXVI relating thereto on 13 February 2013.
25. The Council also took note of the information contained in the progress reports on IFAD's participation in the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) Debt Initiative and the implementation of the performance-based allocation system (PBAS) at IFAD. The Governing Council noted the concerns raised with respect to the maintenance of multilingualism at IFAD and Management's commitment to explore and identify solutions in this regard. The United States of America registered its abstention from the approval of the Fund's regular budget.

**G. Revision of the IFAD Lending Policies and Criteria**

26. The Governing Council considered document GC 36/L.9 and adopted, on 13 February 2013, resolution 178/XXXVI approving the Revision of the Lending Policies and Criteria. The Kingdom of Sweden registered its abstention from the approval of the new Policies and Criteria for IFAD Financing.

**H. Report on the status of the Ninth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources**

27. The Governing Council reviewed the report on the status of donor contributions to the Ninth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources contained in document GC 36/L.6. The Council was informed that, including the pledges received since the date of the report, pledges for the Ninth Replenishment amounted to US\$1,386 million, or 92 per cent of the overall target for donor contributions. It further noted that instruments of contribution deposited, inclusive of those deposited since the date of the report, amounted to 73 per cent of pledges. Finally, the Council was informed that payments received for the Ninth Replenishment, inclusive of those received since the date of the report, amounted to US\$585 million, equivalent to 42 per cent of the pledged total.

**I. Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification**

28. The Governing Council took note of the information contained in document GC 36/L.10 on the Report on IFAD's Hosting of the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa.

**J. Other business**

**Action to support the efficient governance of IFAD, with particular reference to the principle of linguistic equality**

29. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, speaking on behalf not only of List B countries, but also of List A and C countries, requested assurance that the decision taken by the Governing Council on the administrative budget, comprising the regular and capital budgets of IFAD for 2013, would fully reflect what had been said on the matter of support to governance and specifically language parity, including the concluding statement made by the President of IFAD.
30. The Council took note of the President of IFAD's assurance that, as of April 2013, all documents, including annexes and information documents, submitted to Executive Board sessions, would be available in all four languages, if and when they were presented as Board documents.

## Chapter 3

### A. Summary records

(including a summary of general statements delivered by Governors)

- (i) Summary record of the first meeting of the thirty-sixth session held on Wednesday, 13 February 2013 at 9 a.m.

**Chairperson: Marie-Josée Jacobs (Luxembourg)**

**Later: Bambang Brodjonegoro (Indonesia)  
(Vice-Chairperson)**

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31. **The meeting was called to order at 9.10 a.m.**

#### OPENING OF THE SESSION (agenda item 1) AND INAUGURAL CEREMONY

32. **The CHAIRPERSON** declared open the thirty-sixth session, welcomed participants and made a statement, the full text of which is reproduced in chapter 4.

#### MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE BENEDICT XVI

33. **Mr NWANZE** (President of IFAD) welcomed the Most Reverend Archbishop Dominique Mamberti, Secretary for Relations with States of the Holy See, who was to deliver to the Council a message on behalf of His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI. The Pope's leadership in the area of poverty and agriculture would remain enduring. Indeed, in his encyclical "Caritas in Veritate", he had proposed a long-term perspective for eliminating the structural causes of food insecurity, calling for greater investment in all aspects of rural agriculture, for a guarantee of sustainability and for the just and equitable expansion of trade in agricultural commodities. Those words resonated strongly with IFAD.
34. **Archbishop MAMBERTI** (Secretary for Relations with States of the Holy See) read out a message from His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI, the full text of which is reproduced in chapter 4.
35. **The CHAIRPERSON** thanked the Archbishop and asked him to convey to His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI the Fund's gratitude for his message.

#### ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (agenda item 2) (GC 36/L.1)

36. **The CHAIRPERSON** said that, in the absence of any objections, she would take it that the Governing Council wished to adopt the provisional agenda, as amended by the addition of an item under "Other business" concerning action to support the efficient governance of IFAD, with particular reference to the principle of linguistic equality, which had been requested for inclusion by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.
37. **The agenda (GC 36/L.1), as amended, was adopted.**

#### APPLICATIONS FOR NON-ORIGINAL MEMBERSHIP (agenda item 3) (GC 36/L.2)

38. **The CHAIRPERSON** invited the Governing Council to adopt the three draft resolutions contained in document G 36/L.2, approving, respectively, the non-original membership of the Republic of Nauru, Tuvalu and the Republic of Vanuatu.
39. **Resolutions 171/XXXVI, 172/XXXVI and 173/XXXVI were adopted.**
40. **The CHAIRPERSON** said that she was pleased to welcome the three new Members, which had already deposited their instruments of accession, as had the Republic of Estonia following the adoption of its application for non-original membership pursuant to Resolution 164/XXXV. She therefore also welcomed the Republic of Estonia to the IFAD membership, which now stood at 172.
41. **His Excellency Hui Liangyu, Vice Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, and His Excellency Vittorio Grilli, Minister for Economy and Finance of the Italian Republic, were conducted to their seats.**

#### KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY THE VICE PREMIER OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

42. **Mr NWANZE** (President of IFAD) welcomed the Vice Premier and said that the need to find innovative ways of increasing investment in agriculture and enhancing productivity had been recognized as vital in the context of the rapidly growing

Chinese economy. China was paying ever greater attention to sustainable development, working in particular to mitigate environmental degradation, rebalance the rural-urban divide and develop poverty-stricken areas in the interest of a harmonious and prosperous Chinese society. Vice Premier Hui Liangyu had long championed agricultural development as a means of poverty reduction in China and was a forerunner in striving for global food security, which was consistent with IFAD's own aims in its operations around the globe.

43. **Mr HUI LIANGYU** (Vice Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China) delivered a keynote address, the full text of which is reproduced in chapter 4.
44. **The CHAIRPERSON** thanked the Vice Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China for his statement, which was greatly appreciated in the light of his experience, the tremendous progress achieved by the Chinese people and China's extremely solid cooperation with IFAD.

#### KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY THE MINISTER FOR ECONOMY AND FINANCE OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC

45. **Mr NWANZE** (President of IFAD) welcomed the Minister for Economy and Finance of the Italian Republic and said that Italy continued to be a stalwart supporter of IFAD in the current global climate of economic downturn, not least through its hospitality to IFAD in Rome. IFAD was deeply thankful to the Italian people for their commitment to its mission and for their recognition of the vital importance of agriculture as an engine for development.
46. **Mr GRILLI** (Minister for Economy and Finance of the Italian Republic) delivered a keynote address, the full text of which is reproduced in chapter 4.
47. **The CHAIRPERSON** expressed gratitude to the Minister for Economy and Finance of the Italian Republic for his statement and to Italy for the unwavering support and generous hospitality it had always shown towards IFAD.

#### STATEMENT OF THE PRESIDENT OF IFAD (agenda item 4)

48. **Mr NWANZE** (President of IFAD) made a statement, the full text of which is reproduced in chapter 4.
49. **The CHAIRPERSON** expressed the Council's appreciation to the President for his statement, commending his able leadership, his vision for the Fund and the tireless dedication of his staff to IFAD's mission.
50. **His Excellency Hui Liangyu, Vice Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, His Excellency Vittorio Grilli, Minister for Economy and Finance of the Italian Republic, and the Most Reverend Archbishop Dominique Mamberti, Secretary for Relations with States of the Holy See, were conducted from the meeting room.**

#### INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' FORUM

51. **The CHAIRPERSON** said that two speakers would be outlining the main themes of the First Global Meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum, held on 11 and 12 February, just before the Governing Council. Mr Tzerembo would first recount his personal story, and then Ms Tauli-Corpuz would provide a summary of the proceedings of the Forum.

#### **A story from an indigenous community in the Amazon**

52. **Mr TZEREMBO** said that he represented the Amazon area, and particularly the Shuar people. He brought a message of peace and wisdom, imbued with the energy of the spirits and gods of the Amazon forest, from those who were struggling deep in the forest every day to survive. Referring especially to the presence of large

extraction companies that posed a threat to the home of indigenous peoples, which was their source of life, he called for an end to harmful forms of development. In recent years, the Shuar people had started to organize themselves to defend their territory and to conserve natural and cultural resources, and their community and participatory self-government practices. The aim was to achieve sustainable and self-driven development in a culturally appropriate, economically viable and spiritually beneficial manner, particularly through the promotion of communal, medicinal and scientific tourism. The Shuar people had developed a living forest project, organized on a community basis and implemented by the organization IKIAM, without initial financing, to show the force of an organized community and to break the paradigms characterizing indigenous peoples as inferior and underdeveloped. IKIAM had empowered the Shuar people and proved that it was possible to achieve development through community work.

53. He welcomed the support and commitment of IFAD, particularly through its financing of a project submitted by IKIAM to strengthen cultural identity through the production of typical arts and crafts, music and dance. The project was based on the world vision and spiritual approach of the Shuar, embodying a lifestyle that was sustainable for indigenous peoples, respectful of the environment and in balance with nature. The Amazonian peoples believed that the wealth of their territories consisted, not of oil, but of their cultural wealth and unique nature and biodiversity and that their community approach offered a viable alternative. He therefore called for assistance in protecting Amazonian forests, rivers and the identity and roots of its peoples, without which the natural resources might disappear, for there could be no life without identity. During the first global meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD, indigenous leaders from other continents had shared their wisdom, experience and vision of rural development with culture and identity. Discussions had been held with IFAD on how that perspective of development could be integrated into its programmes and projects, and into its policies to promote the effectiveness of projects carried out with governments, or directly with indigenous communities. The decisions made by IFAD would play an important role in improving the lives of very many people, including those of indigenous peoples.

### **Synthesis of deliberations of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum**

54. **Ms TAULI-CORPUZ** (Executive Director, Tebtebba Foundation, Philippines) delivered an address setting out the Synthesis of Deliberations of the first global meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD, the full text of which is reproduced in chapter 4.
55. **The CHAIRPERSON** thanked both speakers for reminding the Governing Council of the tremendous power inherent in indigenous cultures and the importance of indigenous peoples as agents of change. The spirit of inclusiveness and transparency demonstrated throughout the Indigenous Peoples' Forum had borne important results and offered useful guidance for IFAD operations.

### **REPORT OF THE EMOLUMENTS COMMITTEE (agenda item 5) (GC 36/L.3)**

56. **The CHAIRPERSON** recalled that at its thirty-fourth session the Governing Council had re-established the Emoluments Committee to review once again the terms and conditions of employment of the President of IFAD. She drew attention to the recommendations of the Emoluments Committee and the relevant draft resolution contained in the annex to document GC 36/L.3.
57. **Mr JONSSON** (Sweden) said that his country had expressed reservations in the Executive Board to the suggestion that security costs would not count towards the ceiling on IFAD's housing expenditures. Such costs were counted within the ceiling on housing expenditures in the case of the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and there was no reason for

differences in treatment between the institutions. He therefore expressed a reservation.

58. **The CHAIRPERSON** invited the Council to adopt the draft resolution contained in the annex to document GC 36/L.3.
59. **Resolution 174/XXXVI on the emoluments of the President of IFAD was adopted.**

#### CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF IFAD FOR 2011 (agenda item 10) (GC 36/L.7 and Inf.3)

60. **The CHAIRPERSON** recalled that, at its 105<sup>th</sup> session in April 2012, the Executive Board had reviewed the audited financial statements and recommended that they be submitted to the Governing Council for approval.
61. **Mr KELLET** (Associate Vice-President, Financial Operations Department of IFAD) said that the consolidated audited financial statements of IFAD as at 31 December 2011 were contained in document GC 36/L.7. In the opinion of the external auditors, the financial statements presented "fairly, in all material aspects, the financial position of the ... [Fund] ... and its financial performance and cash flows for the year ... in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards." With regard to operations, he noted that 2011 had seen a record increase in approved loans and grants, up 15 per cent from 2010. The significant rise in the balance of loans and grants outstanding was indicative of an increase in both loans and grants and in the overall level of disbursements. The slight depreciation of the dollar, particularly against the euro, had resulted in an overall exchange loss and a slight increase in costs in euros, such as staff costs. The slightly higher interest rates in 2011 had led to an increase in income from interest from both the investment and loan portfolios. In relation to financing, as anticipated, there had been a significant reduction in equity contributions linked to the timing of the Eighth Replenishment flows. A target of US\$1.5 billion had been set for the Ninth Replenishment, and the contributions already received as at the date of the balance sheet amounted to US\$5.65 million. The operating results for 2011 showed an overall deficit of US\$157.4 million, including unrealized losses on currency exchange movements amounting to US\$64.5 million and an accounting book adjustment to the loan portfolio of US\$33.7 million, which had been required to ensure compliance with international financial reporting standards.
62. He drew attention to the management report on the effectiveness of internal controls over external financial reporting, which was a key accomplishment in IFAD's financial reporting and internal controls framework. The first management report clearly demonstrated IFAD's commitment to risk management and its adherence to best practice and to the current financial reporting standards of the international financial institutions.
63. Finally, he expressed appreciation to the former external auditor, PriceWaterhouseCoopers, which had worked with IFAD since 1978 and had contributed to the adoption and maintenance by IFAD of best financial reporting practices and standards.
64. **The CHAIRPERSON** invited the Council to approve the financial statements showing the financial position of IFAD as at 31 December 2011 and the results of its operations for the year ending on that date, as contained in appendices A to K inclusive of document GC 36/L.7 and the report of the external auditor thereon.
65. **It was so decided.**

## APPOINTMENT OF THE PRESIDENT OF IFAD (agenda item 6) (GC 36/L.4 and INF.2)

66. **The CHAIRPERSON** drew attention to the modalities of the procedure for appointment of the President of IFAD, as described in document GC 36/L.4 INF.2, and announced that one nomination for the position had been received. As specified in document GC 36/L.4, and in accordance with the By-laws setting out the nomination procedure, the Federal Republic of Nigeria had nominated Mr Kanayo Nwanze for a second term of office as President of IFAD. An opportunity for fruitful interaction with the nominee had been provided at a recent special meeting of the IFAD membership in a process that highlighted IFAD's leading role in ensuring open and constructive dialogue between IFAD Members and Management. Indeed, that process had not only been recognized as international good practice in enhancing transparency but had also been adopted by other organizations.
67. Drawing attention to rule 35.1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Governing Council, which called upon the Chairperson to attempt to secure a consensus in lieu of taking a vote, she suggested that the Council, pursuant to rule 38.1 of the Rules of Procedure, should appoint the sole nominee, Mr Nwanze of Nigeria, by acclamation.
68. **Mr Nwanze was declared President of IFAD by acclamation.**
69. **The CHAIRPERSON** informed the Council that its decision would be reflected in a resolution on the appointment of the President of IFAD.
70. **The Governing Council adopted resolution 175/XXXVI on the appointment of the President of IFAD.**
71. **Mr NWANZE** (President of IFAD) made a statement, the full text of which is reproduced in chapter 4.
72. **The CHAIRPERSON** said that she extended her warmest congratulations to Mr Nwanze on his appointment as President of IFAD. She was confident that, under his leadership, the Fund would continue to enjoy success in discharging its vitally important mandate.
73. **Mr RUIZ CABAÑAS IZQUIERDO** (Mexico), as the representative of List C on the GC Bureau, echoed those congratulations; Mr Nwanze's reappointment by acclamation was indicative of the membership's confidence in him. Although a collective effort, IFAD's ongoing expansion was attributable to his leadership, from which smallholders and farmers worldwide had benefited. His intention to increase interaction between IFAD's Management and its Member States during his second mandate was also gratifying. IFAD's goal of lifting 80 million out of poverty by 2015 was undeniably ambitious but it was essential to aim high.
74. **Ms VERBURG** (Netherlands), speaking on behalf of the List A countries, likewise congratulated Mr Nwanze on his reappointment and encouraged him to continue his modernization of the Fund with a view to further heightening its efficiency. Successful implementation of the programme of work under the Ninth Replenishment would constitute a major contribution to development and also enhance the sustainability and resilience of agriculture and food systems. List A countries would work closely with Mr Nwanze during his coming term in order to achieve the ambitious goal of creating a productive and profitable market-oriented rural economy, with an emphasis on the crucial input of smallholder farmers, especially women.
75. **Mr BRODJONEGORO** (Indonesia), speaking on behalf of the List B countries, joined in congratulating Mr Nwanze and commended the positive steps he had taken to reform and strengthen IFAD. Thanks to his broad vision, able leadership and vast experience, IFAD's dynamism and effectiveness as a leading organization in agricultural development continued to grow, as did its role in alleviating poverty through its support for smallholder farmers. He looked forward to IFAD's successful

delivery of efficient solutions for harnessing the potential of agriculture to lift rural people out of poverty and for supporting sustainable smallholder agriculture. List B countries would continue their support as partners in that endeavour.

76. **Mr ADESINA** (Nigeria), speaking on behalf of the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, congratulated his fellow countryman on his reappointment, which attested to the confidence he had engendered through his leadership during the previous four years. Mr Nwanze had transformed IFAD into a unique knowledge-driven and resource-oriented organization hailed by many as the world's most efficiently run international development finance institution. On the strength of his accomplishments in such areas as the Ninth Replenishment, project cofinancing and the expansion of IFAD's country presence, he would surely continue during his second term of office to score more goals for IFAD and the rural poor, particularly youth and women. He could count on the full support of the Nigerian Government to those ends.
77. **The CHAIRPERSON** thanked participants for their expressions of encouragement and support for the President and invited them to join in a panel discussion on the theme "Secrets of mutually beneficial and successful partnerships". The discussion is reflected in a separate report.
78. **Mr Brodjonegoro (Indonesia) took the Chair.**
79. **The meeting rose at 1.35 p.m.**

- (ii) Summary record of the second meeting of the thirty-sixth session held on Wednesday, 13 February 2013 at 3 p.m.

**Chairperson: Miguel Ruiz Cabañas Izquierdo (Mexico)**  
**(Vice-Chairperson)**

**Later: Bambang Brodjonegoro (Indonesia)**  
**(Vice-Chairperson)**

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80. **The meeting was called to order at 3.05 p.m.**

APPOINTMENT OF THE PRESIDENT OF IFAD (agenda item 6, continued)

81. **Ms ANANGA MESSINA** (Cameroon), speaking on behalf of the List C countries, warmly congratulated Mr Nwanze on his reappointment as President of IFAD. The List C countries, and particularly those of Sub-list C1, welcomed the results of IFAD programmes during the Eighth Replenishment period and the increase in resources, which were to the credit of the President and his team. They encouraged the President to focus on the central issue of rural poverty, and particularly rural youth and vulnerable groups. It was also important to promote continuous dialogue between Management and the governing bodies to ensure that all decisions benefited the target populations. She undertook to provide the President with the necessary support for the success of his mission.

GENERAL STATEMENTS (agenda item 7)

82. **Mr KALVAU MOLI** (Vanuatu) said that it was a special privilege for his country to be represented on the Governing Council for the first time and gave thanks for the approval of Vanuatu as a non-original Member of IFAD. The overarching theme of the present session of the Governing Council, "The power of partnerships: Forging alliances for sustainable smallholder agriculture", was of unique importance to his country as one of the fundamental values that drove small island states and indigenous communities. It directly addressed the livelihood of 80 per cent of Vanuatu's population, who had depended on subsistence agriculture for centuries, but who were now challenged by climate change. For example, the previous week the tsunami in the Pacific region had particularly affected the Melanesian countries, causing high tides in Vanuatu and devastating almost 10,000 homes in the Solomon Islands.
83. Only through the power of partnerships would the world's governments be able to find solutions for the 80 million people who had become victims of twentieth century development models. The President was to be congratulated on bringing the world's diverse communities together under the banner of partnership, which was the practical way forward for the inclusion of all sectors: civil society, local authorities, states, the private sector and international agencies.
84. **Mr LEUELU** (Tuvalu) acknowledged with deep gratitude the acceptance of his country's membership of IFAD. As a small island developing state and Least Developed Country, it was not easy to join international organizations on account of budgetary constraints and the lack of human resources to manage projects effectively. However, food security continued to be one of the priorities of the National Strategic Plan (Te Kakeega II), with importance being placed on the increased production and consumption of local food produce, and on reversing the decline in subsistence agriculture. The consumption of food produced locally was also important in combating the alarming incidence of non-communicable diseases in Tuvalu and the region as a whole. The integration of improved farming systems with traditional farming practices, and the training of farmers, as set out in the Agricultural Corporate Plan 2013-15, was of vital importance, as nearly 90 per cent of communities in rural areas of Tuvalu continued to rely on subsistence farming for food security.
85. The effects of climate change on agriculture were a real threat that could not be ignored in future plans and strategies. Increased salinity made it necessary to improve the farming of arable land to increase yields and productivity and ensure the livelihood of the population.
86. **Mr ABD EL MO'MEN** (Egypt), commending the President of IFAD for his prudent leadership and effective mobilization of the Fund for tackling poverty and assisting smallholders, wished him every success during his new four-year term of office. IFAD was one of Egypt's major development partners, as underscored by the Fund's

establishment of a country office in Cairo and its financing of rural development projects in Egypt, including in such areas as water uses in agriculture and building the marketing capacities of smallholders. The Egyptian Government's commitment to contribute to the Ninth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources affirmed that partnership and would also strengthen existing ties between his country and the Fund.

87. Egypt followed with interest the Fund's efforts to develop its work and projects in line with the requirements of States in receipt of IFAD support. In that regard, it welcomed the priority areas of work identified in the report of the Consultation on the Ninth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources (GC 35/L.4) and the IFAD Strategic Framework, in particular those of South-South cooperation, women's empowerment and the establishment of partnerships with the private sector for the benefit of smallholders. The partnership theme of the current session was also welcome in the interest of forging alliances among all development partners and of supporting smallholder farmers, and he looked forward to the outcome of the discussions on that theme.
88. **Ms BELCHIOR** (Brazil), welcoming the reappointment of Mr Nwanze as President of IFAD, said that one of his primary achievements had been the successful negotiation leading to the Ninth Replenishment. She assured the President of her country's continued support in facing the major challenges ahead, and particularly in keeping the fight against rural poverty at the top of the global agenda, especially during a period of international economic crisis. Brazil attached great importance to combating poverty, both domestically and internationally, especially through the promotion of South-South cooperation initiatives. The main priorities in that respect included guaranteeing access to land, strengthening partnerships and cooperatives, improving access to credit, financial services and markets, the empowerment of rural women and the provision of support in addressing the challenges resulting from climate change. All of those lay within the mandate of IFAD, which had exercised its role more vigorously as a body fostering development with the support of wealthier nations. She therefore called upon IFAD to continue to promote innovative solutions above and beyond its role of disseminating knowledge and new experience.
89. She emphasized the importance of other multilateral agencies, including the other Rome-based agencies, in action to combat hunger and rural poverty. IFAD's physical presence in beneficiary countries was vital and should be expanded to improve the supervision of projects and promote dialogue. Her country supported the reforms undertaken within IFAD to achieve greater efficiency, including better and more rigorous management of its budget. She reaffirmed her country's commitment to combating poverty, particularly rural poverty.
90. **Mr BRODJONEGORO** (Indonesia) recalled the importance attached by his country to good cooperation with IFAD, other countries and other international organizations in view of the need for strengthened global partnership. As sound national policies alone were not sufficient, great efforts were required from the international community. As part of his country's commitment to addressing food security and alleviating poverty, the President of Indonesia, together with the President of Liberia and the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, as co-chairs of the High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda, were focusing on ending absolute poverty within a generation, as well as on food security and sustainable growth with equity.
91. He expressed support and appreciation for the responsiveness of IFAD to his country's agricultural and rural development priorities, and noted that, as a middle-income country, Indonesia supported the global initiative to promote South-South cooperation. It was ready to share with other countries its experience of the empowerment of smallholder farmers and its innovative programmes, including the

programme to increase livestock products through artificial insemination. In relation to the involvement of the private sector in empowering smallholder farmers, a private company had been invited to provide a technical assistant to address the steady decline in cocoa production in Central Sulawesi due to ageing trees, poor soil conditions, pest and disease attacks, and outdated agricultural practices. His country's support for IFAD was illustrated by its commitment to increase its contribution to the Ninth Replenishment by 100 per cent. It also welcomed the establishment of an IFAD country office in Indonesia to improve the management and development of programmes and cooperation in the country.

92. **Mr MUJAWAR** (Yemen) said that the consequences of the worsening global economic and food crises posed persistent challenges for developing countries in particular. In Yemen's case, those exceptional challenges were compounded by such factors as lack of natural resources and limited arable land area. Agricultural production had furthermore been adversely affected by recent shortages in electricity, fuel and water supplies, which had in turn affected food security and widened the gap between production and consumption. IFAD's continued funding of agricultural projects played a valuable part in helping to ease the country's economic predicament, as did the donor support provided by friendly and sisterly states.
93. Food security and poverty alleviation in Yemen were now prioritized under a national strategy focused on achieving sustainable natural resources management, increasing productivity and rural incomes, and promoting agricultural investment. The theme of the current session was particularly welcome in view of the predominance of smallholders in Yemen, the majority of whom were engaged in rain-fed subsistence farming. Agricultural research findings, farming advice, modern inputs, targeted investments, new irrigation systems and organizational frameworks were among the facilities that should be provided to such farmers in a bid to direct more attention to their situation.
94. Rural living conditions would surely be improved by IFAD's much appreciated support for the development and poverty-reduction efforts of countries such as Yemen, which, for its part, supported the Fund's work to achieve its noble goals. In that context and despite its own difficult circumstances, Yemen remained committed to its pledge to the Ninth Replenishment and to supporting the President of IFAD during his second term.
95. **Mr BRAGASON** (Iceland), speaking on behalf of the Nordic Countries, welcomed the emphasis placed on human resources, gender equality and fragile states by the President of IFAD and said that the contributions to the Ninth Replenishment were a demonstration of donor confidence in the Fund. He noted the progress made in aligning IFAD's lending terms with those of the International Development Association and urged for full alignment as it would result in a further boost to IFAD's resources. He welcomed the new IFAD Members and said that the session's overall theme of forging partnerships and strengthening the position of smallholder farmers in the value chain was a positive step towards building new, stronger and innovative partnerships. At the same time, however, IFAD must carefully consider its capacity constraints and its unique characteristics as a multilateral organization in that context.
96. Similarly welcome was IFAD's increased awareness of the importance of good human resources management, which went hand in hand with greater transparency and communication between Management and membership. Gender equality applied to all aspects of the Fund's management and projects. More effort was needed, however, to improve the gender balance within IFAD at the middle level and in the field offices and, among target groups, to enhance the rights of poor rural women in the interest of increased food security. Sexual and reproductive rights for those women were likewise essential to the realization of their productive

potential. IFAD's contribution to gender equality must therefore be visible in its budgets and programme of work.

97. Commending the Fund's commitment to projects in fragile states, he underlined the need for a twin-track approach of providing emergency aid and building up the resilience of vulnerable communities to future shocks and disasters. In that regard, IFAD's rights-based approach towards building the capacity of the most vulnerable smallholders was vital. Lastly, he welcomed the ongoing cooperation among the Rome-based agencies, including their joint input to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio +20) and their active participation in the dialogue on the post-2015 development agenda.
98. **Mr HERNÁNDEZ GUILLÉN (Cuba)** said that his country had been introducing a series of changes intended to modernize its economic model. The policy was designed to ensure national economic development, raise living standards, increase the liberalization of the forces of production and improve production levels, which involved efforts to give enterprises greater autonomy and to develop other forms of management. A series of measures were being implemented to increase food security, which was a strategic objective, and to reduce the high levels of imported food. However, the results of those measures were still limited by external factors relating to the global crisis, including rising oil and food prices on the global market. In particular, the continued economic blockade, which had been maintained against Cuba for over 50 years, was the major factor hampering the achievement of its people's aspirations and its economic development objectives. In that context, the reincorporation of Cuba in IFAD was an important element in supporting the reimplementation of its strategy for the development of the agricultural and animal husbandry sectors. The new project that was being developed sought to increase the production of maize and beans, which made a major contribution to the dietary balance of the country. The project, which needed to be approved by the Executive Board, would benefit a large number of cooperatives and individual farmers in the east of the country.
99. As the temporary President of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, Cuba would make every effort to strengthen cooperation in the region and hoped to be able to count on the participation of IFAD in support of South-South initiatives. In conclusion, he expressed support for the IFAD work programme and budget and reaffirmed Cuba's commitment to work with the newly reappointed President of IFAD.
100. **The CHAIRPERSON** said that the meeting would proceed with a plenary panel on the theme "The power of partnerships: Investing in sustainable rural development", starting with a one-on-one session, followed by an interactive panel discussion. The panel proceedings are reflected in a separate report.
101. **Mr Brodjonegoro (Indonesia) took the Chair.**

#### ESTABLISHED GOOD PRACTICE FOR THE PROCESS LEADING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF THE PRESIDENT OF IFAD (agenda item 8) (GC 36/L.5)

102. **The CHAIRPERSON** said that the resolution in the annex to document GC 36/L.5 contained a proposal that the current established practice regarding the process leading to the appointment of the President of IFAD should be endorsed by the Governing Council and reviewed from time to time by the Governing Council Bureau, as appropriate. The proposal had been prepared at the request of the Executive Board, with input from the Convenors of the Lists, and was recommended for adoption by the Council.
103. **The Governing Council adopted resolution 176/XXXVI on the established good practice for the process leading to the appointment of the President of IFAD.**

**IFAD's 2013 RESULTS-BASED PROGRAMME OF WORK AND REGULAR AND CAPITAL BUDGETS, THE IOE RESULTS-BASED WORK PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR 2013 AND INDICATIVE PLAN FOR 2014-2015, AND THE HIPC AND PBAS PROGRESS REPORTS (agenda item 11) (GC 36/L.8/Rev.1)**

104. **The CHAIRPERSON** said that at its 107<sup>th</sup> session the Executive Board had reviewed the proposed budgets for the Fund and its Independent Office of Evaluation (IOE) and had recommended that they be put before the Governing Council for approval. He drew attention to the draft resolution contained in document GC 36/L.8/Rev.1.
105. **Mr KELLET** (Associate Vice-President, Financial Operations Department of IFAD) recalled that at its 107<sup>th</sup> session the Executive Board had approved a programme of IFAD loans and grants for 2013 totalling US\$1.066 billion, compared to US\$1.040 billion for 2012. That level of commitments during the first year of the Ninth Replenishment would be essential to maintaining a three-year programme for 2013-2015 of US\$3 billion. An amount of US\$0.25 billion was also projected in cofinancing directly managed and supervised by IFAD. The proposed regular budget for 2013 of US\$144.14 million, representing a zero nominal increase over 2012, would be achieved by streamlining current processes in operations, financial management and administrative areas and redirecting savings to core and priority areas committed to under IFAD9. However, none of the streamlining would weaken the ability to carry out the core programme of work.
106. No net salary increases were envisioned for staff in 2013. However, the budget reflected the lifting of the freeze on General Service salary increases imposed by IFAD in November 2010. The freeze had been lifted in November 2012 following completion of the Rome Local Salary Survey, carried out by the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC), which had recommended a 9.2 per cent reduction in General Service salaries. The new General Service salary scale, incorporating the 9.2 per cent reduction, had become effective on 1 February 2013 for new General Service staff hired after that date. By aligning IFAD salaries with salaries at other Rome-based agencies before implementing the ICSC recommendation, Management had ensured equitable treatment for IFAD staff. Moreover, the unspent salary increases for Professional staff, withheld in 2012 and amounting to US\$680,000, would be carried forward again, as the ICSC recommendations for 2013 had resulted in a zero increase in the net salaries of Professional staff. Those savings would not be used without consultation with the Executive Board.
107. The proposed IFAD capital budget for 2013 of US\$3.7 million would be focused primarily on information technology, including enhanced human resources systems, improved country office connectivity, computer replacement and the implementation of corporate information systems.
108. **Mr MUTHOO** (Acting Director, Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD) said that IOE's plan for 2013 was to complete the far-reaching corporate-level evaluation of IFAD's efficiency for presentation to the Evaluation Committee and the Executive Board in April 2013. The evaluation of direct supervision and implementation support would also be completed and, for the first time, an evaluation was planned of the achievements of IFAD replenishments, which would be presented to the Executive Board in December 2013 so that it could inform the Consultation to be held in 2014 on the Tenth Replenishment. An evaluation had also been commenced on IFAD's policy on grant financing, and one would be initiated later in the year on IFAD's engagement in fragile states. The IOE work programme for 2013 included several country programme evaluations and project performance assessments, as well as evaluation synthesis reports on water and youth and other recurrent evaluation activities. The Office would be undertaking its first impact evaluation in 2013. In all evaluations, special efforts were made to assess IFAD's efforts to

promote gender equality and women's empowerment, and to address climate change and natural resources and environmental management issues.

109. Following a review of IOE's staff, it was proposed to reduce one staff position in comparison with 2012, resulting from the abolition of two General Service staff positions and the creation of a Professional position for an evaluation research analyst. At around US\$6 million, the proposed budget for 2013 reflected a 1.4 per cent decrease in real terms in comparison with 2012. Drawing attention to annex XV of document GC 36/L.8/Rev.1, he said that resources would be focused on higher plane evaluations, including corporate level and country programme evaluations, which was consistent with evaluation trends in other multilateral development organizations.
110. **Mr CLEAVER** (Associate Vice-President, Programmes, Programme Management Department of IFAD) recalled that during 2012 the PBAS had continued to be applied to all loans and country-specific grants presented to the Executive Board for approval, all of which were within each country's PBAS allocation. It was estimated that 96 per cent of the resources available for commitment under the overall programme had been allocated according to the PBAS guidelines, with the remainder consisting of global and regional grants. The 2012 country performance scores were based on updated data on portfolio and rural sector performance in each country, as well as figures for the rural population and gross national income per capita, as indicated in annex XVIII of document GC 36/L.8/Rev.1.
111. With regard to the participation of IFAD in the HIPC Debt Initiative, he reviewed the debt relief top-ups approved by the Executive Board for Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea. The amounts involved were around US\$1.8 million in the case of Côte d'Ivoire and US\$13.9 million for Guinea.
112. **Ms URBANEJA DURÁN** (Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of), speaking on behalf of the List B countries, welcomed the proposal related to the programme of work for 2013, as well as the mobilization of 1.6 times more funds, so as to reach a target of US\$2,770 million. However, she noted with concern the reduction in the resources to support IFAD governance activities, which would affect the principle of linguistic parity that was inherent in the good practices existing in the multilateral bodies of the United Nations system. She therefore proposed that the Governing Council approve a resolution that read as follows:
- The Governing Council of IFAD considers it necessary to maintain the existing balance and equality in the working languages of IFAD for which it requests the administration to manage the necessary resources so as not to affect the budget for interpretation services and the written translation of documents.
113. **Ms RODRIGUEZ SIFUENTES** (Mexico) said that the List C countries, with reference to the measures designed to increase the efficiency of IFAD, including the reduction in translation services, shared the concern regarding the principle of multilingualism and feared that they could set a precedent. Savings measures should not affect the basic rules of IFAD and she trusted that Management would pay special attention to the matter.
114. **Mr ELKHUIZEN** (Netherlands), speaking on behalf of the List A countries, supported the request made by other countries to respect the balance of the official languages in IFAD governing bodies, while complying with the agreed level of the administrative budget for 2013.
115. **Mr NWANZE** (President of IFAD) said that it was his understanding that the concerns raised regarding the principle of multilingualism had been prompted by the recent decision of the Executive Board to discontinue the translation of information papers and annexes presented to the Board, which constituted 0.2 per cent of the related administrative costs. He stated that he was committed to

exploring and identifying solutions with a view to ensuring equal conditions for the participation of all Member States in the governing bodies of IFAD.

116. **The CHAIRPERSON** invited the Council, in approving the resolution contained in document GC 36/L.8/Rev.1, to note the concerns raised with regard to the maintenance of multilingualism in IFAD and the commitment of Management to explore and identify solutions in that respect.
117. **On that understanding, the Governing Council adopted resolution 177/XXXVI on the administrative budget comprising the regular and capital budgets of IFAD for 2013 and the budget of the Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD for 2013.**
118. **The CHAIRPERSON** invited the Council to note the information contained in the progress reports on IFAD's participation in the HIPC Debt Initiative and on implementation of the PBAS.
119. **It was so decided.**
120. **The CHAIRPERSON** said that the abstention of the United States of America on the regular budget of IFAD was duly recorded.

#### REVISION OF THE IFAD LENDING POLICIES AND CRITERIA (agenda item 12) (GC 36/L.9)

121. **The CHAIRPERSON** said that the revisions to the IFAD Lending Policies and Criteria presented in document GC 36/L.9 had been discussed and recommended by the Executive Board at its 107<sup>th</sup> session. He drew attention to the draft resolution contained in paragraph 36 of the document.
122. **Mr KELLETT** (Associate Vice-President, Financial Operations Department of IFAD) recalled that the IFAD Lending Policies and Criteria had been amended by the Governing Council on several occasions between 1994 and 1998, but had not been updated or reviewed since then. In practice, the President, staff and Executive Board were guided in the selection and approval of projects and programmes more by various policies governing financing by the Fund and adopted by it than by the Lending Policies and Criteria. Accordingly, in 2010 the Governing Council had instructed the Executive Board to submit revised Lending Policies and Criteria which took into account all developments since they had last been reviewed and which expressed concisely and clearly the broad policies and criteria applicable to financing by the Fund. Following further review by the Executive Board and the Governing Council, taking into account the outcome of the Consultation on the Ninth Replenishment, the most significant change proposed was the replacement of intermediary loans by loans on blended terms, thus aligning IFAD's most concessional lending terms with those of the International Development Association, in compliance with one of the key deliverables of IFAD9.
123. **Mr JONSSON** (Sweden) noted that the proposal went a long way to align IFAD with International Development Association lending terms. However, he regretted that full alignment was not proposed, as differences remained, inter alia with regard to eligibility criteria. He therefore wished to record Sweden's abstention on the matter.
124. **The Governing Council adopted resolution 178/XXXVI on the revision of the Lending Policies and Criteria.**
125. **The Chairperson** noted that Sweden's abstention would be duly recorded.

#### GENERAL STATEMENTS (agenda item 7, continued)

126. **Mr BERTHE** (Mali), after congratulating the President on his reappointment, welcomed the opportunity to address the subject of partnership, related best practices and the promotion of sustainable agriculture that was viable for small farmers. With the emergence of new actors and alliances, in Mali, as elsewhere, it

was necessary to define new forms of partnership and to improve those that existed. That also applied to the environment in which traditional donors operated, with the appearance of new public and private entities, new forms of engagement and a greater sense of mutual responsibility. Whether formal or informal, partnerships called for the transparent and equitable use of the partners' strengths and resources. In agricultural and rural development, partnerships could take the form of investment projects, subcontracting systems or forms of association. If small farmers were to be able to participate effectively, they needed to form associations or cooperatives. Agricultural development policy in Mali was based on both the modernization of family agriculture and the promotion of agricultural enterprises as a means of promoting a balanced and competitive agricultural sector integrated into the subregional economy. Viable rural agricultural partnerships required strengthened collaboration between the State and its partners, the diversification of partnerships, particularly through South-South initiatives, and the strengthening of relations between national organizations of rural producers.

127. Mali was experiencing an unprecedented period of socio-political and security crises. The armed occupation of the north of the country had put a stop to economic activity there, and much of the population had been forced into exile. The country strategic opportunities programme (COSOP) for Mali had come to an end in 2012 and it had been decided with IFAD to defer preparation of a new COSOP. A minimum programme in line with the national vision had been drawn up while awaiting a solution to the crisis. IFAD's constant support during such a difficult period offered a strong signal of its commitment to the country.
128. **Mr GORT** (Canada) said that the President of IFAD's reappointment provided assurance that IFAD would continue to forge and sustain effective partnerships designed to bring lasting solutions to hunger and malnutrition. An excellent example in that regard was the Fund's partnership with the G8's New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition, which built on the L'Aquila Food Security Initiative and was assisted by IFAD to achieve public and private investment in order to build smallholder capacities and provide new outlets for the poorest rural populations. The Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement was another good example of global partnerships supporting country-led efforts, with IFAD already supporting programming in 28 of the 33 SUN countries.
129. A third example was the Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme (ASAP), a multi-partner initiative for building resilience to climate change that included Canada among its founding supporters. IFAD was spearheading its partnership with ASAP in order to monitor and link changes on the ground to new investments and approaches. It was through such partnerships that IFAD must take the lead in exploring and inspiring new approaches to agriculture. The welcome new initiative of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum was also likely to enhance partnerships between indigenous populations and IFAD. He encouraged IFAD to take a proactive role in the post-2015 development discussions with a view to keeping food security and nutrition high on the global development agenda.
130. **Mr LITS'OANE** (Lesotho) said that the deserved reappointment of the Fund's President clearly attested to his proven expertise and commitment. Attaching great importance as it did to IFAD's mandate, Lesotho remained a reliable and supportive partner of the Fund in the quest to reduce hunger and poverty in the growing nations. It therefore commended the focus on partnership, which was crucial to that quest and to advancing common interests and mobilizing the power and resources of partners in a transparent and equitable manner.
131. Lesotho's most isolated and poorest communities had benefited from IFAD's ongoing support for agricultural development. Vulnerability and food insecurity had nonetheless increased in the wake of poor harvests caused by unfavourable weather conditions, creating an emergency in which the Government had

intervened by subsidizing one half of all agricultural inputs and field operations, with added assistance from partners. Efforts were now focused on improving input supplies to vulnerable farming households and on strengthening capacities for conservation agriculture and local seed production.

132. The Council's current partnership theme gave welcome impetus to information-sharing and resource mobilization with a view to ensuring public and private support for better equipping smallholders to address the impact of climate change and markets. Urging the continuation of IFAD's development assistance efforts, he pledged the commitment of his country's new Government, for which agriculture was a priority, to leveraging support for smallholder farmers and organizations and to promoting consultative forums for partnership development with non-governmental, private and other stakeholder sectors.
133. **Mr PHILIPPART** (Luxembourg), speaking on behalf of the Benelux countries, said that the most vulnerable rural populations had benefited from the President's highly competent management of the Fund, which was also behind the successes of the Eighth Replenishment and the confidence signalled by the pledges made to the Ninth Replenishment. Poverty reduction and food security must now constitute an absolute priority in the light of the many more challenges thrown up by events over the past year, as had indeed been emphasized in the common vision expressed at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20). To that end, the Benelux countries were cooperating through a series of people-centred sustainable development actions. Efforts for attainment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), to which the Benelux countries were firmly committed, must now be redoubled, with an emphasis on smallholder farming, particularly family agriculture, which would be crucial to sustainably feeding an expected global population of nine billion. IFAD's ASAP initiative would also play a key part in that sphere.
134. Food self-sufficiency was attainable only if the socio-economic and environmental architecture was adapted with a view to achieving the goals of sustainable development. Rural agricultural policies should therefore be particularly directed at the most vulnerable segments of society and at women, who must be afforded a decent education and equal access to land. Partnership in development cooperation was vital to lasting results, representing a theme that should continue to infuse IFAD's future efforts so as to promote innovative ways of accomplishing shared goals and poverty eradication. He looked forward to the fruits of IFAD's new partnership strategy; partnerships were an indispensable power in the widest sense at the economic, public-private and political levels. The governance structure was particularly important in all developing countries where IFAD was active and where it should do yet more through its new decentralized structure, in the spirit of the Fourth High-level Forum on Aid Effectiveness.
135. Noting that the Fund's operations had doubled in size since 2007 and were set to increase further under the Ninth Replenishment, he commended IFAD for its strict administrative budgeting and the two years of nominal zero growth. Nonetheless, it must guard against jeopardizing commitments and goals by being too ambitious and overtaxing the Fund's operational capacities.
136. **Mr DAS** (India), complimenting the President on his success in steering IFAD's activities and the Ninth Replenishment Consultation, said that India looked forward to further meaningful cooperation and a more robust partnership with IFAD in the coming years. IFAD was the only multilateral development organization providing dedicated investments for rural development and small-scale agriculture. India would thus welcome new IFAD projects focused on innovations in agriculture for enhancing productivity and upgrading technology. In common with many developing countries, it had a sizeable agriculture-dependent population consisting largely of smallholder farmers, who therefore contributed significantly to national

- food production and gross domestic product. The challenge was to ensure that those farmers were not excluded from the benefits of growth.
137. Through its innovative tools and partnerships, IFAD was well placed to rise to the further challenge of ensuring food security for poor and marginalized populations in particular. Confident that IFAD would relentlessly pursue the goal of financing food production projects in developing countries, India was committed to providing the support required for IFAD to attain the objectives of its fourth Strategic Framework covering the period 2011-2015. In the context of the deliberations needed in order to develop models for forging new partnerships among smallholders and the private and public sectors, it would also welcome exchanges of information and experiences with IFAD and its Member States.
138. **Mr ADESINA** (Nigeria) warmly congratulated the President on his reappointment and reaffirmed his country's commitment to IFAD. Nigeria had launched a major agricultural transformation agenda in 2012 with the goal of increasing domestic food supply by 20 million tonnes by 2015, creating 3.5 million jobs and driving import substitution so that the country could become a net food exporter. Rather than a development programme, agriculture was now being treated as a business to generate wealth for the population. Notable achievements included the launching of the first database of farmers, which would cover 10 million farmers in 2013. Corruption had been ended in the fertilizer sector by removing government from the procurement and distribution of fertilizers and seeds, which were now distributed through the private sector using a system based on mobile phones. The system had reached 1.7 million farmers in the first year and was expected to cover 5 million in 2013. It targeted poor farmers and had expanded private sector opportunities. The banks had provided credits directly to the farmers concerned and the default rate was zero, thereby demonstrating the capacity of poor farmers when they were empowered.
139. Nigeria was well on course to achieve its objectives in relation to two commodities. The target date for self-sufficiency in rice was 2015, and the self-sufficiency rate had now risen to 68 per cent. Nigeria was already the largest producer of cassava in the world, and was determined to become the largest processor of cassava. The cassava substitution policy was working and it was also being turned into other products, such as starch, sweeteners and sorbitol. In conclusion, he thanked IFAD for its assistance during the flood in 2012 and reaffirmed Nigeria's strong support to the Fund, reflected in its pledge of US\$15 million to the Ninth Replenishment, which would be fully met.
140. **Mr GLANOIS** (France) congratulated the President of IFAD on his successful first term of office; he trusted that, with his completion of a second term, the Fund would achieve the objectives of the Ninth Replenishment. Although IFAD had expanded over the years, the challenges to be faced were also growing, with the impact of climate change on natural resources and the food crises that had occurred in recent years. IFAD's goals of promoting food security, strengthening agricultural development and lifting 80 million people out of poverty by 2015 were therefore ambitious. He drew attention to the Fund's special mandate of combating poverty through agricultural development, and notably helping countries that were land-locked or suffering from a fragile environmental situation. Its focus on helping small-scale agriculture penetrate national and international markets, and on promoting farmers' organizations, should be encouraged.
141. IFAD's objectives, particularly in relation to the poorest people in Africa and smallholder farmers, closely matched those of the French Development Agency, as demonstrated by the renewal of its agreement with IFAD in a relationship that would undoubtedly develop in the years to come. IFAD's work in the field of agricultural risk management was also very much in line with the aims of the Platform for Agricultural Risk Management (PARM). The reforms implemented by

IFAD since 2009 were particularly satisfying and were resulting in a very sound system for the prevention of food crises and the development of the agricultural sector. The reforms meant that IFAD was now a key player in international action to prevent and address food crises. With its comparative advantage, IFAD could act as a catalyst for other financing bodies. The International Year of Family Farming in 2014 would offer the Fund an opportunity to demonstrate its experience, knowledge and irreplaceable voice in relation to food security, including on the vital issues of land tenure and responsible investment in agriculture.

142. **Mr BREDOUMY** (Côte d'Ivoire) welcomed the reappointment of the President of IFAD and thanked the Fund for its support to his own country over the years, particularly during its years of crises. More generally, IFAD played an important role in assisting the poorest countries, especially smallholders in those countries. The partnership theme of the current Governing Council was particularly important in the context of the national agricultural investment programme of Côte d'Ivoire. IFAD was contributing to the implementation of the programme through two major projects, one focusing on poverty reduction and the other on supporting agricultural production and marketing, both in the north and north-east of the country, where the highest levels of poverty persisted.
143. The national agricultural programme now being carried out was also intended to respond to the crisis situation in neighbouring countries, for which Côte d'Ivoire was potentially an important supplier of food. That made the support of IFAD and its assistance in mobilizing resources even more valuable. IFAD's proposed provision of US\$20 million in support of food security in the country was most welcome. The cooperation between the Fund and Côte d'Ivoire exemplified the power of partnerships in forging alliances for sustainable agriculture. The national food security policy was based on the development of smallholder agriculture, and particularly the improvement of harvests through appropriate action to enhance agricultural production.
144. **Ms URBANEJA DURÁN** (Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of) said that, despite the stabilization of food prices over the past year, the effects of the steep rise in prices were still being felt in many countries, particularly low-income food-deficit developing countries. While the global number of people suffering from hunger had declined somewhat, in 2012, a great deal still needed to be done to meet the MDG1 of halving the proportion of people suffering from hunger in the world.
145. Given the importance attached to the eradication of hunger in its inclusive social policy, her country was making significant efforts to work with institutions dedicated to promoting development and to combating world poverty, including IFAD. Her country was now one of those with the lowest rates of inequality and unemployment in the region, and extreme hunger and poverty had been reduced to the extent that MDG1 had been achieved in the country. That success had been attained through the implementation by the Government of social missions and sustainable agricultural projects to eradicate hunger and poverty. They included a major national mission for the provision of financing through public and private banks to over 500,000 small, medium and large agricultural producers, who were supplied with inputs and technology to improve irrigation systems, infrastructure, storage facilities and marketing networks, all of which provided a stimulus to the agro-industrial sector.
146. She welcomed the increase in bilateral cooperation between IFAD and her country, including new initiatives, such as the knowledge management programme, which was an important strategy for strengthening capacity in rural communities. Nevertheless, she emphasized the enormous challenge faced by IFAD and the other Rome-based organizations in transforming international action into substantive progress towards an equitable and productive social model that increased opportunities for the rural poor.

147. **Mr MUHITH** (Bangladesh) said that the President's reappointment was a tribute to his leadership. Thirty-five years after IFAD's inception, combating hunger and poverty – a cause to which IFAD had richly contributed – still required heroic efforts in view of the complex and changing characteristics of those problems. Adequate food production required technological change, but more importantly it called for sustained attention over a very long period of time and the adoption of sustainable agricultural practices. Specific issues such as rural poverty and women's poverty meant that strategic choices had to be changed from time to time and from place to place.
148. Rural poverty could not be eradicated by any single organization and partnerships were therefore needed. Moreover, food shortages, at a time of population growth, could not be eradicated by a single set of strategies, and new alliances therefore had to be forged, between development partners, between farmers and their associations, between researchers and extension workers and, critically, between the public and private sectors. The commitment made by the President of IFAD for greater cooperation between the Rome-based organizations was therefore encouraging, as were the anticipated concerted action among them on influencing the foodgrains market and, more broadly, the increase in contributions for the Ninth Replenishment of IFAD Resources.
149. Bangladesh was the country with the densest population; it suffered the worst effects of climate change and was the worst victim of natural disasters. The present Government's policy of fighting the global crisis by forming a series of alliances had resulted in a steady growth rate of 6.5 per cent over the previous four years. The partnerships formed showed that, with resilience, determination and the development of sustainable and sustained partnership models, success could be achieved.
150. **Mr RAVATOMANGA** (Madagascar) warmly congratulated the President on his reappointment and recalled that today, as in the 1970s when IFAD had been created, rural poverty went hand in hand with food insecurity, both nationally and regionally, and even at the household level. IFAD's goals, which Madagascar fully endorsed, were therefore still extremely topical in terms of promoting rural development and achieving greater social equity in the rural sector. He thanked IFAD for its constant support for Madagascar over the past four years during its serious political crisis, which had had disastrous economic and social consequences. Indeed, the Fund had intensified its support during the worst moments of the crisis through its approval and continued support of three major projects, which offered tangible proof that Madagascar had been and would continue to be worthy of the trust shown in it.
151. The theme of the power of partnerships in forging alliances for sustainable smallholder agriculture was of great pertinence for Madagascar at the present time, when it was finalizing its sectoral programme for agriculture, animal husbandry and fishing. All the actors in development, both upstream and downstream, needed to enter into a true partnership to work towards a common objective, with common interests. Farmers, to be actors in their own development, needed to be able to take ownership of the process. Finally, he wished to associate himself with the statement made by the representative of Cameroon on behalf of the List C countries.
152. **Mr CANGA** (Angola), welcoming the reappointment of the President, said that the increase in contributions to the Ninth Replenishment at a time of economic crisis reflected the trust placed in IFAD by its Member States. He appreciated the new format of the Governing Council session, which encouraged dialogue on a more diverse range of topics.
153. Angola had reduced its hunger and malnutrition rate between 1990 and 2012. The latter was now 27 per cent, compared with 62 per cent in 1991. Success in

achieving the goal of eradicating hunger and malnutrition was due to the restoration of peace in 2002 and to the Government's vision and programmes. Efforts had been made to promote more rapid growth in the non-oil sector as a means to achieving more diversified and sustained growth, which was having a positive effect on living standards, particularly in rural areas. Food production, with emphasis on assistance to small farmers and fishers, had increased, thereby contributing to raising rural incomes. Increased public and private investment in agriculture, fishing and agro-business had strengthened institutions and governance and encouraged farmers to improve their productivity. While the initial focus had been on restoring and creating infrastructure, more resources and measures, with the involvement of the private sector and social partners, were now being focused on production and social issues. IFAD could play an important role by financing more projects, communicating the positive experiences acquired by other countries, providing training and supporting South-South cooperation.

154. Angola confirmed its contribution to the Ninth Replenishment in solidarity with other countries with a view to supporting rural communities in the struggle against hunger and poverty. He commended IFAD's work and supported the new initiatives for the rural poor, for the achievement of the MDGs and to reduce the effects of climate change, particularly on the African continent.
155. **Mr OEHLER** (Austria) congratulated the President on his reappointment and the achievements of his first term of office; the Fund now enjoyed greater visibility, more recognition as an eminent institution in the area of agricultural development and food security, increased outreach and interaction with its clients and a broader field presence. Its mission remaining as valid as ever, IFAD must pursue its core objectives of poverty reduction and higher food production with great dedication. To that end, and to increase its impact, it was essential to transform into reality the four major commitments under the Ninth Replenishment.
156. Accordingly, it must first continue to enhance operational effectiveness, including through scaling up successful operations, engaging with the private sector in value chain activities, pursuing climate-smart projects as standard practice, fostering gender equality and deepening political dialogue with other development partners and local governments in order to create appropriate political frameworks. Second, it must continue to improve its institutional effectiveness and efficiency through advanced management techniques, adapting to a changing financial environment and exploring new forms of international and external resource mobilization. Third, it must apply strict results-based management in order to enhance its development impact and hence attract donors and justify their contributions. Lastly, it must ensure that the Ninth Replenishment was effectively and efficiently used to benefit its developing country Members.
157. **Mr REYES JR.** (Philippines), echoing the compliments paid to the President of IFAD, said that his country bore witness to IFAD's allocation of significant resources under the President's leadership for the empowerment of smallholder farmers, indigenous peoples and rural women. IFAD-supported activities in the Philippines included a programme for transforming smallholders, including women, into market-oriented farmers and strengthening local participatory institutions for forest management, and a project for restoring food price stability by supporting rapid food production enhancements. The country was now on track to achieve rice self-sufficiency by the end of 2013, which chimed with its record growth of over 6 per cent in gross domestic product in 2012. Also appreciated was IFAD's innovative pilot capacity-building project to ensure that the billions of dollars of annual remittances from the country's migrant workers abroad were invested in appropriate economic activities.
158. Against the backdrop of the recently celebrated United Nations International Year of Cooperatives and the upcoming International Year of Family Farming in 2014, the

partnership theme of the Council's current session was highly pertinent. Examples of partnership programmes in his country included one for addressing high transaction costs and information gaps that impeded market access by smallholders, through the establishment of strategically located trading centres, and another for establishing country-wide cold-chain facilities for the benefit of small fishers. The Philippines looked forward to working innovatively with IFAD to address the new challenges facing smallholder agriculture and more particularly the major challenge posed by climate change, the effects of which were already adversely affecting smallholder farmers.

159. **Ms GROSSO** (New Zealand) joined in the congratulations expressed to the President of IFAD, which were richly deserved; as already mentioned, IFAD had regained its momentum and international credibility under his stewardship. She therefore encouraged the President to pursue his efforts to reinvigorate the Fund by focusing on its comparative advantages; streamlining human resources and financial management; improving auditing capability and transparency; addressing gender inequality; ensuring greater coordination with other international agencies; and ensuring that IFAD became more accountable and outcome-oriented.
160. Valuing as it did its collaboration with IFAD in the implementation of its programmes in the Pacific, New Zealand was pleased to welcome Nauru, Tuvalu and Vanuatu, together with Estonia, as new IFAD Members. Now that the Fund's membership included 12 Pacific Island nations, IFAD must continue seeking pragmatic means of furthering the eradication of hunger and poverty in the rural areas of small island developing countries, not only in the Pacific but globally.
161. **Mr MOLEBATSI** (Botswana) likewise congratulated Mr Nwanze on his well-earned reappointment. In the context of IFAD's continuing efforts to reduce rural poverty and promote food security, his Government supported the new joint Agricultural Services Support Project (ASSP) aimed at promoting the use of effluent water for irrigation in Botswana, a semi-arid country challenged by the inadequacy of its water supplies. IFAD should also assist the response to water scarcity through water-harvesting techniques suited to smallholder farmers.
162. The service delivery problems experienced by extension workers should likewise be addressed, since the ASSP improved extension delivery component did not suffice to correct the shortcomings experienced. The Government's Integrated Support Programme for Arable Agricultural Development, introduced in 2008, was hampered by the shortage of extension workers. Botswana looked forward to continuing partnership with IFAD in addressing the multiple and complex causes underlying rural poverty.
163. **The meeting rose at 7.40 p.m.**

- (iii) Summary record of the third meeting of the thirty-sixth session held on Thursday, 14 February 2013 at 9 a.m.

**Chairperson: Miguel Ruiz Cabañas Izquierdo (Mexico)**  
**(Vice-Chairperson)**

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164. **The meeting was called to order at 9.10 a.m.**

REPORT ON THE NINTH REPLENISHMENT OF IFAD'S RESOURCES (agenda item 9) (GC 36/L.6)

165. **Mr KELLET** (Associate Vice-President, Financial Operations Department of IFAD) said that the report before the Council, together with its annexes, provided an update on the status of the Ninth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources as at 31 December 2012. Since the date of the report, further instruments of contribution had been submitted by Algeria, Brazil, Paraguay and Viet Nam, and further payments had been made by Austria, Canada, Fiji, France, Gabon, Germany, Kuwait, Nepal, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Rwanda and Sweden. Total pledges now amounted to US\$1,386 million, or 92 per cent of the target for the Ninth Replenishment. Member States that had not yet done so could still make a pledge to the Ninth Replenishment. Instruments of contribution corresponding to 73 per cent of pledges had been received. Member States that had not yet deposited their instruments of contribution were requested to do so. Payments received as at 13 February 2013 totalled US\$585 million, representing 42 per cent of pledges.
166. **The Governing Council took note of the report on the Ninth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources.**

GLOBAL MECHANISM OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION (agenda item 13) (GC 36/L.10)

167. **The CHAIRPERSON** recalled that, at its ninth special session in May 2012, the Executive Board had adopted a resolution on the amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Conference of the Parties (COP) of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and IFAD regarding the modalities and administrative operations of the Global Mechanism. Pursuant to that resolution, a report and update with respect to the housing arrangements for the Global Mechanism had been prepared and considered by the Executive Board at its 107<sup>th</sup> session and was now before the Governing Council for information.
168. **Ms MENON** (Associate Vice-President, Corporate Services Department of IFAD), introducing the report contained in document GC 36/L.10, said that in 2011, the UNCCD COP had decided that all accounts and staff managed by the Global Mechanism should be placed under a single administrative regime administered by the United Nations Office at Geneva. At its meeting in November 2012, the Executive Secretary of UNCCD had informed the COP Bureau that he had been obliged to advertise all existing Global Mechanism posts as UNCCD positions, as the United Nations Office of Human Resource Management (OHRM) had resisted a simple transfer of staff from the Global Mechanism to UNCCD. The UNCCD secretariat was implementing the vacancy process and hoped to conclude it by the end of March 2013, to avoid any discontinuity in the functioning of the Global Mechanism.
169. Under the amended MOU between UNCCD and IFAD, the latter would not be responsible for any element of the personnel or financial management of the Global Mechanism, including the selection and recruitment of its staff, and was not and would not be party to employment contracts with Global Mechanism employees or contractors. Management was committed, in close coordination with UNCCD, to expediting the transfer of the Global Mechanism and its staff to UNCCD, resolving any human resource issues and minimizing any potential liabilities for IFAD.
170. **Mr N'DIAYE** (United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification) said that IFAD had hosted the UNCCD Global Mechanism since its establishment by the COP and its support for UNCCD activities had been greatly appreciated by the Parties to the Convention. Since the adoption of decision 6/COP.10 on the governance and institutional arrangements of the Global Mechanism there had been excellent

cooperation between the Executive Secretary and the President of IFAD, and many interactions regarding human resources between UNCCD, IFAD and OHRM. The action being taken by the UNCCD secretariat should lead, by the end of March 2013, to the final extension of contracts for the Global Mechanism colleagues, all of whom would be recruited through United Nations channels in accordance with its staff rules and regulations. With regard to the identification of a new hosting arrangement for the Global Mechanism, a document on the issue of the co-location of the Global Mechanism would be discussed at the April meeting of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention with a view to its submission to COP 11.

171. In addition to the cooperation arising from decision 6/COP.10, IFAD and UNCCD shared many interests in terms of sustainable land management practices, in particular their contributions to sustainable agriculture, food security and the eradication of poverty in the rural sector. At the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), specific reference had been made to the need for action to combat desertification, land degradation and the effects of drought, in the context of sustainable development. With the follow-up to the outcomes of the Rio+20 conference under way, in terms of desertification and land degradation UNCCD hoped to benefit from the expertise of IFAD, mindful that real changes on the ground would emerge from local communities in the rural sector.
172. **The Governing Council took note of the report on the hosting of the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.**

#### AWARD OF EXCELLENCE: WORKING TOGETHER IN THE FIELD

173. **Ms COUSIN** (Executive Director of the World Food Programme (WFP)) said that the intention of the United Nations Award of Excellence: Working Together in the Field was to honour the achievements of the country team that best exemplified good partnership practices among the Rome-based organizations. The first winning team had most effectively leveraged its comparative advantages and knowledge to advance food security and sustainable agricultural development. As well as wedding with the theme of the current session of the Governing Council, the award ceremony also proved that cooperation among the Rome-based agencies in the field made a difference, as each agency was uniquely positioned to boost crucial activities within the agricultural value chain.
174. The heads of the three Rome-based agencies had first agreed on a common objective: that the spirit of cooperation should not only be observed at headquarters level but, more importantly, should be extended to the field level, where words were turned into actions and cooperation more effectively met people's needs. Their second task had been to determine how to measure excellence in cooperation in the field, whereas lessons were still being learned about how to improve cooperation at headquarters. They had defined three criteria: the extent of cooperation and the number of projects carried out by the team; the impact on beneficiaries; and the degree of innovation. Cooperation always involved some risk-taking and success was bound up in the effectiveness of actions not always under direct command and control; in a rapid assessment, credit did not always extend where it was due, especially when mutual accountability remained experimental, tied more to creativity and trust-building among cross-agency peers at the field level than to operational directives.
175. The many applicants had been whittled down to four strong finalists. The judges had chosen a single winner but encouraged each country team nominated for the 2013 award to keep aiming to win in the future. Working together led to improvements in the field and achievement was more important than any award.
176. **Mr GRAZIANO DA SILVA** (Director-General of the FAO) said that the Award of Excellence was about working together to maximize country-level impact and

results in the promotion of sustainable food security and agricultural development. The judges had reached a unanimous decision: the winner of the first Award of Excellence was the Mozambique Country Team. Having developed a solid partnership based on true cooperation, it had achieved results that would not have been possible had the three agencies acted alone. Instead, they had jointly leveraged their comparative advantages and knowledge.

177. Successful cooperation in Mozambique had been taking place since 2008, most notably through the country team's joint implementation of the programme "Building Commodity Value Chains and Market Linkages for Farmers' Associations". Thanks to improved quality inputs and lower post-harvest losses, the marketable surplus of 17,000 small-scale farmers had increased by almost a third.
178. Over the years, the team had built a reputation for efficiency and effectiveness and the positive result of its work had been recognized by the European Union and the Government of Mozambique, which were seeking to expand the team's cooperation. Several initiatives already under way, aimed at boosting food security through risk reduction and climate change mitigation, with funding from the Belgian Fund for Food Security, would involve further cooperation between the Rome-based agencies and other partners, including United Nations agencies. He hoped that the Mozambique team would serve as an example for other country teams.
179. He then invited the Governing Council to watch a video highlighting cooperation among the three agencies in Mozambique.
180. **The video was screened.**
181. **Mr CUERENEIA** (Mozambique) said that it was a privilege for his Government to continue working with IFAD, which had already helped his country implement various programmes and projects and was assisting with ongoing initiatives concerning agricultural development, small-scale fisheries, rural financing and the development of value chains. Those activities, jointly undertaken with FAO and WFP, had helped to increase productivity by focusing on the development of value chains and agricultural markets and helping farmers to become more competitive.
182. The Award of Excellence demonstrated the extent to which Mozambique had been implementing its development strategies and meeting its commitments to the three Rome-based agencies. He congratulated the Country Team and thanked its members for their exemplary commitment. His Government's cooperation with the agencies would continue to be strengthened through joint initiatives, as was clear from the various projects undertaken towards achieving the MDGs. One of the main challenges facing Mozambique was capacity-building to enable people to adapt to climate change.
183. The recent floods in the Limpopo and Zambezi basins underlined the need to continue to invest in infrastructure to limit the economic effects of such catastrophes and to implement programmes to increase the resilience of the population. The flooding had caused many deaths, forced large numbers to abandon their property and destroyed crops, livestock and infrastructure. Government efforts to deal with the emergency included the distribution of seeds and other agricultural inputs. He thanked the Rome-based agencies for supporting the efforts of his country's civil society and Government.
184. **The Award of Excellence was presented to the representatives of the Mozambique Country Team.**
185. **Mr DE CASTRO** (FAO Representative in Mozambique) said that it was a great honour to receive the distinction on behalf of the winning team in Mozambique. He also thanked the team's partners in the host Government of Mozambique, which facilitated its work. The showpiece of inter-agency cooperation was the programme

- “Building Commodity Value Chains and Market Linkages for Farmers’ Associations”, in which the Rome-based agencies were fully complementary.
186. Other joint work, however, included purchase from Africans for Africa, food security through risk reduction and climate change mitigation and adaptation, an issue brought to the forefront recently by the serious floods in the country. The team was completing negotiations for a comprehensive programme for accelerating progress towards achieving MDG 1.C (eradicating hunger) in Mozambique, partly funded by the European Union, and it was hoped that activities would begin very soon. Much had been accomplished, but far more remained to be done; the key to the partnership and to what had been achieved to date was trust.
187. He then gave an account of his experience at an award ceremony for farming achievement held in Mozambique to mark World Food Day 2012, highlighting the human potential that existed in the country and the primordial role that the Rome-based agencies and their programmes could play in promoting change.
188. **The representatives of the Mozambique Country Team presented gifts from Mozambique to the Executive Heads of the Rome-based United Nations organizations.**
189. **Mr NWANZE** (President of IFAD) thanked the Government of Mozambique for providing an environment that allowed the Country Team to demonstrate the power of partnership and thanked his colleagues at FAO and WFP for the brilliant idea in initiating the award. Like Ms Cousin, he hoped that the award would be a regular fixture. He had just learned that the team leaders had been invited to Seattle to explain to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation exactly how their cooperation worked.
190. **The CHAIRPERSON** invited the Council to take part in a high-level round table on partnerships for financing agricultural and rural development. The round-table discussion would be reflected in chapter 3.

#### GENERAL STATEMENTS (agenda item 7, continued)

191. **Mr MARONGIU** (Argentina), congratulating Mr Nwanze on his reappointment, praised IFAD’s achievements under the leadership of its President during an economic crisis that had originated in the developed world but was affecting developing countries. IFAD had implemented reforms to strengthen its financing capacities and reviewed its policies on the provision of financial services. Argentina’s commitment to triple its contribution to the Ninth Replenishment, along with its cooperation with IFAD in its rural development programmes, reflected his country’s vision of the Fund as a crucial partner in promoting equitable rural development.
192. Argentina welcomed the theme of the current session as partnerships were essential for small-scale sustainable farming, smallholders’ access to financing, improvements to infrastructure and the acquisition of knowledge, and as such were a powerful tool for social inclusion. Partnership had been a fundamental objective of the inclusive rural development programme (PRODERI), the main project funded by IFAD in Argentina. Among the many partnership tools and strategies, South-South cooperation, which Argentina was keen to promote, played a fundamental role. IFAD should continue to concentrate on its specific objectives, bearing in mind the changing environment and the many challenges that developing countries faced in order to eradicate rural poverty.
193. **Mr DLAMINI** (Swaziland) applauded the reappointment of the President of IFAD and thanked him and his colleagues for their tireless efforts to improve the livelihoods of the rural poor around the world, in particular in sub-Saharan Africa. He welcomed the assistance that IFAD gave smallholder farmers not only to earn a decent livelihood but also to feed the world with their surpluses. In Swaziland, more

than 50 per cent of the population lived in rural areas and were heavily dependent on subsistence farming. Welcoming the theme of the current session, he said that Swaziland was greatly indebted to IFAD and any assistance directed towards helping the rural poor to earn a decent livelihood and improve their lives was greatly appreciated. He concluded by saying that his statement would be circulated as ill-health prevented him from delivering it in full.

194. **Mr ZAHRA** (Malta) said that the high-level round table on partnerships for financing agricultural and rural development had focused on some of the most important issues facing the Member States, in particular the role of smallholders and meaningful ways of mobilizing finances for them. Another important issue was how to minimize risk for smallholders, for example by facilitating access to crop insurance, a mechanism that was underdeveloped in some countries. More emphasis should be placed on making the mechanisms used to roll out projects more durable. The excellent video about Mozambique had shown farmers teaching their neighbours their techniques, an important aspect of the project, which made project outcome measurement more effective. Spinoffs might prove to be as important as project outcomes, something that should be developed in future projects.
195. **Mr TAH** (Mauritania) commended the valuable work accomplished by the President of IFAD during his first term of office and wished him similar success during his second term. In the context of working in conjunction with the Fund to achieve the ambitious goal of eliminating rural poverty through agricultural development, Mauritania had adopted an integrated approach focused on a number of mutually reinforcing areas. Emphasis was placed on creating the right conditions for development by, inter alia, fighting corruption, instilling transparency and rationalizing public spending. Other prerequisites included those of controlling inflation, building infrastructure, improving health systems and gearing technical education and vocational training to market needs.
196. The approach also involved work to enact legislation, elaborate participatory strategies and policies, translate them into goal-specific action plans and programmes, and mobilize the necessary financing for implementation, relying primarily on national resources. Mauritania had therefore lately made great progress in eradicating poverty and developing the agricultural sector, which would gain further momentum as a result of the recent approval of national strategies and legislation relating to agriculture and an agricultural investment programme worth some US\$0.5 billion. In conclusion, he expressed the hope that IFAD's much appreciated cooperation with Mauritania in vital areas could be increased still further.
197. **Mr QUAYE-KUMAH** (Ghana), congratulating the President on his reappointment, said that IFAD had led the way in changing the course of smallholder agriculture worldwide, cooperating with countries and, more importantly, with smallholder farmers themselves. Over the years IFAD had demonstrated the value of partnership, the theme of the current session. Ghana, notably in partnership with IFAD, had forged numerous alliances in support of smallholder agriculture which, since 1980, had directly empowered over 3.5 million households through 16 projects nationwide. In a rapidly changing world of economic uncertainties and environmental challenges, it was time to seek new and better types of partnership with governments, donors, the private sector and smallholder farmers themselves.
198. Ghana's successful development was intertwined with its highly valued partnership with IFAD. Together they had reaped the mutual benefits of cooperation, which had enabled Ghana to make great strides in its rural development and poverty reduction, while IFAD had attained greater visibility and credibility as a global development partner. Ghana hoped that the establishment of an IFAD country office in Accra would bring the Fund even closer to its beneficiaries, helping to change

their lives while transforming IFAD. He called for closer cooperation among the Rome-based agencies as the synergy achieved in the Mozambican experience clearly demonstrated the power of partnership to combat hunger and rural poverty.

199. **Ms JANJUA** (Pakistan) said that the President's reappointment was a measure of his decisive leadership at a critical juncture. Global economic uncertainty, together with natural disasters, climate change and food price volatility, had returned food security and agricultural development to the top of the world agenda. The international community was searching for viable solutions, to which IFAD could contribute as an important global forum for rural development, agricultural policy and food and nutrition security. IFAD had helped to raise awareness of the vital role of investment in agricultural and rural development in reducing poverty and improving food security. Pakistan's appreciation was reflected in its sizeable contribution to the Fund.
200. IFAD's achievements included the successful negotiation of the Ninth Replenishment, an increase in the amount of cofinancing, the expansion of its country presence and improvement in disbursements. However, IFAD also faced numerous challenges, such as the huge investment gap affecting agriculture in developing countries. It should explore new sources of investment in rural development, including innovative forms of financing. A visionary approach was needed to respond to the food insecurity affecting one billion people. Lastly, while welcoming the President's efforts to date, he called on IFAD to focus more on increasing women's presence at all levels and on women's empowerment in the countries where it worked.
201. **Mr LEE** (Republic of Korea) said that in 2012 the world had witnessed soaring commodity prices and, despite a slight fall on the international markets, prices remained very high. The international community must make concerted efforts to alleviate world food insecurity, in particular to achieve the MDGs by 2015.
202. His country had emphasized the importance of global development partnership and strengthened cooperation with the private sector at the G20 Seoul Summit and the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, held in Busan, Republic of Korea. He welcomed the theme of the current session, as establishing comprehensive partnerships and enhancing accountability between partners would lay a firm foundation for international prosperity. The private sector should be accepted as partners for expanded cooperation and development.
203. Knowledge-sharing was emerging as a new paradigm of development cooperation. The Republic of Korea's experience and know-how should help developing countries find their own development model. Only four decades earlier his country had been a recipient of international food aid but had overcome hunger and poverty to become a donor of international aid. It was about to begin implementing a pilot project, the Korea Agricultural Policy Experiences for Food Security project, with the aim of sharing knowledge in agricultural development with two countries in Asia and one in Africa in 2013, and hoped to expand its geographical scope in future years. The Republic of Korea would welcome support for the project.
204. **Mr MESTIRI** (Tunisia) congratulated Mr Nwanze on his reappointment, which was a clear testimony to the positive outcomes of his first term as President of IFAD. The Fund was evidently making satisfactory progress as a key partner in assisting developing countries towards attainment of the MDGs. In Tunisia, for instance, it continued to foster agricultural development through projects targeted at the most marginalized and vulnerable groups. Furthermore, after the 14 January revolution, the President of the Fund had visited the country and IFAD had reacted swiftly to the Government's request for additional funding to support the development of infrastructure and promote regional balance.

205. He appealed to IFAD to continue funding existing projects in Tunisia, as well as their expansion, and to help finance new projects on concessional terms. Tunisia indeed looked forward to further cooperation with IFAD for building on the gains achieved as part of a wider medium- and long-term plan for agricultural development. Its own renewed support for IFAD's work was exemplified by the increase in its contribution to the Ninth Replenishment.
206. **Mr VAHAMWITI** (Democratic Republic of the Congo), after congratulating Mr Nwanze on his reappointment, said that the extent of his country's forestry reserves was exceeded only by Amazonia and its agricultural potential was second only to Brazil's. The Democratic Republic of the Congo alone could feed all of Africa but its own people were starving and it had to import vast amounts of food that could be produced locally with better irrigation. The country's food vulnerability had been exacerbated by two decades of war and remained critical. Since 1994 the presence of one million Rwandan refugees had made matters worse. Thousands of farming families living in the fertile hills in the east of the country were now dependent on food aid provided by WFP.
207. The Government was implementing a number of measures: under new legislation on agricultural mechanization, more than 3,500 tractors had been acquired; import taxes on agricultural inputs had been reduced; an agricultural credit bank had been set up; private and public partnerships had been encouraged; agricultural research campaigns had been funded; and a national agricultural investment programme had been launched.
208. He thanked the Rome-based agencies for their support and IFAD in particular for helping his country with project management and sending efficient personnel to Kinshasa with an understanding of his country's reconstruction efforts. Following years of conflict, the Democratic Republic of the Congo required the same level of assistance as Europe after the Second World War. Nevertheless, his country remained one of the main driving forces in the continent.
209. **Mr JACQUES** (Haiti), after wishing the newly reappointed President every success, thanked IFAD for its commitment to sustainable development and better living conditions for small-scale farmers in his country. Accounting for one quarter of gross domestic product (GDP) and one half of employment, agriculture continued to be a major sector in the Haitian economy and one of the mainstays of its development. However, faced with climate change and other challenges, Haitian agriculture was in sharp regression and its contribution to GDP was dwindling. The previous year had been especially difficult owing to prolonged drought, devastating cyclones and repeated floods, resulting in losses estimated at over US\$400 million and a 2.2 per cent decrease in agricultural production.
210. In response to the presidential proclamation of 2013 as Year of Agriculture and the Environment, the Ministry of Agriculture had begun implementing a three-year programme to re-launch the agricultural sector and increase food self-sufficiency from 50 to 70 per cent by 2016. Since the programme was based on public and private partnerships and productive alliances involving different sectoral players, the theme of the current session was fully consistent with Haiti's vision of agricultural development. As the three-year programme would require over US\$1.5 billion, his country would be applying to IFAD for funding and hoped for a favourable response. The timing was good in that IFAD was finalizing the results-based COSOP for 2013-2018, which he hoped would be well in line with the Haitian Government's three-year programme.
211. **Mr SHAFEEU** (Maldives), after extending congratulations to the President on his reappointment, said that it would be useful for countries to pool their experiences of applying the cooperative model of agricultural development and suggest policy improvements in that regard. The Post Tsunami Agriculture and Fisheries Rehabilitation Project and the Fisheries and Agriculture Diversification Project,

implemented in the Maldives with IFAD's assistance, had helped to strengthen sectoral capabilities, through the introduction of new technologies and an increase in incomes. The creation of cooperatives, with a focus on higher production, marketing and linkages with distributors and consumers, had been integral to both projects. Training and capacity-building had enhanced community participation in agriculture and fishery production and development, boosting market confidence in agricultural and fishery products, both fresh and value-added.

212. The employment opportunities offered by cooperatives to marginalized farmers and fishers, especially fish processors and women's groups, had boosted development. Cooperatives were part and parcel of the value chain model introduced by IFAD-funded projects and worked with the public and private sectors to their mutual benefit. On account of his country's narrow base for economic development and despite considerable progress in the tourism sector, fisheries and agriculture continued to be the mainstay of the economy. The Ministry was consolidating partnerships with the tourist industry and expanding markets for produce from value-chain cooperatives. Local partnerships would undoubtedly foster growth in the agriculture sector leading to greater food security, poverty alleviation and higher incomes for smallholder farmers and fishers.
213. **Mr MADJOLBA** (Togo), after welcoming the reappointment of the President of IFAD, acknowledged the Fund's ongoing efforts in support of smallholder farmers and the fight against rural poverty. He also thanked the other United Nations agencies, in particular FAO and WFP, along with the technical and financial partners, for supporting the implementation of Togo's National Agriculture and Food Security Investment Programme. The theme of the current session was welcome on account of the role of small farmers in feeding growing populations, tackling the adverse effects of climate change and guaranteeing a decent livelihood for rural communities. Togo had just adopted a new agricultural policy focused on the power of partnerships for modern family farming based on small producers.
214. Ever greater demand for food called for the development of strategies for boosting farm production. In order to ensure environment-friendly agricultural growth, countries would need to implement measures that guaranteed sustainable production systems tailored to local conditions, with synergy between subregional, regional and global approaches, through platforms for dialogue and exchanges of experience. As part of its reforms, his Government had established a platform for the management of development aid, inter alia in the agricultural sector. Moreover, implementation of the Support to Agricultural Development Project in Togo was based on an innovative partnership model involving farmers' organizations, the private and public sectors and civil society. With the participation of technical and financial partners, in 2010 the Government had set up a special group which had already held eight meetings. The highly successful participatory and inclusive approach might be extended to other subsectors, such as vegetable and animal production, fisheries and aquaculture.
215. **Mr YOMBOUNO** (Guinea), congratulating Mr Nwanze on his reappointment, said that for three decades IFAD had been helping small farmers in his country to enhance productivity and competitiveness as part of the fight against rural poverty. He commended Member States for their increased contributions to IFAD's efforts to stimulate partnerships between governments and smallholder farmers. In order to meet the new challenges of sustainable agricultural development, his Government was endeavouring to achieve food security through a partnership with producers focused on land ownership, access to inputs and machinery, rural infrastructure and training services, thus helping to develop the value chain and creating economic opportunities linked to the market. The strategy protected producers from speculation while promoting profitable agriculture at a fair cost, engendering strong producer associations and cooperatives able to achieve self-sufficiency while improving their living conditions.

216. Guinea was extremely interested in South-South cooperation and, together with South Africa and Viet Nam, had begun implementing a project for the introduction of improved seeds and enhanced technology, thanks to which smallholder rice yields had increased from 1.5 tonnes to 5 tonnes per hectare while incomes resulting from increased crop productivity had tripled. IFAD had the capacity to participate in such partnerships to develop agricultural growth industries. As far as large-scale private agricultural investment was concerned, rural communities were at the centre of action to involve all the principal agricultural players both locally and nationally. In the poverty reduction programmes supported by partner institutions, greater commitment and efficiency were required to strengthen the global partnership for sustainable agricultural development. In order to guarantee food for a growing world population, set to rise to 9.2 billion by 2050, the necessary investment was estimated at US\$83 billion a year.
217. **Mr SAIDOU** (Niger) said he joined previous speakers in congratulating the President of IFAD on his reappointment. His country had received assistance from IFAD to overcome three major food crises during the past decade, in reaction to which the President of the Republic had launched a programme called "*les Nigériens nourrissent les Nigériens*" (the people of Niger feeding their own) or 3N Initiative. Its aim was not only to respond to cyclical situations but also to implement far-reaching agricultural reforms, mobilizing and motivating all sectors of society in order to develop the country's productive capacities and resist crises. A year after its launch, the initiative had mobilized many producers, in particular young people and women, in individual and community smallholdings. The results were encouraging, with several public-private partnership agreements involving all rural stakeholders. Welcoming the theme of the current session, he said that one of the most recent partnerships, concerning small-scale irrigation, had received IFAD support.
218. IFAD's ongoing action in Niger was in keeping with the theme of partnership while meeting the guidelines of the COSOP for 2013-2018 and the 3N Initiative. It was built on strong synergy and complementarity among its own projects and with those funded by other donors. IFAD was increasingly sharing its expertise to allow local actors to take over certain activities, thereby building skills on the ground. Equally praiseworthy was IFAD's participation in national and regional coordination and harmonization frameworks and initiatives for sharing know-how, in particular for implementing the 3N Initiative, the small-scale irrigation project and the joint programme in the Maradi region. Thanks to nationwide economic development centred on cereals, vegetable production and animal husbandry, IFAD had helped to develop easily accessible semi-wholesale markets managed autonomously by inter-branch organizations.
219. **Mr NDONG MIFUMU** (Equatorial Guinea) said that the reappointment of Mr Nwanze stood as an acknowledgement of his accomplishments during his previous mandate. His country hoped to continue to benefit from IFAD's expertise in implementing programmes to improve the lives of rural populations, reduce food insecurity and stem the rural exodus. It was important for IFAD to strengthen its partnerships with Member States in order to promote local development and provide developing countries with funding on favourable terms. His Government valued international cooperation and urged the Rome-based agencies to continue providing technical assistance to national governments in the fight against hunger, which would be more effective and economical if cooperation on the ground were strengthened.
220. Bearing in mind the International Year of Family Agriculture (2014), his Government was seeking sustainable solutions to the problems of hunger and malnutrition. It had pledged US\$30 million for setting up the African solidarity trust fund for food security, the protocol for which would be signed at the third Africa-South America Summit to be held in Malabo later in the month. The summit offered

a new opportunity to define strategies for strengthening cooperation among Latin American and African countries in the framework of South-South cooperation and to find new investors and bilateral and multilateral cooperation frameworks for development in both regions. Thanking Brazil and Nigeria for their contributions to the summit, he said that his Government's contribution to the trust fund highlighted its commitment not only to national development but also to regional solidarity.

221. **Ms ANANGA MESSINA** (Cameroon) said that Mr Nwanze's reappointment was proof of the trust placed in him by the entire membership. Innovation was needed to meet the global challenge of sustainable agriculture in an environment characterized by increasing competition for natural resources, limited agricultural production and climate change. In Africa smallholder farmers were the mainstay of agricultural production. Management of the partnership environment was essential for guaranteeing the effective participation of all stakeholders, including small farmers and the young, in the effort to increase productivity and production. Welcoming the theme of the current session, she praised the initiatives undertaken by IFAD to provide smallholder farmers with additional financing capacities for innovative projects, such as the Spanish Food Security Cofinancing Facility Trust Fund and the ASAP. Most of those capacities should be used for programmes in support of efficient and successful partnerships. The vast potential of South-South cooperation should also be used to foster innovative partnerships.
222. Implementation of global forums' recommendations remained without effect on the ground. Smallholder farmers were aware of governments' international commitments but not of how they translated into improved national production capacities. More than ever, the agriculture sector needed innovative financing sources in order to play its role in achieving food security while protecting the environment. Public-private partnerships could prove decisive but in Africa they were underdeveloped in the agricultural sector. The systematic incorporation of partnerships into IFAD programmes in African countries would fundamentally change IFAD's modus operandi in the field. As a beneficiary of IFAD's support, Cameroon was committed to strengthening its network of technical partners in implementing IFAD programmes as that produced a win-win situation.
223. **Mr KIOME** (Kenya), after congratulating Mr Nwanze on his reappointment, said that with the support of IFAD and other partners his country had reversed the decline in its agricultural production, which had stood at 3 per cent in 2002, and achieved an average growth rate of 6 per cent in 2012, while the rate of food insecurity had been cut from 56 per cent in 2003 to 36 per cent in 2012. Kenya's goal was to achieve the MDGs by 2014.
224. Stressing the importance of institutional reforms for greater efficiency, he said that Kenya was about to implement its deepest reforms in the agricultural sector since independence, by replacing over 131 acts of parliament with only five, namely on crops, livestock, fisheries, the Agricultural Research Organization and the Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Authority. With over US\$250 million in ongoing programme support for the agricultural sector in Kenya, IFAD had been and would continue to be a partner in that transformation. Subsequently, in 2012 his Government had announced its intention to increase its contribution to IFAD from US\$100,000 to US\$500,000. He confirmed that commitment.
225. **Mr KHANAL** (Nepal), after welcoming the new Member States and congratulating the President of IFAD, said that agriculture remained the main source of income for most of the world's people and forging alliances to make it sustainable was a pressing need. Smallholder farmers were the key actors, with a crucial role to play in feeding the world's ever-growing population. However, they faced unprecedented challenges from climate change, financial crises, new diseases and pests and limited access to technology and markets, making them more vulnerable and less competitive on global markets. Although IFAD's working strategy was increasingly

focused on small and poor farmers, smallholder farmers were still largely neglected when policies were designed and implemented. It was high time for a new initiative to provide a supportive policy environment for increasing public and private investment in sustainable smallholder agriculture. New forms of partnership were needed for developing new investment arrangements.

226. For three decades the Government of Nepal had been in partnership with IFAD to promote agriculture and rural development, but there was an urgent need for a strong partnership between the public and private sectors to boost investment and smallholder production and address food insecurity and climate change while connecting smallholder farmers to high-value export markets. Calling for a strong country office in Nepal in order to enhance development cooperation, he said that Nepal had already made its contribution to the Ninth Replenishment and looked forward to working closely with IFAD in the future.
227. **Mr BALDÉ** (Senegal) said that the President of IFAD, whom he congratulated on his reappointment, had recently signed with his Government a US\$32.33 million loan together with a US\$10.1 million loan under the Spanish Food Security Cofinancing Facility Trust Fund to fund a major programme to support agricultural and rural development, the fifteenth IFAD-funded operation in Senegal. IFAD investment since 1979 now totalled US\$180.84 million, benefiting some 431,000 rural households, and the sixteenth project was in the pipeline.
228. Consultations between rural development actors in Senegal had led to new legislation and the establishment of partnerships. For two years, with IFAD support, his Government had been experimenting with partnerships between producer organizations and private sector operators, improving the living conditions of some 10,000 vulnerable households in the groundnut basin. The partnerships had given smallholders access to markets and rewarded risk-taking with guaranteed outlets and profits while operators could meet demand thanks to security of supply in terms of quantity and quality. While it was the Government's role to provide a suitable legal framework for political dialogue it was important for partnerships to be formed from the bottom up. In the development of partnership strategies, it was necessary to specify guidelines and programmes, set funding levels and objectives, and determine evaluation criteria for gauging relevance, effectiveness and sustainability.
229. An international forum on smallholder agriculture, which those present were invited to attend, would be held in Dakar from 6 to 8 March 2013. In partnership with IFAD, it was jointly organized by Senegalese and West African producers' associations, various national, regional and international governmental and non-governmental organizations and the Governments of France and Morocco.
230. **Mr MSEKELA** (United Republic of Tanzania), welcomed Mr Nwanze's reappointment and reasserted his country's continued support for IFAD. The discussions on the theme of the session had provided a useful opportunity to hear of best practices in partnerships that were working for smallholders.
231. His country was carrying out major reforms to transform its agriculture, the population's main source of employment. It was attracting partners to assist smallholder farmers by scaling up the participation of the private sector, which had a key role to play in hastening the growth of agriculture by means of the "corridor approach". His Government had initiated the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania to begin transforming the rural economy and one of its five clusters, the Kilombero cluster for rice and sugarcane, was already performing well. The partnership between smallholders and large-scale farmers had increased average paddy productivity from 2 to 6 tonnes per hectare and already covered 3,200 outgrowers out of a target of 5,000.

232. With the support of the IFAD Country Office, his Government had begun reviewing Tanzania's results-based COSOP, which was in keeping with IFAD's aim of lifting 80 million people out of poverty. He requested further IFAD support through the programme approach to complement his Government's initiatives, and welcomed the fact that South-South cooperation was one of the main commitments of the Ninth Replenishment.
233. **Mr RUZINDAZA** (Rwanda) reaffirmed his country's commitment to working with IFAD for the benefit of Rwandan farmers and the country's development and extended congratulations to the President on his reappointment.
234. His country had completed the first phase of implementation of its economic development and poverty reduction strategy with remarkable results. The poverty rate had been reduced from 56 per cent to 45 per cent in only five years and the target for the next five years was a further 15 per cent reduction. That ambitious target called for a true partnership between Government, donors, global partners, the local private sector, civil society and the public. Agriculture would be one of the main engines for achieving the target, which called for investment, institutional reform, capacity-building, market integration and penetration. A correct diagnosis was vital for designing appropriate evidence-based strategies. Rwanda remained committed to regional stability and peace building at the regional and international levels. He thanked IFAD for its role in Rwanda and its commitment to development in his country and the wider region.
235. **Mr BANDA** (Zambia), after wishing Mr Nwanze well for his second term of office, reaffirmed his country's commitment to the theme of the current session. Achievement of the interrelated goals of poverty reduction, national food security and broad-based income growth called for a steep increase in agricultural productivity which, in turn, required public-private partnerships that were essential for sustainable agricultural growth and rural development. Such partnerships were more likely to ensure well-targeted investment by the public and private sectors and individual farmers, broadening access to technology, connecting farmers with markets and helping to improve production and productivity. Zambia was already embracing partnerships in its agricultural development agenda. Implementation of the national agricultural investment plan within the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme had brought together all the major partners in the sector, including the Government, IFAD and other development partners, the private sector, civil society organizations and farmers, who had agreed on the priority areas for agricultural development in Zambia.
236. His Government appreciated IFAD's financial assistance for Zambia's agricultural sector. IFAD had continued to support a number of agricultural development programmes, a clear demonstration of how the longstanding partnership was working. The Zambian Government was committed to improved partnerships and the development of sustainable agriculture that would feed its people and the rest of the world, now and for future generations.

#### OTHER BUSINESS (agenda item 14)

237. **Ms URBANEJA DURÁN** (Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of), referring to the previous day's discussions on agenda item 11, and speaking on behalf of the List B, but also the List A and C countries, requested assurance that the decision taken by the Governing Council on the administrative budget comprising the regular and capital budgets of IFAD for 2013 would fully reflect what had been said on the matter of support to governance and specifically language parity, including the concluding statement made by the President of IFAD.
238. Thanking the President of IFAD for his willingness to respond to the concerns of Member States with regard to the principle of language parity, and further to the Governing Council's decision on the subject, referred to above, she asked him to

clarify what action would be taken with regard to the measure approved at the 107<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board held in December 2012. In subparagraph 20(b) of the document containing the decisions and deliberations of that session (EB 2012/107/INF.12), it was stated that, as a step towards achieving the IFAD9 targets set for the portion of Cluster 4 related to the work of the Office of the Secretary, the Board had approved the following measure: "On a trial basis, discontinuing the translation of information documents and annexes, with representatives being informed beforehand of the documents affected."

239. **Mr NWANZE** (President of IFAD) thanked the Governor for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for making it clear that the proposed measure concerned only information documents and annexes generated by Management, not the core documents shared with the Executive Board. On the previous day, after the discussion on agenda item 11, he had indeed acknowledged the concerns raised by the Council regarding the principle of multilingualism which he understood had been prompted by a measure approved by the Executive Board to discontinue translation of information papers and annexes presented to the Board. He had expressed his commitment to exploring and identifying solutions with a view to ensuring equal conditions for participation by all Member States and the Fund's Governing Bodies in that regard.
240. He drew attention to the paragraph following the one quoted, namely paragraph 21, of document EB 2012/107/INF.12 (also recorded, as paragraph 41, in document EB/107 Draft Minutes), where it was stated that Management would undertake a review of the status of measures adopted to date at the December 2013 session, at which point the Executive Board could decide on further actions as appropriate. It was his understanding that the proposed one-year trial of discontinuing the translation of information documents and annexes was found to be unacceptable and representatives wished to know how the secretariat intended to proceed as an alternative. He repeated that he was committed to exploring and identifying solutions with a view to ensuring equal conditions for participation by all Member States and IFAD's Governing Bodies in terms of multilingualism and guaranteed that all documents presented to the Executive Board would be available in all four languages; if they were not presented to the Executive Board they would not be translated.
241. **Ms URBANEJA DURÁN** (Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of) thanked the President for his answer but sought further clarification of the proposed alternative solutions to be presented to the Executive Board.
242. **Mr NWANZE** (President of IFAD) gave his assurance that, as of April 2013, all documents, including annexes and information documents submitted for Executive Board meetings, would be available in all four languages, if and when they were presented as Board documents. He had no alternative proposal and would not further reduce the budget, which was already based on a zero nominal increase.

## CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

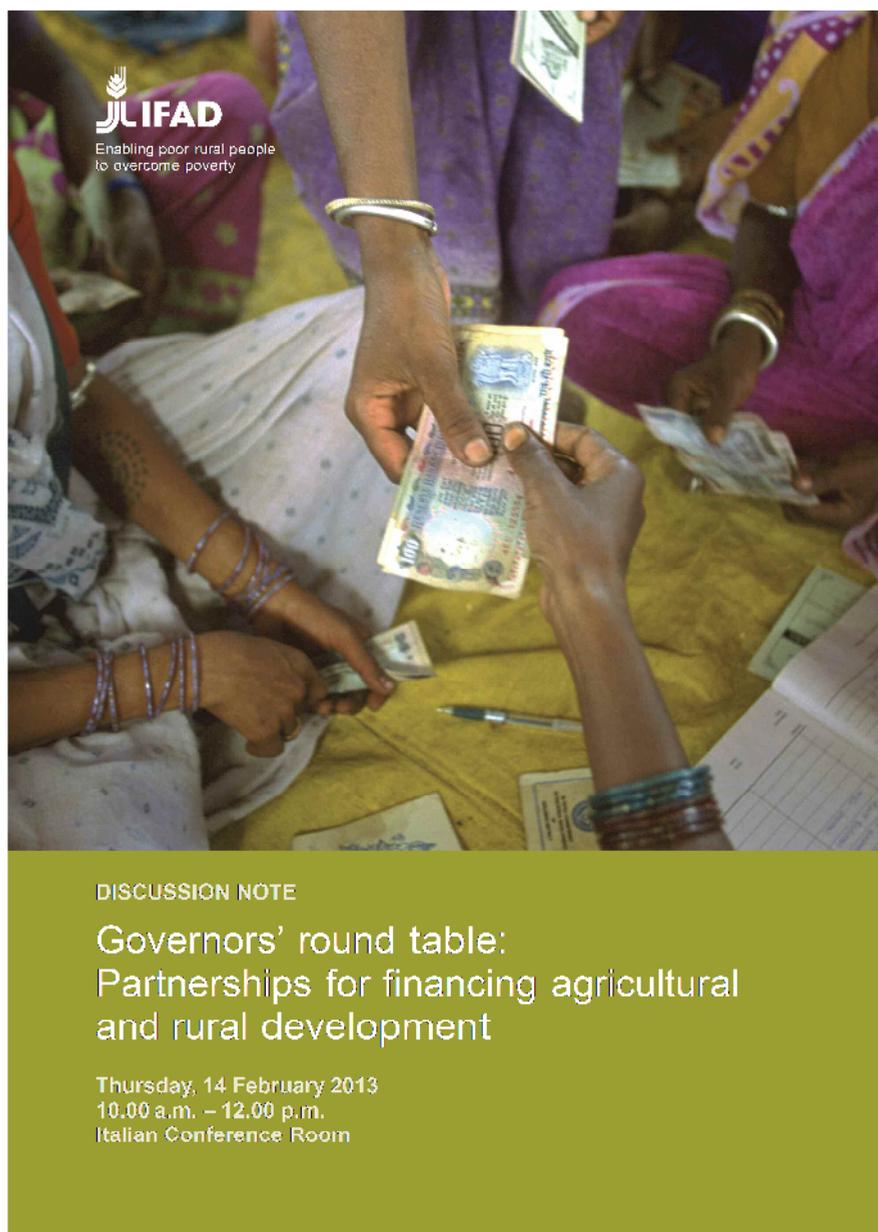
243. **Mr NWANZE** (President of IFAD) made a closing statement, the full text of which is reproduced in chapter 4.
244. **The CHAIRPERSON** reviewed highlights of the Governing Council's session. Following the inaugural ceremony, with messages and statements by eminent personalities, the Council had reappointed Mr Nwanze for a second term of office, attesting to the trust of the membership in his vision and leadership. The discussion on financing was a new and rewarding exercise which deserved to be replicated. Decisions had been taken on reports; the Council had been informed of the good progress being made in the Ninth Replenishment; and the Fund had welcomed three new Members. He concluded by expressing his admiration to the President and staff of IFAD, including those working with governments on the ground.

245. He declared the thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council closed.

246. **The meeting rose at 2.10 p.m.**

## Chapter 3

### B. High-level Governors' round table: Partnerships for financing agricultural and rural development



#### 247. Background

President Nwanze created the high-level Governors' round table in response to calls from IFAD Governors for greater opportunities to exchange ideas and experiences at the annual session of Governing Council. The round table is designed to act as a forum for Governors to strategize on the key issues that affect smallholder farmers and rural poor people. The input provided also serves to help shape IFAD's strategies and programmes by benefiting from the input and experiences of IFAD Governors. A total of 90 Member States participated in the event: 17 delegates from List A (74 per cent), 6 from List B (50 per cent) and 67 from List C (49 per cent), including seven Governors.

## 248. Panellists and discussions

Moderator: Ambassador Miguel Ruiz Cabañas Izquierdo, Permanent Representative of the United Mexican States to IFAD, and Vice-Chair of the IFAD Governing Council

Speakers:

President Kanayo Nwanze

Carlos Seré, Associate Vice-President, Strategy and Knowledge Management Department, IFAD

A short video about the partnership that IFAD has created with Mars, Incorporated in Indonesia was followed by an 80-minute discussion among participants.

249. The key issues discussed were as follows:

- President Nwanze emphasized the need to focus on scaling up the successes IFAD has realized thus far, and to ensure that smallholders are at the centre of new investment strategies for agricultural and rural development. Partnerships are vital to achieving productive, inclusive, profitable and sustainable results. Carlos Seré then highlighted the need to create tripartite collaboration among the farmer, the private sector and the public sector; each playing a distinct, yet complementary role. The challenge was to continue to build trust among partners. Rapidly growing demand for food was creating new opportunities for smallholders, and partnerships were the key to translating this opportunity into inclusive growth.
- Several delegates remarked that funds were available within their countries, through central and commercial banks, and that IFAD's assistance would be useful in helping develop instruments to unlock this financing and channel it towards agriculture. There was general agreement that a shift in the institutional culture of the financial sector was needed to better support agriculture. Examples were shared by several delegates of how they were mobilizing more financing for agriculture through matching funds and/or guarantee schemes.
- Participants also emphasized the responsibility and important role of the public sector in partnerships for financing agriculture. This reached beyond creating a conducive environment, to fostering specific interventions such as irrigation, micro-credit and other services. IFAD's neutrality and expertise in brokering partnerships could make a highly constructive contribution in this regard.
- It was agreed that more investment in agriculture, particularly smallholder family farming, was vital and that this must be accompanied by close monitoring of the quality and impact of such investments. Agricultural investments could generate a wide range of development benefits if they also address issues such as environmental sustainability, social and cultural impact, and nutrition. The rights of poor people and smallholders in relation to access to land, water and natural resources must also be respected.
- Several members highlighted their support for the work of private sector partners, in particular for the creation of new technologies and best practices aimed at increasing agricultural productivity. The work of the Committee on Food Security was considered a priority, as was the consultative process to develop and ensure broad ownership of the principles for responsible agricultural investments.
- Other key points included: the significant impact of climate change on smallholders and migration from rural to urban settings; the importance of education in managing the generational changes impacting smallholder farmers; the need to consider fisheries when strategizing on partnerships for

financing rural development; more effective ways to form partnerships with other IFIs; and the importance of positioning smallholders at the centre of any partnership strategy.

250. Based on feedback received from over 70 participants, Governors and heads of delegations expressed strong support for continuing to hold the Governors' round table in future years.

## Chapter 3

### C. Other general statements

#### Statement of the representative for Burkina Faso

First of all, on behalf of the delegation of Burkina Faso, may I offer my sincere congratulations to you, Madam Chairperson of the Governing Council, and to the members of the Bureau, for assuming the notable responsibility of guiding the work of the thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council of IFAD.

May I also convey, on behalf of my delegation, our best wishes for 2013 to you, the members of the Bureau and the entire IFAD family; may it be a year of peace, health and success.

I would also like to voice complete satisfaction with the work of the fifth President of IFAD, Mr Kanayo F. Nwanze, since taking office on 1 April 2009 and throughout his tenure to fight endemic poverty and food insecurity in a world facing grave political, economic and social issues.

Mr Nwanze has worked ceaselessly around the world to ensure that agriculture features prominently on the international development agenda, and particularly in my country, Burkina Faso, to establish a productive partnership and to promote thriving and viable agriculture for smallholders.

The thirty-sixth session coincides with the end of the first term of Mr Kanayo F. Nwanze, President of the Fund, who has the unanimous support of the IFAD Member States as a person and in terms of his proven moral and intellectual qualities, and his realistic and practical vision of agricultural development issues.

My delegation takes this opportunity to pay tribute to him, and indeed to IFAD and all institutions and entities; in sum, to all those working to improve the living conditions of rural people and achieve food security in developing countries.

In the context of the Report of the Consultation on the Ninth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources, we would like to commend the strong commitment of the Member States despite the downturn in the global economy, which enabled IFAD to achieve remarkable results on 31 December 2012, an indication of their interest in IFAD's work to combat hunger.

We trust that all IFAD Member States and donors will devote even more effort and greater sacrifice to building IFAD's capacity through their timely contributions to the Ninth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources.

The Government of Burkina Faso confirms the level of its contribution as announced for the Ninth Replenishment, which represents an increase of 25 per cent over its contribution to the Eighth Replenishment. The instrument of contribution was deposited on 8 October 2012 and practical measures have been taken with respect to payment.

Mr President,

For Burkina Faso, the period 2010-2012, with the support of IFAD, has provided an opportunity to consolidate knowledge to strengthen gains in efficiency, with the ultimate goal of realizing the objectives of the accelerated growth and sustainable development strategy of Burkina Faso 2011-2015 (SCADD) and the national rural sector programme (2011-2015), which provide the unifying framework for all development projects/programmes initiated by technical and financial partners.

In addition, IFAD will focus its efforts on harmonization, innovation, partnership-building and policy dialogue. IFAD will use its experience in the field to enhance the effectiveness and impact of its operations within a framework of collaboration and mutual

accountability. The private sector will also be called on to supply goods and services to rural groups.

Fresh approaches to funding modalities in agriculture and rural development will be explored and lessons learned from traditional development assistance will be used to make farming attractive and profitable for rural people. This will require IFAD and technical and financial partners to support initiatives based on productive collaboration involving all stakeholders, including rural groups, in terms of knowledge sharing and resource mobilization. Accordingly, our delegation wholeheartedly subscribes to the central theme of the thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council, namely The Power of Partnerships: Forging alliances for sustainable smallholder agriculture.

Mr President,

At least 70 per cent of the world's very poor people live in rural areas and 2 billion people live on less than two dollars a day. The food and poverty situation is an obstacle to development interventions in our countries, in sub-Saharan Africa in general, and particularly in Burkina Faso. These figures call for international solidarity that involves all of us in order to alleviate the suffering of all those, worldwide, faced with the adverse effects of climate hazards.

Over the past ten years, cropping patterns in Burkina Faso have been characterized by alternating seasons of crop surplus and crop deficits due to sporadic and unevenly distributed rainfall. On Wednesday, 7 February 2013, the Council of Ministers adopted the report on the final results of the agropastoral season 2012-2013.

Cereal production (sorghum, millet, maize, rice, etc.) for this season is estimated at 4,898,544 tons, an increase of 33.6 per cent over the previous year and 26.9 per cent with respect to the average of the last five years.

Production of other food crops (legumes, tubers, etc.) is estimated at 869,806 tons, an increase of 19.2 per cent compared to the previous year, and 29.9 per cent compared to the average of the last five seasons.

Production of cash crops amounted to 1,043,164 tons, an increase of 28.1 per cent over the previous year and 16.5 per cent over the average of the last five seasons.

The surplus production this season 2012-2013 is largely due to the atypical rainfall recorded and a good spatial-temporal distribution.

The following measures are being taken by the Government to ensure proper management of surplus grain:

- Collection and storage of surplus grain by village groups and/or cooperatives;
- Purchase and storage of surpluses by the national society for buffer stock management (SONAGESS);
- Training of farmers' organizations in stock management.

All these initiatives require the support of the state and development partners through a pooling of financial resources and knowledge.

Finally, Mr. President, allow me to convey the gratitude of my country's highest authorities for IFAD's interventions which have been so beneficial for the people of Burkina Faso, particularly the rural population.

Similarly, we would like to reiterate our appreciation of IFAD, our shared institution, and of Mr Kanayo F. Nwanze and our congratulations on the positive results achieved by the Fund under his leadership during his first term.

## Statement of the representative for Burundi

On behalf of the Government of Burundi, I would first like to congratulate Dr Kanayo F. Nwanze on his re-election as the President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

Allow me, Mr President, to take this opportunity to commend your leadership and the quality of management of this important institution under your responsibility. I am particularly thankful for the support consistently extended to Burundi during your first tenure: thanks to IFAD's unwavering commitment, Burkina Faso benefitted from investments in rural poverty alleviation at an unprecedented level.

It is also a great pleasure for Burundi to participate in this thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council of IFAD, whose central theme is "The Power of Partnerships: Forging alliances for sustainable smallholder agriculture".

Partnership is a fitting theme for this session of our Council: quality partnerships among governments, grass-roots organizations, smallholders and donors make an essential contribution to helping rural poor people move out of poverty.

For those of you not familiar with Burundi, our economy depends mainly on subsistence farming; the country has a very large rural population (over 95 per cent of the overall population), farms are fragmented (averaging at less than 0.5 hectares) and production is extremely low. This precarious situation has been exacerbated by the fire that occurred at the central market in Bujumbura – the country's main food storage facility – which caused enormous damage to a country that was just beginning to move forward after 15 years of civil war. We would like to take this opportunity to call on the international community, and in particular IFAD for support in this moment of need.

As has been the case with other countries belonging to the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), Burundi has committed to (i) creating a conducive environment to promote greater competition in the agricultural and rural sector; (ii) reaching a target growth rate of 6 per cent in the agricultural sector, and mobilizing the resources required for the associated investments; (iii) allocating 10 per cent of the national budget to the agricultural sector, in alignment with the commitments made by the Summit for Heads of State and Government of the African Union in Maputo in 2004; and (iv) establishing a coordination framework for bilateral and multilateral funding for the agricultural sector. In this context, I would like to thank IFAD for the support it has provided to Burundi in formulating the national agricultural investment plan (PNIA), which was a critical step in the achievement of the objectives of the second generation growth and poverty reduction strategic framework.

Mr President of IFAD, may I thank you on behalf of my Government and the people of Burundi, for your support the my country's agricultural sector.

Impact studies undertaken during 2012 in the context of the midterm review of the country strategic opportunities programme for Burundi demonstrated that IFAD-financed projects make a significant contribution to reducing the poverty and improving the food security and nutrition of the target groups in the provinces of operation.

Mr President of IFAD, when you visited Burundi in March 2012, you reiterated IFAD's commitment to supporting Burundi in implementing the second generation growth and poverty reduction strategic framework (CSLP II) and the National Agricultural Investment Plan (PNIA). For this, we thank you very much.

The Government of Burundi has long understood the importance of the theme of this session – The power of partnerships: Forging alliances for sustainable smallholder

agriculture. This has formed the cornerstone of the National Agricultural Investment Plan (PNIA) by building public and private partnerships in agricultural development with a view to ensuring food security and good nutrition in terms of both quantity and quality.

In line with the poverty reduction strategy, policy dialogue between the State and private sector forms a strong pillar of the PNIA, ensuring the effective involvement of the private sector in programme implementation and monitoring while increasing the contribution of private operators to sector financing, especially through public-private partnerships.

I would like to conclude by expressing, once again, heartfelt gratitude to IFAD and to its President for the tireless support to agricultural sector development and to eradicating hunger in the world, and in particular in developing countries such as mine.

May I also thank all those who are committed to supporting Burundi, such as the Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme (GAFSP), the OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID), the European Union, Belgium, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Food Programme, within the framework of their partnership with IFAD, for their support to my country in implementing activities targeted at Burundi's rural areas under the CSLP and PNIA.

I wish this thirty-sixth session of the IFAD Governing Council every success in its work.

## **Statement of the representative for Gabon**

On behalf of the Government of Gabon and on my own behalf, may I join eminent speakers who have gone before me in conveying my best wishes on the occasion of the thirty-sixth session of our institution's Governing Council.

Allow me to express gratitude and heartfelt thanks to the heads of state who have honoured us with their presence and their inspirational words and wisdom.

May I also take this opportunity to pay tribute in the most sincere and fervent terms to President Kanayo F. Nwanze who succeeded in fulfilling the expectations of the Member States at the helm of the Fund throughout his first term. Accept all our best wishes for this new year of 2013.

Like other countries, Gabon is a net importer of food and is faced by the consequences of both the food and the financial crises, in particular: increased cost of agricultural inputs; increased food prices; and reduced investment in the agricultural sector. The most serious impact of this dire situation has been Gabon's increased dependence on the outside world to feed the population.

In 2009, the Republic of Gabon adopted the strategic plan for an emerging Gabon (PSGE) for 2025, which confirms the importance of the agricultural sector to the country's development through: strengthening of the institutional and regulatory framework; identification, mapping and development of farmland; development of peri-urban agriculture and intensive cultivation of food crops; development of agro-industrial export sectors; and development of vocational training and centres of excellence for agriculture.

These lines of action are aimed at ensuring food security and increasing the agricultural sector's contribution to GDP through increased domestic production of higher quality and lower cost.

The Government expects that the new agricultural strategy will increase agricultural production by 45 per cent and achieve the targeted increase of 10 per cent in agriculture's contribution to GDP, compared with the current level of 3.5 per cent.

Gabon is a country of significant potential: it has 14 million hectares of fertile land, 5,000 hectares of which are ready for cultivation, in addition to water resources and a favourable climate that would allow for the development of sustainable agriculture, generating growth and sustainable development. Gabon is confident that it can count on the support of its main partners, especially IFAD, in implementing its policies.

Cooperation between IFAD and Gabon resumed in 2002, leading to the implementation of the Agricultural and Rural Development Project (PDAR), for which the financing agreement was signed in October 2007. This project will run until 2014 in Woleu-Ntem province. It is our hope that we will soon be able to engage in another operation with countrywide coverage, subject to the availability of supplementary financing.

In 2012, the Government of Gabon submitted a request to IFAD for supplementary financing for the PDAR. The funds will be used to finance collective transportation centres in areas of high production and secondary roads to allow outflow of produce towards the main highways.

The supplementary financing will also be used to strengthen the marketing capacity of the target group through the establishment of community infrastructure.

Gabon has demonstrated its commitment to build its cooperation with IFAD by launching an arrears settlement plan. Arrears relating to the loans for the Smallholder Support Project and the contributions to the Second Replenishment of IFAD's Resources were cleared between 2005 and 2008. The General Directorate for Public Accounting and Treasury is preparing a settlement plan for arrears related to the Third and Fourth Replenishments, which amount to US\$2,500,000. The Government is committed to continuing these efforts until all arrears have been cleared.

Furthermore, aware of its responsibilities at the international level and in a desire to demonstrate its long-term commitment to IFAD, since 2009 Gabon has allocated CFA 50 million each year under its annual budget, to avoid the accumulation of such arrears in the future. In all, this will amount to a contribution over three years of CFA 150 million.

We therefore pledged a contribution in the amount of CFA 150 million for the Eighth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources.

Finally, together with the other countries, Gabon hopes that IFAD will continue to play a strong role in supporting governments in helping smallholders to deal with the many challenges they face, most notably: access to markets, price fluctuations, technological innovations and climate change.

## Statement of the representative for Iran

It is an honour for me to participate on behalf of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council of IFAD.

At this very outset, let me congratulate the Chairperson for assuming the responsibility of chairing the thirty-sixth session of the IFAD Governing Council.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my sincere congratulations to Mr Kanayo Nwanze for his election to a second term as President of IFAD. I wish him all the success in guiding IFAD as an institution with the specific mandate of reducing rural poverty and hunger in the challenging world ahead of us.

As the thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council of IFAD is being held, extreme poverty remains a daily reality for more than 850 million people worldwide. On the basis of the "one-dollar-a-day threshold", there are 1.2 billion poor people in developing and low-income countries.

Challenges like climate change, water scarcity and land degradation are exacerbating this trend particularly for developing and low-income countries.

Indeed, available projections point to a probable failure to meet the commitments made by the international community to halve hunger and poverty by 2015 as set out by the Millennium Development Goals. We believe that there is an urgent need more than ever, for a rapid reduction in rural poverty. Integrated continuous effort, with mobilization of resources, energies and technical measures are needed to defeat hunger and poverty worldwide.

It is evident that the agricultural sector plays a crucial role in the economy of developing countries and provides the main source of food, income and employment to their rural populations. Improvements in agriculture in all aspects are fundamental to achieving food security, poverty alleviation and overall sustainable development. Every effort should be made in such a context, to enable poor people to overcome poverty with a particular focus on the most vulnerable, such as poor rural women and indigenous populations.

IFAD's achievement in the past decades, however appreciated, needs to be sustained in assisting rural people to overcome poverty and hunger. IFAD should rely more on what it has learned about small-scale agriculture and rural poverty reduction in over 30 years. Downsizing the administrative body, making operations efficient by exploiting applicable tools, very close cooperation with the Rome-based agencies and other relevant agencies, especially in the field, are essential in our task. South-South cooperation needs to be further encouraged.

As has been stressed, small-scale farming is one of the ways to tackle poverty. In the past three decades, the Islamic Republic of Iran has taken great strides to reform the structure of the agriculture and rural sectors, and promote sustainable food production. The results of these efforts are reflected in different indicators of sector growth, food security and self-sufficiency.

Agriculture production increased to more than 100 million tons in 2007, from just 25.6 million tons in 1977, in spite of several successive droughts that hit agriculture and rural life in Iran. The production of livestock products also increased annually by 4.2 per cent to more than 10.7 million tons in 2007.

The Islamic Republic of Iran also introduced its new forest policy and economic tools, aiming to strengthen public participation in the fields of planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of forestry programmes by emphasizing the role of the private sector, NGOs and local communities.

I stress the eagerness and readiness of my country to support, cooperate and collaborate with IFAD with the aim of assisting IFAD to play its role in mitigating poverty and hunger

in the world. We are also pleased to share with all the member countries of IFAD our successful experiences in the agriculture and rural development sectors.

## **Statement of the representative for Italy**

It is both an honour and a pleasure for me to participate in this important annual event. I am also pleased to see the growing attention being paid to IFAD, which is visible in the recent accessions of new members and the interest shown by other countries in joining the institution.

Today we have an opportunity to take stock of the Fund's work. On the one hand, the Eighth Replenishment (IFAD8) period has come to a close; on the other, President Kanayo Nwanze has completed his four-year mandate. We consider the outcome to be highly positive.

The three-year IFAD8 time-span (2010-2012) coincided with a period fraught with severe famine and soaring, highly volatile food prices, which exacerbated the effects of the global economic crisis in developing countries. The living conditions of vulnerable groups suffering from malnutrition continue to be critical.

To cope with the growing problem of food insecurity, IFAD has increased its programme of loans and grants and has mobilized additional cofinancing, thus making a major contribution to the response of the international community. IFAD has also launched a process of internal reform to ensure that its resources are used more effectively and efficiently.

Italy's confidence in the operations of the Fund and in the leadership of President Nwanze is demonstrated by our contributions to the IFAD replenishments which registered an increase for both IFAD8 and IFAD9.

In today's changing world and with agricultural markets rapidly evolving, IFAD has shown its ability to adapt. And it is vital that it remains on this path if it is to achieve the ambitious goal of the next three years: to move 80 million people out of poverty.

Despite signs of economic recovery, the international climate continues to be difficult and uncertain, and many of the countries in which IFAD operates are experiencing political instability.

Therefore, a new, flexible approach needs to be found, capable of adapting to local and regional conditions that are often prone to sudden unexpected events. Greater attention needs to be paid to project sustainability, which is particularly challenging in fragile and unstable environments.

The increased cofinancing being provided by local governments provides significant assurance that the social, economic, institutional and environmental benefits generated by IFAD's projects and programmes will endure over time.

Sustainability is inextricably linked with partnership and cooperation among smallholder farmers, the public sector, the private sector and civil society. Success hinges on the commitment of all stakeholders and the synergy that they manage to create in their work.

Governments are responsible for defining and implementing appropriate rural development policies that promote smallholder agriculture and support the most vulnerable groups, also through initiatives that support local farming associations and cooperatives.

However, the private sector can - and should - play a more active role. Partnerships with the private sector are essential to ensuring that smallholder farmers have better access to markets, credit, innovation, technical know-how and management skills.

Partnerships with the private sector are also the route to ensuring that successful programmes are replicated and scaled up, benefitting an increasing number of smallholder farmers and setting in motion virtuous cycles of growth and inclusive economic development.

Partnerships have long been a central element of IFAD's activities. Nevertheless, issues of growing complexity and diversity require a fresh approach that is sufficiently selective to ensure that operations remain focused and effective.

Over the past years, IFAD's work has gained increasing visibility, which reflects the incisiveness of its operations. It is vital that IFAD continues to achieve ever-more ambitious results through efficient action.

In this connection, I wish to acknowledge President Nwanze's adoption of a stringent budgetary policy, which foresees no cost increases in 2013. This is prudent approach, which responds to the request of Italy and many other Member States, must continue to be an IFAD trademark, also in the future.

Mr President, may I conclude by congratulating you on your re-election. We are sure that with your leadership, IFAD will become an increasingly relevant partner for all those working in the public and private sector, and at the national and international level to promote sustainable agriculture in support of local communities.

## **Statement of the representative for Japan**

It is my honour to participate in the thirty-sixth Governing Council of IFAD.

Due to the serious drought that hit the mid-west of the United States and other extreme weather conditions last year, the prices of corn and soybean soared to new heights, which revealed the precarious balance of global food supply and demand. Food security was taken up in international discussions including G8, G20 and Rio+20, and is increasingly recognized as an urgent challenge. In addition, in such forums as the G8 New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition, encouraging private sector investment is highlighted as important for accelerating the promotion of food security.

Under such circumstances, I believe that expectations for IFAD from the international community will become higher as the organization supports smallholder farmers and agricultural development. In this connection, it is important that IFAD makes an active contribution to the discussions on global food security and enhances its presence in the international community. I recognize that IFAD has expanded its presence in recipient countries to listen to local residents, and Japan would like to support such activities that benefit smallholder farmers.

Investments need to be made in accordance with the Principles for Responsible Agricultural Investment (PRAI) and the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land so that private sector investments truly lead to agricultural development for farmers. In addition, the Committee on World Food Security has commenced a consultation process to formulate the principles for responsible agricultural investments, upon which it is foreseen a broad range of stakeholders will agree. Active involvement of IFAD in applying existing principles and developing new initiatives is encouraged given its engagement in the process of developing PRAI.

Furthermore, Japan would like to contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by strengthening cooperation with IFAD and implementing effective development assistance through multilateral-bilateral partnerships. Food security and nutrition continue to be taken up as a critical issue in the discussion on the post-2015 development agenda, and I believe that the role of the three Rome-based agencies will be even bigger in this context. I hope that IFAD will play a more active role in the establishment of an effective new framework for food security and nutrition under the post-2015 development agenda, based on the principle of human security.

Finally, I would like to inform you that Japan will host the fifth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD V) from 1 to 3 June this year in Yokohama city in Japan. In the TICAD process, agricultural and rural development has been recognized as a major component of economic activities in Africa, and we have discussed development assistance that truly benefits farmers. To lead TICAD V to success, I would like to seek the cooperation of IFAD and the distinguished delegates of the Governing Council.

## **Statement of the representative for Jordan**

First, permit me to congratulate the President on his re-election as President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development. I wish him success in serving the agricultural sector and achieving the lofty goals of the Fund.

I am also pleased to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to all IFAD staff for their excellent efforts in preparing for this meeting and their tireless work to implement agricultural and rural development projects in the beneficiary countries to ensure food security and develop sustainable agriculture.

A large segment of the world's population suffers from hunger and malnutrition. Nothing is more important than providing food to all inhabitants of the world and meeting their basic nutrition needs by promoting partnerships among smallholder farmers. Agricultural partnerships and groups enhance the capacity of small farmers, enabling them to increase their agricultural output while significantly lowering production costs to achieve food security, which is inseparable from national security and is a primary goal that we must all strive to achieve.

IFAD has provided outstanding support to Jordan's agricultural sector by providing concessional loans. The Fund has helped implement a number of agricultural projects that have yielded tangible results through the use of available resources and previously unexploited large land tracts to produce food sustainably. Salient projects in this regard include the Yarmouk Agricultural Resources Development Project, the Agricultural Resource Management Project in the Governorates of Karak, Tafilat and Ma'an, and the Income Diversification Project.

We affirm Jordan's continued cooperation with the Fund and support for the plans and programmes that the Fund is implementing. We are grateful for the major efforts being made to carry out the Fund's programme and plans for the coming year, and we support the Fund's work programme for 2013.

In conclusion, we extend our thanks to the international organizations that work with the Fund to eliminate poverty and hunger, especially the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Food Programme. We would also like to express our gratitude to the Italian Government for the support and assistance it provides and our appreciation and respect for all of you.

## **Statement of the representative for Kiribati**

Kam na bane ni Mauri.

I bring you warm greetings from the President, the Government and people of Kiribati on whose behalf I am privileged to participate in the thirty-sixth session of IFAD's Governing Council.

Let me at the outset convey my sincere congratulations to Dr. Kanayo Nwanze for his re-election as President of IFAD for a second term. Your re-election, Mr. President, is reflective of your efficient and effective leadership, and the confidence of the IFAD family that you will be able to lead the way into a brighter future during the course of the next four years.

I wish to express the profound support of my Government to IFAD and its Governing Council. In particular, let me underscore our support of this year's focus on building partnerships to reduce poverty and ensure food security in rural communities. For small and vulnerable countries like Kiribati, the effort by the Council to address issues of poverty and food security is most strategic and appropriate. In this connection, Kiribati expresses its appreciation for the recent fact-finding mission undertaken by IFAD late last year, and stands ready to continue working closely with IFAD in developing appropriate plans of intervention in the rural outer islands of Kiribati.

I wish to point out that it is by no coincidence that my Government has very recently shifted its attention to building the resilience of its people against the adverse impact of climate change and the global economic recession. The effects of these overpowering global phenomena are experienced on a daily basis in various forms, affecting the social, economic and environmental aspects of our lives. Among others, poverty alleviation has been identified by my Government as a top priority concern, which is to be addressed through specific agricultural projects implemented at various levels nationwide.

Kiribati has been very fortunate to be the recipient of technical and financial support from IFAD over the past years. Under this support, the Agricultural Centre of Excellence was established in 2008, and the Mainstreaming of Rural Development Innovations (MORDI) programme was undertaken in 2010. From 2013 onwards, Kiribati looks forward to working closely with IFAD in reducing poverty through partnerships with donors, local communities, the private sector and rural household farmers.

Last but not the least, Kiribati wishes to pay tribute to the people and Government of Italy, and to IFAD's hard-working staff, for the warm welcome and excellent support that they have extended to me and my delegation since our arrival in Rome.

## **Statement of the representative for Malawi**

On behalf of the Malawi Government, I wish to congratulate Dr Kanayo Nwanze on his re-election as the President of IFAD. This is a fitting decision considering the remarkable progress IFAD has made under his administration. The successful reforms, negotiations for the Ninth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources and substantial increase in disbursement of funds for programmes, attest to his sound management and effective leadership. Malawi wishes Dr Nwanze further success in his second term of office.

The theme for this session: "The power of partnership: Forging alliances for sustainable smallholder agriculture" is both relevant and timely for Malawi. Our economy is agriculture-based and smallholder farmers are central. They generate about 75 per cent of our total agricultural output and provide the bulk of food produced. The smallholder subsector employs the majority of the labour force. We are aware that in order to realize substantial gains in agricultural growth and transformation, smallholder farming must be transformed from subsistence activities to being run like a business. We want our smallholder farmers to be integrated into local, regional and international markets, and be important players in the agriculture value chain. The Malawi Government is aware that for this to happen, we would need to build strong multi-stakeholder partnerships and alliances.

It is for this reason that the Government has enacted the Public-Private Partnership Act which provides a conducive environment for investment and strengthens property rights. Furthermore, the issues of public-private partnership are widely outlined in the Government of Malawi's overarching medium term strategy - the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDs 1 and 2) - which highlights the agriculture sector as one of the priority sectors.

At the operational level, to ensure that there is coordination, coherence and synergy among multi-stakeholders and partners, Malawi is implementing a country-owned Agriculture Sector-Wide Approach Programme, (ASWAp) in line with the Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP). The ASWAp is organized under three focus areas and two key support services. All the focus areas have technical working groups that comprise members of the private sector, civil society, farmers' organizations, the Government and cooperating partners to discuss issues affecting the agriculture sector. In addition, the Government, through ASWAp, is providing financial support to NGOs and farmers' organizations to implement agricultural activities ranging from seed multiplication to provision of agricultural extension services to smallholder farmers.

We are grateful for IFAD's strong presence in Malawi as an effective partner and broker. The Sustainable Agricultural Production Programme (SAPP) contributes to the pillars of ASWAp. The interventions in SAPP are part of the solution, though we still need to do much more. We need to build and strengthen capacities of our smallholder farmers' organizations/cooperatives in the areas of business and financial management, governance and market intelligence. We also need to empower our women farmers, women's organizations and youth. We need an inclusive partnership of financial institutions, and more participation from local, regional and international private sector institutions. We look forward to more action in these areas with IFAD and other partners.

## Statement of the representative for Somalia

It is a great honour and pleasure for me to address on behalf of the Federal Republic Government of Somalia this thirty-sixth session of Governing Council of IFAD. First of all, on behalf of my Government, I wish to congratulate Mr Kanayo F. Nwanze on his re-election as President of IFAD for a second term.

Somalia experienced one of the worst humanitarian crises in the second half of 2011. Although the situation is actually improving and the alarming food shortage across the country is getting better, it is not yet over. As the security situation is improving in large parts of the country, many people in the camps for internally displaced persons (IDP) and refugees are now willing to go back to their homes. The prolonged stay of refugees in such camps comes with a tremendous social cost and undermines the ability to rebuild the country's economy which is strongly based on agro-pastoral activities. In this regard, our Government is willing to increase its efforts in partnership with the international community, and specifically with United Nations organizations, to empower these people so that they can return to their communities. This challenge will require increased resources, equipment and technical assistance to ensure that the displaced population is able to regain their livelihood.

Somalia also faces other challenges in terms of food security and self-sufficiency. Over the last two decades, because of a mixture of factors like conflict, natural disasters, lack of resources and opportunities, a generation of young Somalis have abandoned agro-pastoral activities in the rural areas and moved in massive numbers to urban areas. These young people are often driven by poverty to activities that undermine the stability we seek to solidify.

Our commitment is to give them back their life and dignity for themselves and their families. It takes more effort and appropriate measures to improve the livelihoods of poor rural people. This could be done by providing new opportunities to increase rural employment thus guaranteeing social security. These vital elements together form the foundation of economic recovery and development. The aim is to create steady and sustainable rural development which could give them an opportunity to become agro-pastoral entrepreneurs in the future. We could therefore focus on mid- and long-term development and resilience-building efforts through investment in agriculture.

In this context, President His Excellency Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, together with United States Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, recently called for new and innovative ways to encourage the diaspora to invest in rebuilding Somalia. Somalis living abroad send home well over one billion dollars in remittances every year, the equivalent of half of Somalia's GDP.

It was our pleasure to take note last week of the fact that IFAD's first project under the Diaspora Investment in Agriculture (DIA) Initiative will focus on Somalia and Djibouti. Few realize that four times as much money is invested in agriculture through remittances than through official development assistance. We believe remittances are a powerful tool for change and an innovative form of financing development. The Federal Government of Somalia will follow the DIA Initiative with great interest.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend an official invitation, on behalf of the Somali Government, to the President of IFAD, Mr Kanayo F. Nwanze, to visit Somalia in the near future to personally verify the socio-economic situation of the country and to assess the needs of the Somali population.

## **Statement of the representative for Swaziland**

Chairperson, let me join others in congratulating you and members of your bureau upon your election to chair our proceedings. My delegation assures you of its full cooperation.

On behalf of the Government of the Kingdom of Swaziland, I wish to express my deep gratitude to the President of IFAD and his staff for their tireless efforts in improving the livelihood of the rural poor in the different parts of the world, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa. I also salute IFAD for assisting smallholder farmers not only in their efforts to earn a decent livelihood, but also to produce and feed the world with the surplus. In Swaziland, more than 50 per cent of our people live in rural areas and are heavily dependent on subsistence farming. Therefore, any assistance directed towards helping the rural poor to earn a decent livelihood and improve their life is very close to our hearts. It is in this regard that we are greatly indebted to IFAD as an organization.

Chairperson, the theme of this session – The power of partnerships: forging alliances for sustainable smallholder agriculture – is appropriate and timely as it provides an answer to the smallholder farming puzzle. However, for the power of partnerships to work effectively and meaningfully, they have to be correctly and fairly applied and practised. My humble view is that our respective governments should put in place policies and strategies that encourage and/or enhance the development of partnerships to promote smallholder agriculture, including rural areas where the majority of the poor live. I also believe that forging effective alliances for sustainable smallholder agriculture will contribute to poverty reduction in rural areas.

Chairperson, I am pleased to inform this august assembly that His Majesty's Government has long recognized the importance of building partnerships for sustainable smallholder agriculture, as well as bringing all stakeholders involved in the value chain together in forums to discuss and agree on their respective roles, responsibilities and shares of business. Public enterprises usually play a leading role in facilitating partnership building among the different stakeholders which include financiers, inputs and service providers, farmers, marketeers and consumers. It also gives me great pleasure to inform this meeting that the Government of the Kingdom of Swaziland has recently recognized the important contribution workers' organizations make to the economy and as such has incorporated them as another important stakeholder in the partnerships.

In Swaziland, our sugar industry provides a perfect model for partnerships. The Swaziland Sugar Association, which is composed of sugarcane growers (smallholder and large-scale growers) and millers (large commercial companies), is a catalyst to partnership building and all decisions are taken by both groups. Moreover, the chairmanship of the Swaziland Sugar Association rotates between millers and growers on an annual basis. Even the allocation of sucrose quotas is done in a transparent manner by growers and millers. More importantly, the millers provide technical assistance to smallholder sugarcane growers as well as transportation for their cane. Thus, the partnerships that exist in the sugar industry have created transparency, trust and confidence among all stakeholders, including smallholder sugarcane farmers. What we have learned from this industry is being replicated in other enterprises, though in some cases it is proving to be a challenge due to different market scenarios.

Chairperson, the building of partnerships ensures that there is continuity even beyond the lifespan of projects which are meant to catalyse investments in an enterprise. The coming into play of produce buyers and their willingness to mobilize and support farmers in sourcing inputs is partnership in the right direction. The Government of Swaziland believes that a lot can be achieved in this partnership in terms of sustainability in the commercialization of agriculture in our traditional land tenure systems.

Another partnership that has been forged is between the small farmer companies and larger producers with access to large markets. This has opened a window for farmers to access personnel who are better skilled in growing crops and marketing produce as well as to obtain improved market access. However, there is a need to strengthen our

partnerships in terms of other stakeholders taking over the responsibility of providing full support to the farmers at the end of the project.

Chairperson, let me state that although we have a number of successful cases on which we can share our experiences, we are still in a learning curve when it comes to establishing effective and sustainable partnership in the agriculture sector. My delegation firmly believes that policy dialogue on how to institutionalize established partnerships and make them work for smallholder farmers, particularly the rural poor, is urgent not only in our respective countries and regions, but also at a global level.

In conclusion, I would like to request our development partners to support IFAD in its efforts to help developing countries promote and enhance the development of sustainable smallholder agriculture through partnerships. I would like to request IFAD, through its President, to strengthen and deepen its engagement in our countries.

## **Statement of the representative for Turkey**

### **The power of partnerships: Forging alliances for sustainable smallholder agriculture-Turkey's Experience**

Turkey's experience of establishing partnerships started as a programme to establish and support government-funded savings and agricultural production cooperatives, with the aim of supporting farmers wishing to farm unused public land for their smallholder agricultural activities. Since then, the Turkish Republic has implemented various programmes and models to improve success in forging alliances for sustainable smallholder agriculture.

Taking time constraints into account, we would like to share just some important outcomes of the programmes implemented which we believe could be of use for further study in other countries. We would also like to express our willingness, if so requested, to share lessons gained from these experiences and also help design and implement new programmes together with IFAD in our country, as well as other member countries.

The most important lessons learned from our experiences are summarized below:

Agricultural extension should be the centre and the most important component of studies aimed at forging alliances for smallholders. These extension activities should not be based only on lectures given by academics to farmers. They should use other innovative methodologies, such as participatory rural development assessment methodology and leading farmers' methodologies (for example AGLink of ACIDI-VOCA, which is based on ICT infrastructure).

Above all, comprehensive agribusiness development, agricultural entrepreneurship support and an agribusiness value chain management culture should be established first among experts in agricultural public institutions. These experts should have the common goal of increasing the income of smallholders by improving profitable and sustainable agricultural practices, rather than just focusing on new academic information. They should also calculate the profitability of every action.

Developing entrepreneurship and collaboration skills among smallholders should be another priority of these programmes, specifically targeting the young and women farmers.

Specifically and carefully designed rural financing schemes for each programme area should be important in every programme. Such rural financing schemes should be crafted to reward success and collaboration among farmers as well as develop linkages with other stakeholders in agribusiness value chains.

Not only agricultural production, but the whole agribusiness value chain would benefit from stronger alliances with smallholders. Innovative components and programmes such as establishing contract farming schemes with bigger processors; and helping farmers through joint ventures with bigger agribusiness companies to process and market their produce should be an integral part of every programme.

As we mentioned before, these are the most important findings we thought we could share with you, our valuable partners. We again emphasize our willingness to work together with you to explore new ways of forging alliances for sustainable smallholder agriculture.

## **Statement of the representative for the United Kingdom**

IFAD is based upon partnership: a unique partnership between OECD, OPEC and developing countries that harnesses the commitment and resources of each. So it is right that IFAD focuses on the power of partnerships. We come here together at the start of the Ninth Replenishment with our shared goal of IFAD's mandate: enabling poor rural people to improve their food security and nutrition, raise their incomes and strengthen their resilience. In a constantly evolving environment, we need to renew our partnership and forge effective new alliances to deliver our agreed results and lift 80 million people out of poverty.

The United Kingdom is a strong supporter of IFAD. Our Multilateral Aid Review found IFAD to be a good performer, with its focus on results and creating economic opportunities for smallholders. We believe that driving economic growth is key to sustainable development and encourage the responsible investment that IFAD generates. In order to foster partnerships – particularly with the private sector – governance; strengthening institutions; transparency and accountability are all essential and we will support IFAD in its focus on these areas.

As part of the Ninth Replenishment, we are glad to contribute with others to the Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme (ASAP). Climate change can have a catastrophic impact on agriculture – so we welcome IFAD's initiative, leading the way as a significant part of the international response on climate change for smallholders. We look forward to seeing climate change fully integrated into IFAD's future country strategies and projects, ensuring that all points of the value chain are resilient to climate change and that scaling up success is not at the expense of the environment.

ASAP has the opportunity to deliver results, building partnerships – including with the private sector, research and knowledge community – to become a leader on knowledge generation and dissemination on climate adaptation for smallholders. It will benefit millions of smallholders – especially women – and, to scale up, we encourage others to step forward to support the programme

We congratulate you, President Nwanze, on your appointment for a second term. The next four years will be crucial: delivering the ambitious commitments of the Ninth Replenishment that will take us to 2015, building on this for the Tenth Replenishment and development beyond the MDGs. We have every confidence that you and your staff will rise to the challenges IFAD faces. Your leadership will be decisive in ensuring that IFAD maximizes its impact through the open, participatory approach for which it is renowned. We appreciate your commitment to continuing reform, ensuring focus on results, maximizing effectiveness, and enhancing transparency and accountability. We look forward to continuing to work closely with you and your team as you keep IFAD at the forefront of international good practice.

## **Statement of the representative for the United States of America**

The United States congratulates President Nwanze for his re-election as President of IFAD. His strong leadership and tireless commitment to rural development have made IFAD a vanguard institution that is poised to respond to some of the most critical challenges of the twenty-first century: rural poverty and food insecurity. President Nwanze has also assembled a uniquely qualified Management team – a sign of his vision and leadership.

While the world today continues to experience tremendous volatility in food prices, we are all too aware that the brunt of the burden falls on the poorest. It is against this backdrop that the United States has made global food and nutrition security a core development priority. We view IFAD as a vital partner in this pressing work.

The past year has been critical for IFAD, which completed a very strong Ninth Replenishment. In this context, donors committed to a record replenishment of US\$1.5 billion, despite very difficult budgetary constraints, and IFAD affirmed its commitments to a robust reform agenda designed to expand and strengthen its development impact.

We support the ambitious goals President Nwanze and his team have set. While continuing to deliver meaningful results in challenging environments, IFAD will also seek to improve the sustainability of its development impact on communities and countries by scaling up its projects and deepening its policy dialogue with Member States. This will enable IFAD to replicate projects that are successful and learn from projects that do not meet expectations, as well as influence key policies that have a direct bearing on the lives of the rural poor.

The United States also endorses IFAD's work on climate change and gender mainstreaming. Particularly, we look forward to IFAD's work helping rural farmers to adopt climate-resilient, low-emission farming and land use practices. We strongly commend IFAD for recognizing the vital role of gender in rural development and for making the integration of gender issues an institutional priority, as demonstrated by its record in 2010-2011 during which close to 80 per cent of IFAD projects evaluated were focused on promoting gender empowerment.

We also look forward to engaging with IFAD over the next year on how it can be more effective in the most difficult and challenging environments – namely fragile states – where IFAD is uniquely poised to play a key role by virtue of its grass-roots approach.

We welcome IFAD's strong commitment to development effectiveness on the ground. In this regard, we believe that the Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD (IOE) is an indispensable source of knowledge and its products have contributed directly to IFAD's performance. IOE's Annual Report on Results and Impact of IFAD Operations is an especially valuable product, providing methodological integrity, depth and insight.

On human resource management, IFAD continues to make significant strides by introducing more flexibility into its HR policies and performance-based budgeting. We hope that these difficult yet vital reforms can serve as an example to other agencies within the United Nations system.

Finally, IFAD has made important strides on financial management and modernizing its approach to portfolio management by providing sound investment guidelines to support implementation of its newly adopted investment policy. The United States looks forward to IFAD's new advance commitment authority model which will align IFAD with best practice at other IFIs.

We ask a lot of IFAD, and in turn, IFAD continues to deliver strong results. Today the institution is lending at record rates, close to US\$2 billion a year, and is transforming the lives of people throughout the world. We look forward to continuing our deep and close engagement with IFAD as it strives to become the leading financier of smallholder farmers in the world.

## Chapter 4

### Statements and special addresses



Mr Kanayo F. Nwanze, President of IFAD



Keynote speakers during the thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council - His Excellency Vittorio Grilli, Minister for Economy and Finance of the Italian Republic, His Excellency Hui Liangyu, Vice Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China and Mr Kanayo F. Nwanze, President of IFAD

**Opening speech by Her Excellency Marie-Josée Jacobs,  
Chairperson of the Governing Council of IFAD at its thirty-sixth session, Rome,  
13 February 2013**



Her Excellency Marie-Josée Jacobs,  
Chairperson of the thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council of IFAD

Mr President,  
Excellencies,  
Honourable Governors,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a pleasure for me and an honour for my country to accept the important responsibility of acting as chairperson of the Governing Council for the second year. I am delighted to address today this thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council of the International Fund for Agricultural Development.

Since our last Governing Council a year ago, we have once again witnessed both political and environment upheaval and further political turmoil in Africa, which has led to serious instability and humanitarian crises in the Horn of Africa and the Sahel.

In this changing global context, rural poor groups are faced with continuing challenges that are further exacerbating their vulnerability, often forcing men, women and children further into poverty.

Last year, at the time of that Governing Council, a billion people were suffering from hunger worldwide. A recent report by the United Nations cited a number of 870 million, which indicates a slight improvement in the situation, if one could describe it as such.

Although some progress has been made through our development endeavours, the scale of the challenge posed by endemic poverty and the additional 80 million people on the planet each year remains daunting.

The poverty affecting developing countries is a clear sign of the need for our greater engagement in the fight against poverty.

Mr President,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Eight months ago, the report of the Rio+20 Summit, "The Future We Want," highlighted that we are "committed to freeing humanity from poverty and hunger as a matter of urgency."

Rural development is critical to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 and the realization of our shared vision of Rio+20. It is vital to view development in an evolving context and to take account of the challenges of the future. Added to the challenge posed by the poverty of today is the knowledge that in 40 years' time, a further 9 billion people will be living in the world; we must prepare for this challenge now by pursuing a route of sustainable development.

Smallholder farming is the world's largest employer, providing income and livelihoods for 40 per cent of the global population and offering vast untapped potential.

The Busan High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness and the Rio+20 Summit emphasized the need for new approaches in addressing development priorities: the importance of partnerships for development and the need for economic integration. I would like to add that while official development assistance accounts for only a part of overall development financing, it has substantial leveraging power. I am pleased to note that the theme of the thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council is: The Power of Partnerships: Forging alliances for sustainable smallholder development.

Sustainable development is not, and should not be seen as, exclusively the domain of states and international organizations. Development is sustainable only when all members of society (and actors in the economy) make a contribution.

To achieve agricultural development, every farm, regardless of how small it may be, must be seen as a small business worthy of development, and which can be strengthened through linkages with value chains and fully integrated into the economy.

Mr President,  
Ladies, Gentlemen,

I note with great pleasure that IFAD Member States have reconfirmed their support of the Fund's mandate, despite the difficult global context, and have made a substantial commitment to the Ninth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources, with the goal of expanding the scope of its operations and building partnerships to assist Member States.

Mr President,  
Ladies, Gentlemen,

IFAD's goal of enabling 90 million people to move out of poverty is commendable. Clearly the organization will face major challenges in striving towards this objective. IFAD has demonstrated that it is up to the challenge and the support pledged by Member States to the Ninth Replenishment demonstrates their confidence in IFAD's work and their belief in the objectives to be achieved. May I thank all Member States for their valuable support.

This thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council also marks the end of the first presidential term of Mr Nwanze, who fulfilled his mandate throughout the period 2009 to 2013 to the highest of standards. This morning, we will proceed with the election of a president for the period 2013-2017.

May I take this opportunity to commend the achievements of the President of IFAD, Mr Nwanze, and his team, a sentiment that I am sure is shared by Governing Council members. May I call on you now to join me in applauding the President.

I thank you for your attention.

**Welcoming statement by the President of IFAD for Archbishop Mamberti – Holy See**

It is my honour and privilege to welcome the Most Reverend Archbishop Dominique Mamberti to IFAD's 36<sup>th</sup> Governing Council. Monsignor Mamberti is the Secretary for the Holy See's Relations with States. This morning, he is with us to deliver a message from His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI.

The Pope's message is all the more welcome in light of his recent announcement. His leadership on the topics of poverty and agriculture will remain with us.

In his encyclical letter "Caritas in Veritate", Pope Benedict proposed a long-term perspective for eliminating the structural causes of food insecurity. He called for greater investment in all aspects of rural agriculture, while guaranteeing its sustainability, and he encouraged expanded trade in agricultural commodities, in a just and equitable manner.

These words resonate strongly within our institution, and it is with great enthusiasm that we look forward to hearing His Holiness' message and wish both the Pope and the Holy See strength and wisdom now and for the future.

**Message of His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI delivered on his behalf by  
Archbishop Dominique Mamberti, Secretary for Relations with States of the Holy  
See**



Archbishop Dominique Mamberti, Secretary for Relations with  
States of the Holy See

I am pleased to extend a cordial greeting to you, Mr President, to the authorities, to the representatives of Member States and to the participants of the thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council. This meeting is opening on the very day that the season of Lent begins, a time when, mindful of Christ's teaching that "as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me" (Matthew 25:40), the Catholic Church renews, among other things, her invitation to share goods with the less fortunate. In this sense, your organization can always count on the support and encouragement of the Holy See.

The activity of the Fund bears witness that cooperation – while it is tied to differing social and environmental contexts, and to respect for the proper laws of technology and the economy – is more effective when it is guided by the foundational ethical principles of human coexistence, that is to say, those essential values that, by their universal character, can animate all political, economic and institutional activities, including forms of multilateral cooperation. In this regard, I have in mind first of all the methodology followed by IFAD, which gives ongoing development priority over mere assistance, and places the group dimension alongside the purely individual dimension, to the point of setting up forms of interest-free grants and loans, often choosing, as the primary beneficiaries, the "poorest of the poor". This activity shows that approaches inspired by the principle of gratuitousness and by the culture of gift can "find their place within normal economic activity" (*Caritas in Veritate*, 36). And indeed, the approach taken by the Fund is to link the elimination of poverty not only to the fight against hunger and the guarantee of food security, but also to the creation of work opportunities and institutional decision-making structures. It is well known that when these elements are missing, the involvement of rural labourers in choices that affect them is restricted, hence reinforcing their sense of being limited in their capacity and their dignity.

In this area there are two specific lines taken by the organization that are to be commended. The first is the constant attention given to Africa, where, by supporting projects of "rural credit", IFAD aims to endow small farmers with modest but essential financial resources, and to empower them in the decision-making and administrative phase as well. The second line is the support given to indigenous communities, which have particular care for preserving biodiversity, recognized as a precious good that the Creator has placed at the disposal of the entire human family. The safeguarding of these peoples' identity needs to be given priority, and their indispensable role in handing down traditional know-how needs to be acknowledged.

This particular search for solidarity and sharing of goods is also seen in the type of funding that IFAD assures in relation to the practical needs of beneficiary countries and in the interests of their agricultural economy, avoiding conditioning and unsustainable burdens. This approach recognizes the agricultural sector as a primary component of economic growth and social progress, and it restores agriculture and those who work on the land to their rightful place. In this regard, it seems important that the decision to establish partnerships with the organizations of civil society brings out the idea of subsidiarity, which is very useful for identifying the needs of peoples and adequate ways of meeting them.

The Catholic Church in her teaching and her activity has always upheld the centrality of the worker on the land, urging concrete political and economic action in areas that affect him. This stance, I am happy to observe, harmonizes with the Fund's approach in underlining the role of farmers, as individuals and as small groups, thus actively involving them in the development of their communities and countries. This attention to the person, both individually and collectively, will be more effective if it is achieved through forms of association, both cooperatives and small family businesses with the wherewithal to produce an income that is sufficient to support a decent standard of living.

In this regard, our thoughts turn to the next International Year that the United Nations has chosen to dedicate to the rural family, promoting a deep-rooted and sound notion of agricultural development and of the fight against poverty, based on this fundamental cell of society (cf. A/RES/66/222). IFAD knows from experience that the family is at the heart of the social order, and what serves to regulate family life, prior to the laws of a State or international norms, are the moral principles inscribed in the natural patrimony of values that are immediately identifiable in the rural world as well. These principles inspire the conduct of individuals, the relationship between spouses and between generations, and the sense of shared ownership. To ignore this reality, or to fail to recognize it, would be to undermine the foundations not only of the family, but of the entire rural community, with consequences whose gravity is easily foreseeable.

In the present context, it is essential to provide farmers with solid formation, constant updating and technical assistance in their activity, as well as support for initiatives to build associations and cooperatives capable of proposing effective models of production. Fifty years ago, the Second Vatican Council indicated that "some peoples could greatly improve upon the conditions of their life if they would change over from antiquated methods of farming to the new technical methods, applying them with needed prudence according to their own circumstances. Their life would likewise be improved by the establishment of a better social order and by a fairer system for the distribution of land ownership" (*Gaudium et Spes*, 87). In this way, not only will we see an increase in production – the benefits of which risk not being noticed by the very poor, as often happens today – but an effective drive towards legitimate agrarian reforms so as to guarantee the cultivation of lands, when these are not properly utilized by the proprietors, who sometimes restrict the peasant's access to the land. Moreover, international assistance could respond in more practical ways to the needs of the effective beneficiaries, so as to offer sure advantages to those who live in the rural world.

At the present time, the resources so evidently needed for international cooperation remain very limited, and the more advanced countries try to justify the lowering of their contribution in terms of reduced availability. But, if one takes a longer view, interrupting the work of solidarity on account of the crisis may conceal a certain lack of openness to the needs of others.

The Holy See has always regarded IFAD with esteem, and continues to do so, seeing it as an intergovernmental institution capable of combining the principles of a just international order with effective solidarity. Only love, not a spirit of antagonism, can pinpoint more and more accurately the methods to be adopted for the effective support of the poor, rekindling in everyone a true sense of fraternity and active generosity. It is a matter of recognizing the equal dignity conferred by God the Creator on every human being.

Hence, I express the hope that IFAD may continue to work with ever greater determination for rural development, and that it may carry forward the implementation of the above-mentioned expressions of solidarity. In this way, it will be able to demonstrate not only technical knowledge and professionalism, but also a commitment to help make the world more humane, as this alone will make it possible to look to the future with renewed confidence and hope (cf. *Spe Salvi*, 35).

Upon all of you who in your different ways share responsibility for directing and administering the International Fund for Agricultural Development, I invoke the Almighty's gifts of wisdom to pursue the path of solidarity that you have begun, and courage to continue along it to the point where you leave poverty and hunger behind, advancing towards ever new horizons of justice and peace.

From the Vatican, 13 February 2013

**Welcoming statement by the President of IFAD for His Excellency Hui Liangyu, Vice Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China and His Excellency Vittorio Grilli, Minister for the Economy and Finance of the Italian Republic**

Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is my honour to welcome two very special guests to the thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council of IFAD.

First, I would like to extend a warm welcome His Excellency Hui Liangyu, Vice Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China.

Within the context of the rapid growth of the Chinese economy, the need to find new and innovative ways to increase investment in agriculture and to enhance productivity has been recognized as vital. China is paying ever-greater attention to sustainable development. In particular, it is working to mitigate environmental degradation, to undertake the all-important rebalancing of the rural-urban divide, and to develop poverty-stricken areas to ensure a harmonious and prosperous Chinese society.

Vice Premier Hui has long been a champion of agricultural development as a means to reduce poverty in China, and a forerunner in striving for global food security, both aims that IFAD pursues in our operations around the globe. It is an honour and a privilege to have the opportunity to welcome Vice Premier Hui.

It is also my pleasure to welcome His Excellency Vittorio Grilli, Minister for Economy and Finance of the Italian Republic to address this Council. During the current global economic downturn, Italy continues to be a stalwart supporter of IFAD, not least through the hospitality that IFAD enjoys here in the Eternal City. We are deeply thankful to the Italian people for their commitment to the mission of our institution, and their recognition of the vital importance of agriculture as an engine for development. It is my pleasure to welcome Minister Grilli.

**Keynote address by His Excellency Hui Liangyu, Vice Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China**



His Excellency Hui Liangyu,  
Vice Premier of the State Council of the People's  
Republic of China

**Advancing Agricultural Development and Poverty Reduction Through Closer Global Cooperation**

Madam Chairperson,

Mr President,

Distinguished Ministers and Governors,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am delighted to visit Rome and join you at the thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to discuss ways to advance global agricultural development and poverty reduction. This year marks the thirty-fifth anniversary of IFAD. Over the past 35 years, IFAD has been active in raising funds, promoting global agricultural cooperation, supporting grain production in developing countries and improving nutrition for the poor. It has made an important contribution to the global endeavour for grain production and poverty reduction. The Chinese Government applauds IFAD for its untiring efforts and fruitful work.

Also 35 years ago, China launched its historic drive of reform and opening up. It marked the beginning of a new period in China, featuring fast development in grain and agricultural production and rapid decline in the population of the rural poor. Over the past 35 years, China's total grain output has almost doubled, increasing from 300 million tons to 590 million tons. Grain yield per hectare has doubled from 2.5 tons to 5.3 tons. Farmers' per capita net income has increased 10.8 times, representing an annual average growth of 7.5 per cent. Moreover, major headway has been made in rural infrastructure development. All villages are connected by roads. Water and electricity services, living conditions, and school and hospital facilities in rural areas have seen marked improvement. Nine-year compulsory education is now available nationwide. 130 million rural students have been exempted from miscellaneous and textbook fees. Some of them have also received subsidies for boarding accommodation and nutritious meals. The new rural cooperative medical scheme has been put into comprehensive operation, benefiting 805 million farmers. The rural subsistence allowance has been fully introduced, bringing effective assistance to more than 53 million farmers. We have also put in place a new type of rural old-age insurance system, enabling more than 120 million farmers to receive pensions. It is fair to say that we have set up the biggest social safety net in the world. The development of agriculture and the rural areas has lent a strong boost to our

poverty reduction endeavour. Our rural population in absolute poverty has been cut by 250 million, making China the first country to attain the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) of “halving the proportion of poor population”. By mainly relying on our own efforts, we have solved the problem of food and clothing for 20 per cent of the world’s population. It is one of our most important contributions to the global endeavour to reduce poverty and promote peace and development of mankind.

What we have learned from our efforts in promoting agricultural and rural development and reducing poverty is as follows:

First, keep agriculture and poverty reduction at the top of our economic and social agenda. China is a big developing country, and the Chinese Government gives top priority to its effort to provide sufficient food supply for over 1.3 billion people. We have worked persistently to strengthen the role of agriculture as the foundation of the economy and promote agricultural modernization. We always give high priority to rural areas in developing infrastructure and social programmes and support the all-round development of the poor regions and poor people.

Second, actively support farmers’ household operations. We must make such operations the main form of agricultural operations, respect the principal role of farmers’ households in agricultural production, formulate and improve relevant laws to enhance and better protect their land rights and interests. At the same time, we need to vigorously develop farmer cooperatives and a system of agriculture-related services so as to provide more services to rural residents and develop large-scale agricultural operations in diverse forms.

Third, persistently improve agricultural production conditions. We have extensively upgraded low- and medium-yield farmland to high-yield standards, enhanced irrigation and water conservancy facilities, and raised the effective irrigation rate of farmland to over 50 per cent. In our effort to promote agricultural mechanization, we have raised the overall mechanization level for ploughing, planting and harvesting to 57 per cent, effectively compensating for the shortfall created by a shrinking workforce and increasing the efficiency. We have widely applied advanced and appropriate agricultural technologies. As a result, the contribution of scientific and technological progress to agriculture has reached 54.5 per cent. All this has substantially improved the overall agricultural production capacity.

Fourth, step up efforts to support and protect agriculture. We have launched the reform of rural taxes and fees and fully abolished agricultural tax, greatly reducing the burden on farmers. We have promoted market-oriented agricultural development in an all-round way, by enhancing the distribution system of agricultural products, setting a floor price for the purchase of grain, and adopting the policy for temporarily purchasing and stockpiling major agricultural products. We pursue an agricultural subsidy policy consistent with World Trade Organization rules. This has effectively increased farmers’ returns and incomes.

Fifth, attach great importance to the well-being of the rural poor. We have steadfastly made development the basis of poverty alleviation, formulated three 10-year rural poverty reduction and development programmes, and carried out large-scale poverty reduction and development programmes in an organized and well-planned manner. While increasing assistance for the poor people, we have, with strong government support and extensive social participation, vigorously promoted infrastructure development and supported industrial development in poor areas, as well as stepped up skill training for poor people. In so doing, we have ensured poor people's basic livelihoods and enabled poor areas to pursue sustainable development.

China has made major achievements in agricultural development and poverty reduction. However, we remain the biggest developing country with a big population, a weak economic foundation and uneven development. To address issues concerning food, agriculture, poverty and development will be a long-term task. The Chinese Government

will continue to give top priority to addressing issues related to agriculture, rural areas and farmers, accelerate the development of modern agriculture, and ensure national food security and effective supply of major agricultural products. We will work for sustained and fast growth of rural income. Efforts will also be made to integrate urban and rural development and gradually narrow the urban-rural gap. We will comprehensively improve rural production and living conditions, and move faster to ensure equal access to basic public services. We will continue to carry out programmes of poverty alleviation through development, and focus our efforts in contiguous areas with particular difficulties, so as to reduce the number of people living below the poverty line by a large margin by 2020.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Food is the source for the survival of mankind and agriculture is the foundation for economic growth. In recent years, the international community has made great efforts to help developing countries with agricultural production, food security and poverty reduction. However, international agricultural development is still confronted with severe challenges. There are still 870 million people in the world who suffer from malnutrition, and the outlook for food security is not optimistic. In particular, international food prices remain high, making it very difficult for developing countries to improve nutrition and eliminate extreme poverty. There is little time left before the deadline of the MDGs, and the task before us is daunting. We need to strengthen cooperation and meet challenges together. In line with the purpose of IFAD and the theme of this conference, I would like to take this opportunity to make the following observations on grain production and poverty reduction in developing countries:

First, developing countries need to give priority to agricultural development, in particular grain production. It is the basic responsibility of all governments to increase grain production, enhance self-sufficiency in food supply and eliminate poverty. Governments of developing countries need to adopt strategies and policies conducive to agricultural development and poverty reduction, and increase fiscal input in agriculture. We need to focus on supporting irrigation, water conservancy and other agricultural infrastructure programmes, introducing and applying advanced and appropriate agricultural technologies, training the farmers and improving rural public services. While increasing public investment, we also need to leverage the role of the market, actively develop rural financial services and encourage more private investment in agriculture.

Second, the international community needs to focus its cooperation on helping developing countries achieve food security and eliminate rural poverty. We should vigorously push forward North-South cooperation. Developed countries should provide long-term, stable and predictable official aid to agriculture in developing countries, pay attention to cooperation in knowledge and step up technology transfer and experience sharing. Efforts should also be made to advance South-South cooperation to encourage and promote the exchange of experience and practical cooperation between developing countries in agriculture and poverty reduction. In addition, we must fully harness the role of international organizations, and support international organizations such as IFAD in playing a bigger role in promoting agricultural development and poverty reduction in the developing world. We need to increase the resources of these organizations to enhance their financial capacity. All countries must work together, reject trade protectionism, improve market access and build a fair and reasonable international order for agricultural trade, so as to create a sound external environment for developing countries to develop agriculture and reduce poverty.

Third, we need to give more support to smallholders in developing countries. In these countries, smallholders remain the main force for agricultural production. To increase efficiency in poverty reduction, all parties must pay particular attention to supporting smallholders. Policy, financial and technological support must be made to help them increase productivity and income. And it is also important to promote innovation in agricultural production and operation systems in light of the national conditions of

different countries. We should help smallholders get better organized in agricultural production and market access through farmer cooperatives and other means to enhance their resilience against risks.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

China has taken an active part in international exchanges and cooperation in agricultural development and poverty reduction and enjoyed sound cooperation with other developing countries, as well as IFAD and other international organizations. Many countries and international organizations have supported us in developing agriculture and reducing poverty, and helped us in the wake of serious natural disasters. We have also provided help to other developing countries within the realm of our capabilities through bilateral and multilateral channels. Starting from 2001, China has helped African, Asian and Latin American countries build more than 20 agricultural science and technology demonstration centres and over 10 demonstration centres for quality and high-yield agricultural produce. We have sent over 1,200 experts and technology personnel to help other developing countries with agricultural production and trained for them more than 5,000 professionals in agricultural management and technology. Going forward, China will continue to expand cooperation with other developing countries and international organizations such as IFAD.

To achieve food security and poverty alleviation on a global scale is the shared cause of developing countries and the ardent aspiration of the poor. It is also an arduous and challenging task. China is ready to work with the international community to promote global agricultural development and poverty alleviation and to contribute its share in building a more inclusive and harmonious world.

**Keynote address by His Excellency Vittorio Grilli, Minister for the Economy and Finance of the Italian Republic**



His Excellency Vittorio Grilli,  
Minister for Economy and Finance of the Italian Republic

Madam Chairperson,  
Mr President,  
Honourable Governors,  
Distinguished Delegates,

I am honoured to participate in the inauguration of this thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council of IFAD and to welcome you on behalf of the Italian Government.

Ladies and gentlemen,

We are living in difficult times. A prolonged crisis has hit the world economy hard, and is not over yet. Originating in the financial sector, the crisis has rapidly spread globally to the real economy, affecting the everyday life of people all over the world, with lack of jobs, loss of confidence and a sense of exclusion.

To make things worse, the concurrence of high and volatile food prices, due to both structural and cyclical factors, has imposed an extra toll on the poorest and the most vulnerable. We have to remain vigilant because, despite encouraging signs, the global recovery remains fragile and low world food stocks expose prices to sudden spikes in the event of negative shocks, such as droughts and conflicts.

With nearly one billion people still undernourished in the world, food security remains a top priority and requires strong and coordinated policy action.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Italy has been championing the Food Security Agenda from inception, with the launch of the first global partnership on agriculture at the 2009 G8 Summit in L'Aquila. We have since then fully backed the efforts of the G8 and G20 groups of countries to keep this issue high on their agendas.

In Camp David in May 2012, G8 leaders reaffirmed their support to address global food security challenges and launched, together with African partners, the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition. This aims at lifting 50 million people out of poverty over the next 10 years in sub-Saharan Africa.

In Los Cabos in June 2012, the G20 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to fully implement the actions and initiatives established in the 2011 "Action Plan on Food Price Volatility and Agriculture". This Plan aims at (1) improving agricultural production and productivity, (2) increasing market information, transparency and functioning and (3)

developing tools to help countries to cope with excess volatility of agricultural commodities.

The international community response to food security has progressively paid greater attention to the needs and the contribution of smallholders. In this context, we have to recognize the central role played by IFAD through its action as advocate of small producers and through its results on the ground.

Ladies and gentlemen,

While much has been achieved to improve food security for all, we have to admit that much remains to be done.

It has been estimated that to properly feed a fast-growing world population, agricultural production will have to increase substantially, even as much as doubling in developing countries by 2050.

The challenge is enormous. Considerable additional progress has to be made to improve infrastructure, access to markets and to capital, and protection of property rights, just to name a few.

Most importantly, we have to change the way we approach the use of limited natural resources. Both large-scale producers and small farmers have to be part of this change.

Arable land and freshwater are scarce and under the threat of natural and man-made disasters.

We have no other option than to increase agricultural production in an environmentally sustainable way.

Going forward, the world must produce far more with less.

For 500 million smallholders, whose work supports 2 billion people and feeds about one third of humanity, sustainable agricultural development represents a pathway out of poverty, a way to strengthen rural communities and provide a crucial contribution to achieving global food security.

Agricultural development is in fact the most powerful engine for poverty reduction in many poor countries around the world. It has been estimated that growth in the agricultural sector is twice as effective in reducing poverty as growth in any other sector of the economy.

Furthermore, the development of rural areas, where most of the world's poor and hungry live, plays a crucial role in fostering a peaceful and stable environment, based on more equal access to physical, natural, social and financial resources for all. This is crucial in breaking the vicious cycle of poverty, scarcity and violence and ensuring sustainable socio-economic development and long-lasting peace."

Ladies and gentlemen,

As for other economic activities, we believe that agricultural development has to be market-based and private-sector-centered.

Stronger partnerships among smallholders and between them and larger private actors along the entire food chain can help rural households to increase their food security and their income.

It's not only a matter of attracting much-needed additional financial resources into agriculture. It is also a matter of sharing know-how, technologies, innovation, managerial experience and relationships.

As recently reconfirmed in Davos, there is a growing awareness among large agribusiness companies of the need to work with small farmers to achieve the common goals of ensuring food security for all and promoting equitable human development. However, the private sector cannot accomplish these goals alone. Governments and international financial institutions, like IFAD, are also key.

Governmental leadership is needed to develop country-owned plans for inclusive agricultural development, to create an enabling investment climate, to ensure well-functioning markets, and to provide social protection for the most vulnerable.

International institutions can provide financial and technical assistance to public and private actors involved in agricultural development.

Among international financial institutions, IFAD has a unique role to play. Due to its long expertise in supporting poor rural people, IFAD can contribute to building public-private partnerships that are equitable and result in real opportunities to improve the livelihoods of small farmers.

IFAD can make the difference by helping smallholders to become active participants in their own development, and that of their nations: from aid-dependent to business-minded farmers.

To this end, IFAD needs to maintain its distinctive character, work in synergy with the other institutions of the United Nations food and agricultural hub based in Rome, and reinforce its business model to facilitate the scaling up of sustainable projects.

These are ambitious goals that Italy commends and supports. Italy and IFAD share indeed a long-standing and privileged partnership.

The Italian Government has always been at the forefront in promoting and sustaining the activities of the Fund, as witnessed by our increased contribution to the Ninth Replenishment of IFAD Resources, which we strongly supported despite severe budgetary constraints.

We expect IFAD to continue to deliver strong results under your dynamic and effective leadership, President Nwanze.

Ladies and gentlemen,

In Milan, in 2015, Italy will be hosting the edition of the EXPO, evocatively called "Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life".

It will be another opportunity to get together national and local government officials, international organizations, civil society and scientists to debate on how to improve food quality and quantity.

It will also be an occasion for entrepreneurs, who are active along the whole food chain, to exchange ideas, best practices and technologies.

The EXPO has, therefore, the potential of being another milestone in the process of partnership-building to provide food security for all in an environmentally sustainable way, while generating equitable and inclusive economic growth.

But we hope that the EXPO will be even more. We hope it will be an occasion to report success stories, examples of collaboration that have already transformed the life of entire communities.

To this end, we have to accelerate the pace of implementation of the many initiatives currently under way. Governments, smallholders, private companies, civil societies and donors all have to work together with scale and speed.

We need action now.

Madame Chairperson,

President Nwanze,

Distinguished Delegates,

Let me conclude by wishing you all a very fruitful meeting.

## **Statement by the President of IFAD, Mr Kanayo F. Nwanze**

Madam Chairperson,  
 Excellencies,  
 Distinguished Governors,  
 Guests,  
 Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of everyone at IFAD – here at headquarters and in the field – I warmly welcome you to the Thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council.

I would like to extend a special welcome to representatives of Indigenous Peoples who are here to observe our proceedings, after attending the first ever Indigenous Peoples' Forum. It was an honour for IFAD to host this historic event.

The theme of this Governing Council – the power of partnerships – speaks to the heart of IFAD's identity.

IFAD is proud to be a unique partnership between members of OPEC, other developing countries, and members of the OECD. And our partners also include other UN agencies, especially the other food agencies based here in Rome, as well as international financial institutions, poor rural people's organizations, the private sector, research institutions and many others.

Each and every one of us here is united by a determination to rid the world of poverty and hunger. United in our belief that there is something wrong with a world where 1.29 billion people earn less than US\$1.25 a day; a world where 870 million men, women and children go to bed hungry every night.

And we are united in our understanding that food security, nutrition and well-being can only be achieved by sustainable, inclusive, rural development.

Today, IFAD has embarked on IFAD9, the next phase in its mission to create vibrant rural economies. I would like to report back to you on what was achieved during IFAD8, which ended in December 2012.

You entrusted us with a record US\$1.2 billion for the Eighth Replenishment. As a consequence of your generosity and trust, our total programme of work rose 50 per cent between IFAD7 and IFAD8, enabling us to reach an estimated 40 million people; 45 per cent of them women.

During this period, we have expanded our presence in the field and enhanced our support to countries as they implement their projects.

In 2009, IFAD had 25 country offices. By the end of 2012, there were 38, with a 36 percent increase in the last year alone. The portion of IFAD staff on the ground has risen steadily from 1.4 per cent to around 15 per cent today, enabling us to be more engaged in policy dialogue and to better support our partners.

And since 2007, the percentage of projects directly supervised by IFAD has risen from 18 per cent to 93 per cent.

Our enhanced commitment has been reflected in the confidence shown by our partners. You can see that in the growth of cofinancing. Just since 2009, cofinancing for IFAD-funded ongoing projects has risen by 61 per cent. And this, despite the economic downturn of those years.

The numbers tell another story as well. For each of the past four years, domestic contributions to programmes and projects has been consistently higher than the amount generated by external cofinancing. That means that commitment to rural development is growing in the countries themselves.

Why is that so important? Because experience shows that development is most effective when it is self-driven.

This level of commitment to IFAD-supported projects on the part of developing countries underscores the impact of our new operating model through country presence, policy dialogue and advocacy.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Structured reforms have transformed IFAD into a more agile, efficient agency, better able to respond to a rapidly changing environment. This has been crucial to improving IFAD's effectiveness at a time when new challenges are constantly reshaping the physical and geo-political landscape where we work.

With the strong support of the Board, we have established new instruments and processes, better aligning IFAD's human and financial resources with its strategic objectives.

In keeping with our pledge to increase efficiency, IFAD has a zero-nominal growth budget for 2013. We have reduced staffing by 4 per cent through better vacancy management and normal attrition.

And for the first time ever, we have also implemented a comprehensive job audit and strategic workforce planning exercise. These involved an institution-wide review of all positions, ensuring that each job is linked to strategic objectives, and each position is at the appropriate grade.

In addition, a dedicated financial management department is helping us get the most from our resources. Our results-based budgeting system has been bolstered by the introduction of mid-year budget reviews and a more robust medium-term plan to further improve our accountability.

At the same time, the Department of Strategy and Knowledge Management, which was created during IFAD8, will help IFAD to better engage in country and global policy dialogues.

These changes – combined with the dedication and hard work of IFAD staff – have been yielding results.

IFAD's internal transformation, and its proven track record spanning more than 35 years, has positioned the Fund as an important partner in global food security and rural development efforts.

The emergence of higher and more volatile food prices, combined with dramatic droughts, floods, and famines, have concentrated world attention on the question of how to feed a global population that is over 7 billion and growing.

Today, agriculture is centre stage, and IFAD is there to make sure that the case for smallholder involvement is heard. This was my commitment to you four years ago.

Since 2009, IFAD has increased its engagement in high level advocacy, pressing for inclusive, sustainable rural development at meetings like the G8 and G20, the World Economic Forum, the Global Conference on Agricultural Research for Development, and Rio plus 20.

We are seeing tangible results. For example, the concept of smallholder farming as a business has been embodied in G8 and G20 documents. The Camp David declaration, that launched the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition, specified smallholder farmers, particularly women, as private sector partners.

How we respond to today's challenges will determine not only the shape of food systems in the near future, but also the health of ecosystems and the distribution of the world's population.

Because of our mandate, IFAD works in remote areas where few agencies venture. We work with some of the most marginalized and disadvantaged populations in the world.

Sometimes, conflict overwhelms IFAD's work. For example, in Mali, an IFAD-supported project in Timbuktu and Gao was having some success in creating more employment options for young people and slowing the rate of migration to urban areas.

Today, IFAD staff have had to withdraw to Bamako where they continue to work, supporting existing infrastructure, such as health centres and irrigation schemes. This infrastructure is critical to help maintain activities during troubled times and will be essential to rebuilding lives and livelihoods when the conflict ends.

The current situation in Mali underscores the critical need to create steady, sustainable and reasonably paid work for young people in rural areas.

Young people with prospects will build the foundations for their future. Young people without prospects have nothing to lose and are more easily swayed by extreme rhetoric.

We need our young people to be the farmers and agricultural entrepreneurs of tomorrow.

Vibrant rural areas can ensure a dynamic flow of economic benefits between rural and urban areas so that nations have balanced and sustained development.

This is crucial to bear in mind as the international community starts to consider the post-2015 development agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.

During the IFAD9 period, which also ends in 2015, the Fund will make the case for rural economies. We will support more youth-oriented rural development projects and programmes, and expand our support to poor rural people adapt to the effects of climate change. We will also see that greater attention is given to fragile states.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me give you a quick update on IFAD9 contributions.

Despite ongoing financial pressure, our partners have continued to generously support our work.

To date, with pledges from 79 Member States, IFAD9 has already reached US\$1.38 billion of its target of US\$1.5 billion.

When combined with cofinancing, IFAD's programme of work should reach US\$7.9 billion in IFAD9.

To put it simply, more partnership means more impact. For every dollar contributed to the Ninth Replenishment, IFAD expects to mobilize another five dollars from its partners for rural development programmes.

IFAD is determined to work with its partners to make the most of agriculture's poverty-fighting powers. This is why we have created the Office of Partnership and Resource Mobilization. PRM wholly dedicated to exploring new partnerships and new instruments to finance agriculture and rural development.

On the strength of your contributions and support, IFAD has announced a goal of moving 80 million women, men and children out of poverty by 2015.

To achieve this goal, IFAD will need dynamic partnerships with governments and donors to scale up its most effective and innovative programmes and projects.

There is no doubt that IFAD can do this. As the Brookings Institution has noted, scaling up is now part of IFAD's DNA.

Sometimes the scaling-up occurs in-country, such as in Peru and Ghana, where IFAD-supported projects that started locally have gradually expanded into national programmes.

Sometimes, it spans not only countries but continents. About eleven years ago, IFAD joined forces with the Government of China to pioneer using biogas technology for poverty reduction. The project was successful and IFAD is now piloting this technology in various places around the world.

Today, in China, Gambia, Kenya, Pakistan, Rwanda and Viet Nam, biogas digesters are successfully generating energy from the methane produced by human and animal waste.

Methane is a potent greenhouse gas. Burning bio-methane is less damaging to the atmosphere, and far less damaging to human health. 2.5 million deaths a year are directly attributable to inhaling smoke from burning wood. And by having a reliable source of renewable energy, people burn less petrol and wood.

Poor people who were not on the power grid now have power for lighting, cooking, or even running generators. Women, who once had to spend valuable hours collecting firewood, now have more time for their families and to generate income.

In an ever changing world, it is not just poor rural people who need to be able to adapt. Institutions also need to respond to changing realities.

For example, climate change is transforming the context for agriculture.

IFAD has responded by creating the Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme, or ASAP. This multi-donor grant programme will channel climate finance to poor smallholder farming communities, helping them become more resilient to climate change.

ASAP is just one of a series of new instruments IFAD is developing to allow us to respond more flexibly to the needs of poor rural people, and our members. Another example, our Reimbursable Technical Assistance instrument, means IFAD can now provide fee-based knowledge services to non-borrowing members on a cost recovery basis.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The changes that have transformed IFAD into a more agile, efficient and effective partner are the direct result of your steadfast support over the years.

Today and tomorrow, you will be considering business items and taking decisions on critical issues for IFAD. You will be charting the way ahead for your institution, which I have had the honour to lead as President for the last four years. I thank you for the opportunity you have given me to serve you and the Fund.

And I also want to recognise and thank my colleagues in Senior Management and the IFAD staff, without whose dedication and commitment we would not have come this far.

The transformations that this institution has undertaken over the last four years and that will guide its work in the years to come are based on our common cause: A world where all rural activities – from smallholder farming, to goat-herding, to fishing – are respected and dignified as economic activities.

A world where every farmer earns enough to live a decent life; a world where and all men, women and children have the food they need to live full and productive lives.

Whenever I go to the field, I am struck by the determination and energy of the women and men we work with. From Burundi to China to Guatemala, I have seen remarkable results.

I am certain that the rural women and men of Africa, Asia and the Americas, are willing and able to do their part to ensure global food security.

It is up to us, working together, in partnership, to make this a reality.

Thank you.

## **Synthesis of deliberations of the First Global Meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD**

We, the indigenous peoples of Asia, Africa, Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, still conserve our diverse identities, cultures and spiritual traditions. The ecosystems within our territories are still relatively intact, and we continue to be the custodians of biodiversity. Our diverse knowledge systems and livelihood practices have the potential to contribute and inspire new models of sustainable development, building on culture and identity, firmly anchored in respect for our individual and collective rights.

In the midst of the economic, environmental and cultural crisis, it appears to us that the current development processes have not delivered the promised goals of poverty reduction and sustainable development. Evidence shows that indigenous peoples are overrepresented among the poor, often excluded from poverty reduction efforts and still suffer from discrimination. We are ready to continue contributing and participating, to work in a mutually beneficial partnership with IFAD to reach the ambitious goal of reducing rural poverty, recalling that there can be no sustainable rural development without – or at the expense of – indigenous peoples.

We sincerely appreciate the serious efforts of IFAD to establish a strategic partnership with indigenous peoples, which has reached a higher ground with the establishment of the Indigenous Peoples Forum. We see this as a good practice of intergovernmental institutions and a key step in the implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which establishes a universal minimum standard for survival, dignity and well-being of our peoples. The Forum institutionalizes our relationship with IFAD and establishes a shared learning environment, based on the principles of consultation, participation and dialogue. It will also help in facilitating the implementation of the IFAD Policy of Engagement with Indigenous Peoples. The dedicated funds of the Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility (IPAF) has increased IFAD's engagement with indigenous peoples as a specific target group.

Our collaboration so far has generated valuable experiences, lessons learned and good practices, but also revealed challenges. Some states still do not adequately recognize indigenous peoples in national legislation and policies. The contents of IFAD's policy of engagement and provisions on free, prior and informed consent have not been systematically applied. These are identified as major obstacles for having our issues adequately reflected in IFAD country strategies and programmes. At the project level, a survey has shown an encouraging number of projects involving indigenous peoples in the design phase, but a significantly weaker participation in implementation, monitoring and evaluation phases.

We therefore put forward the following recommendations to consolidate our partnership and strengthen the systematic implementation of IFAD's Policy of Engagement with Indigenous Peoples:

### **For governments, IFAD and indigenous peoples jointly to:**

Firmly link the Global Meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum with follow-up mechanisms at regional, national and project levels, for effective tripartite dialogue on the inclusion of indigenous peoples' needs and priorities in country strategies and IFAD-funded projects.

Document, exchange, share, replicate and scale out good practices with regards to indigenous peoples' self-determined sustainable development.

### **Particularly, we call upon governments to:**

Recognize indigenous peoples' rights to land, territories and resources, including rangelands and corridors; and the contributions of traditional knowledge systems and technologies and traditional livelihoods for ecosystem resilience and sustainable development.

Build the capacity of government institutions to address indigenous peoples' needs and priorities, by providing training to staff and employ indigenous experts within their institutions.

Respect, protect and fulfill the rights of indigenous peoples as contained in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and acknowledge the role of indigenous traditional institutions, authorities and organizations.

**We call upon IFAD to:**

Increase its capacity on indigenous peoples' issues, including by providing training to staff, further the employment of indigenous experts and, as possible, appoint focal points at country level.

Ensure full and effective participation of indigenous peoples, including in the formulation of country strategies and throughout the project cycle.

Implement effectively its Policy of Engagement with Indigenous Peoples: in working with projects targeting or affecting indigenous peoples, systematically encourage borrowing governments to consult with indigenous peoples to obtain their Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC). IFAD should consider this consultation and consent as a criterion for project approval, as stated in its policy of engagement with indigenous peoples.

Increase the direct funding to indigenous peoples' organizations and institutions, including increasing contributions to the Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility (IPAF).

Acknowledge and value indigenous peoples' traditional knowledge and technologies and environmental services in conservation and sustainable use of their ecosystems, as in-kind contributions to projects.

Inform and involve indigenous peoples in supervision missions and evaluation.

Identify and operationalize, in collaboration with indigenous peoples, specific indicators on the well-being of indigenous peoples.

Devise measures for affirmative action targeting indigenous peoples and, in particular, indigenous women and youth.

Use the Policy of Engagement with Indigenous Peoples as a platform for policy dialogue at country level with governments and other development partners.

Ensure that during project formulation in country – and within the design of projects – communication and information provisions for indigenous peoples are appropriately provided.

Continue the support to the 2014 World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.

Support and undertake joint advocacy with indigenous peoples on their issues and concerns in the post 2015 Development Agenda.

**Our commitment as indigenous peoples' organizations is to:**

Continue to defend and sustain our land, territories and resources as the basis for our sustainable livelihoods and development, and as our contribution towards global environmental sustainability.

Report back to our communities and organizations on the outcomes of this first Global Meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum and continue the dialogue and our partnership at all levels.

Work jointly with IFAD and governments in the design and elaboration of economically viable, culturally appropriate and ecologically sound sustainable development models for our peoples.

Advise and influence governments to adopt and implement public policies oriented towards the promotion of indigenous peoples' self-determined sustainable development.

## Acceptance speech by the President of IFAD

Excellencies,  
Distinguished Governors,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

I am deeply honoured to be re-elected as President of IFAD for a second term. Thank you for the confidence you have placed in me.

I would like to give a special thanks to my country, Nigeria, and to my family whose support has allowed me give full attention to IFAD. And a big thank you to the IFAD staff who make this such an inspiring place to work.

Let me assure you, I will continue to build on the accomplishments of the past four years: to make IFAD a more effective, efficient and agile institution; to fulfil the commitments set out during the IFAD9 Consultation; and to ensure that IFAD retains its position as the foremost institution working in smallholder agriculture and rural development.

I am delighted to have the opportunity to continue for a second term. But I am well aware of the responsibility that comes with this re-election.

We have said that we plan to enable 80 million rural people to emerge from poverty by 2015.

We can do it, and we shall do it.

I base my confidence on the ability and determination of IFAD staff, and in the changes IFAD has already undergone to make it a more effective institution – a leader in best practice that has been singled out for its performance by many of the Member States present in this room today.

As I said in my opening address, we now have a business model that will allow us to achieve more and to do it better.

The four pillars of our operations – financial, programme, strategy and knowledge management, and corporate services – are now firmly in place.

We have expanded our country presence and increased our participation in policy dialogue. Our business model includes a greater emphasis on women. I am pleased to say that the projects we fund are now giving more support to women's organizations, and that today women make up close to half of all IFAD project participants.

But we still have some fine-tuning to do. Over the next four years, I promise to finish the job we have started.

We will continue to refine our work in direct supervision and implementation support.

On the human resources front, we have made a good start with reform. We have a more robust and transparent recruitment process.

A better gender balance was one of our goals, and we have made great progress. As a result, today 41 per cent of all senior managers at the director level are women, compared with 21 per cent in 2010. Similar trends can be seen among Professional staff. But there is work ahead to fully modernize our HR management system. This includes taking staff issues, including staff morale and conditions of service, seriously.

We also have more work to do to improve our business processes and our accountability framework, as has been noted by evaluations. Here at headquarters, and in our country offices, we will continue to enhance our efficiency so that our money goes directly where it can make an impact.

Collecting more data and measuring results is also part of our longer-term plan. In the coming years we plan to improve the assessment of IFAD's impact so that we can ensure that the work we are doing is on the right track.

To reach our agreed goal of enabling 80 million women, men and children to emerge from poverty, we will also need to scale up our operations in partnership with other stakeholders including our Rome-based sister agencies, governments, NGOs and donors.

We have already made great strides working with FAO and WFP in policy processes as well as in the field. And I plan to continue working with José Graziano da Silva and Ertharin Cousin to enhance Rome's status as the global hub for agriculture, food and nutrition security.

I will also continue to support IFAD's involvement in policy dialogue so that the Fund can have a greater impact, at both the national and the global level.

Most of all, I will continue to strengthen the bonds with you, our Member States, ensuring that IFAD remains an institution that meets your needs, whether as a contributor or as a borrower. This includes exploring new and innovative financing for agriculture, food security and nutrition, which we hope will better serve you, as well as IFAD.

I hope that many of you will be able to attend tomorrow's high-level round-table discussion so that we can hear directly from you on what we can do to improve our partnerships for financing agriculture and rural development.

We have taken an important first step in recognizing that smallholders are business women and men. But we must now move to the next step and create the conditions for these potential entrepreneurs to invest in creating sustainable, profitable businesses.

As the only international financial institution that caters exclusively to the needs of smallholders, we will work to mobilize much needed additional sources of finance that will allow small and medium-sized enterprises to thrive.

In 2014, we will be engaged in defining a new roadmap for the Fund during IFAD10 – all of this within the framework of the end of the Millennium Development Goals in 2015 and the beginning of the Sustainable Development Goals.

All of our efforts for the coming years are designed to position IFAD as a global catalyst of investments that enable smallholder agriculture to drive progress towards food security and improved nutrition, poverty reduction and more resilient ecosystems.

This is not only my vision, but a vision that you have all agreed should guide our work up to 2015.

Working together, I know we can make rural areas an engine of growth, providing food, jobs and a decent income for the 3 billion rural women and men of the developing world.

I thank you again for giving me the opportunity to make this vision a reality. With your continued support and trust in my leadership, I am certain that we will be successful in our efforts.

## **Closing statement of the President of IFAD**

Mr Chairperson,  
 Excellencies,  
 Distinguished Governors,  
 Guests,  
 Ladies and Gentlemen,

In a few minutes our chairperson, His Excellency Miguel Ruiz Cabañas Izquierdo, will officially close this thirty-sixth session of IFAD's Governing Council. But before he does, I would like to thank everyone for their active participation.

Your commitment to IFAD and your dedication to working in partnership towards inclusive and sustainable rural development gives me confidence that we will fulfil our promise so that three years from now, I can report that 80 million women, children and men have broken the bonds of poverty.

Let me assure you that the concerns you have raised over the past two days have not fallen on deaf ears. The momentum of IFAD's efforts to improve our implementation and internal reform will not abate.

As our Member State New Zealand said so succinctly yesterday, we will continue to focus on our comparative advantages; streamline human resources and financial management; improve auditing capacity and transparency; address gender inequality; ensure greater coordination with other international agencies in and outside Rome; and make our organization more accountable and outcome-oriented.

This sounds like a very long list, but we have already made solid progress, and intend to accelerate that during IFAD9.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our three newest partners: Nauru, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. Your concerns about climate change, and its impact on smallholder agriculture, are concerns we all share. We will work with you in looking for solutions to the specific challenges you face, challenges that also threaten livelihoods in too many of our Member States.

This growing level of climate risk and uncertainty is one of the main challenges facing agriculture and food systems today, particularly where it is combined with land degradation, water scarcity and fierce competition for natural resources.

Indeed, these issues were also raised during the Indigenous Peoples' Forum that preceded this Governing Council.

These are global issues that will only be overcome by strengthening our collaboration and partnerships.

We know that we are stronger and more effective when we work together. This is particularly true for poor farmers in developing countries. Individually, these smallholders have little power. But when they join together, they have greater purchasing power. They have greater bargaining power in the marketplace. And they have greater power to influence the policies that affect their lives.

This is why IFAD encourages smallholders and other poor rural people to work in partnership with each other and with other entities.

Yesterday, at our Governing Council, we heard about why farmers' organizations are important for our private sector partners. Salah Hegazy, Chairman of Egypt's Agrofood company, described how he worked with smallholder farmers all over the country to meet demand from supermarkets. But working with each smallholder individually would be a logistical barrier for his company.

In other words, farmers' organizations are as important for our private sector partners as they are for smallholders themselves.

This year's Governing Council had two new elements that took us further in our partnership dialogue and that promise to become IFAD traditions as we endeavour to foster dialogue in the years ahead.

Today's high-level round table with governors has given us a unique opportunity for a frank and open dialogue with the representatives of our Member States.

It was enlightening to hear your perspectives on the need for distinct roles for government and the private sector, with government providing the infrastructure, policy and regulatory environment that is critical for the private sector to thrive.

We have also had very positive feedback from the participants in the first global meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD.

We need these opportunities to hear directly from you, our Member States, and also from the people we most need to reach on the ground, so that we can have the greatest possible impact on sustainable food and nutrition security and on poverty reduction.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me once more thank you for the opportunity you have given me to serve IFAD and you for another four years.

On behalf of myself, and of all the dedicated IFAD staff, let me assure you that we will not rest knowing that 870 million people are going to bed hungry every night, and 1.29 billion are not earning enough to live fulfilling, secure lives.

We know that as long one child dies of hunger or suffers from malnutrition, our work is not yet done.

Thank you.

**Statement by the Vice-Chairperson, His Excellency Miguel Ruiz Cabañas Izquierdo, closing the thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council**

Mr President,  
Distinguished Governors and delegates,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

The thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council is now drawing to a close. This year's Council focused on the vital role partnerships play in working towards sustainable smallholder agriculture with a view to meeting the increasing needs of a growing world population.

At the opening ceremony, we had the privilege of listening to Archbishop Dominique Mamberti, who delivered the message from His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI. This message highlighted the importance of IFAD's work in fighting hunger and ensuring food security, work opportunities and a future for smallholder farmers worldwide.

We had the distinct honour of welcoming two Special Guests, His Excellency Hui Liangyu, Vice Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China and His Excellency Vittorio Grilli, Minister for Economy and Finance of the Italian Republic.

In his address to the Governing Council, Vice-Premier Hui outlined China's recent experience and progress, illustrating the importance of effective partnerships – as showcased in the collaboration between IFAD and China.

The Governing Council was also honoured with the presence of His Excellency Minister Vittorio Grilli, who reflected on the fragile state in which the global economy finds itself, and called for a stronger international collaboration, including closer cooperation and integrated approaches among all partners, foremost the Rome-based UN agencies.

In his inaugural statement, President Nwanze pledged IFAD's continued intense engagement and advocacy at all levels. In closing, the President called on us to maintain and even increase our efforts - together we can improve the lives of millions of people.

Having appointed President Nwanze to a second term in office, the Governing Council expressed its appreciation of his work over the past four years. It is with confidence that we look forward to the next four years, knowing that President Nwanze will continue in his strong leadership at the helm of this institution, which is so dear to all of us.

Over the past two days we have heard many powerful statements by IFAD's Governors, affirming the importance we place on the Fund's work and renewing our commitment to nourishing strong partnerships for smallholder agriculture.

This theme was also central to our panel discussions, involving international experts and high-level policy makers. Together we discussed the key role played by cooperatives and women in the development of vibrant and sustainable agriculture world-wide. The interventions of our panellists reminded us of the important facilitating role of governments with regard to partnerships, highlighting the power of partnerships as a means to foster opportunities to improve the livelihoods of smallholder farmers.

At this year's Council we were also afforded the opportunity to discuss "Partnerships for financing agriculture and rural development" in a more intimate, high-level event. I think it is safe to say that we all seized this opportunity and that we look forward to similar discussions in future.

Distinguished Governors and delegates,

At this Governing Council we had the pleasure to welcome the Republic of Nauru, Tuvalu, and the Republic of Vanuatu into the IFAD fold.

Furthermore, we approved the following:

- The Report of the Emoluments Committee;
- The Established good practice for the process leading to the appointment of the President of IFAD;
- The Revision of Lending Policies and Criteria;
- The Consolidated financial statements of IFAD as at 31 December 2011; and,

The Council reviewed IFAD's 2013 results-based programme of work and regular and capital budgets, the IOE results-based work programme and budget for 2013 and indicative plan for 2014-2015, and the HIPC and PBAS progress reports, approving the budgets of IFAD and its Independent Office of Evaluation and noting the concerns raised with respect to the maintenance of multilingualism at IFAD and Management's commitment to explore and identify solutions in this regard.

We also noted the information provided on the status of the ninth replenishment of IFAD's resources and on the Report on IFAD's Hosting of the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa.

Distinguished delegates,

My thanks go to all of you, and to my colleagues on the Bureau for this successful Governing Council. Our thanks should go as well to all IFAD staff.

We leave behind us a busy schedule, filled with engaged and engaging debates. We have accomplished a lot of work, laying the foundations for IFAD to take on a lot more. As we return to our capitals, I am sure that all of us take with us a plethora of memories of this session, inspiration for our work and anticipation for our return next year.

On this note, I hereby close the thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council.



Enabling poor rural people  
to overcome poverty

المنذوبون في الدورة السادسة والثلاثين لمجلس المحافظين

## Delegations at the thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council

## Délégations à la trente-sixième session du Conseil des gouverneurs

## Delegaciones en el 36º período de sesiones del Consejo de Gobernadores

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**Président:** (Luxembourg)  
**Presidente:**

نائب الرئيس:

**Vice-Chairpersons:** Bambang Brodjonegoro (Indonesia)  
**Vice-Présidents:** Miguel Ruiz Cabañas Izquierdo  
**Vicepresidentes:** (Mexico)

## الدول الأعضاء

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## ÉTATS MEMBRES

## ESTADOS MIEMBROS

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Agricultural Attaché  
Alternate Permanent Representative of  
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Rome

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**ERITREA**

Governor	Arefaine BERHE Minister for Agriculture Asmara
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**JORDAN**

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 Radi AL-TARAWNEH  
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 Ministry of Agriculture  
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**KAZAKHSTAN**

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Governor	Tiarite George KWONG Minister for Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development Tarawa
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Adviser	Amir Hamzah HARUN Assistant Agricultural Attaché Alternate Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Agencies Rome

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Governor	Ahmed SHAFEEU Minister for Fisheries and Agriculture Malé
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**MALTA**

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**MAURITANIA**

Gouverneur

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Gouverneur suppléant

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**MAURITIUS**

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**MEXICO**

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**MOZAMBIQUE**

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**NETHERLANDS**

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**VENEZUELA (BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF) (cont'd)**

Deily BALOA  
 Representante de la Oficina  
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Governor

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 Vice-Minister for Finance  
 Hanoi

NGUYEN Hoang Long  
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 Permanent Representative of the  
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 Rome

Alternate Governor

NGUYEN Thanh Do  
 Director-General  
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 Finance Department  
 Ministry of Finance  
 Hanoi

Adviser

DUONG Quynh Le  
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**YEMEN**

Governor

Farid Ahmed MUJAWAR  
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**YEMEN (cont'd)**

Alternate Governor

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**ZAMBIA (cont'd)**

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**SOVEREIGN ORDER OF MALTA**

**ORDRE SOUVERAIN DE MALTE**

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المنظمات غير الحكومية

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**Human Appeal International (HAI)**

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Document:	<u>GC 36/L.1/Rev.1</u>
Agenda:	<u>2</u>
Date:	<u>13 February 2013</u>
Distribution:	<u>Public</u>
Original:	<u>English</u>

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## **Agenda and programme of events**

## Agenda

1. Opening of the session
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Applications for non-original membership
4. Statement of the President of IFAD
5. Report of the Emoluments Committee
6. Appointment of the President of IFAD
7. General statements
8. Established good practice for the process leading to the appointment of the President of IFAD
9. Report on the Ninth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources
10. Consolidated financial statements of IFAD for 2011
11. IFAD's 2013 results-based programme of work and regular and capital budgets, the IOE results-based work programme and budget for 2013 and indicative plan for 2014-2015, and the HIPC and PBAS progress reports
12. Revision of the IFAD Lending Policies and Criteria
13. Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
14. Other business
  - Action to support the efficient governance of IFAD, with particular reference to the principle of linguistic equality

## Pre-Governing Council - Thematic side meetings

**Tuesday, 12 February 2013**

2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Plenary Hall: *Measuring impact – Understanding pathways to rural transformation*  
Oval room: *Towards greater partnership and collaboration between IFAD and the Arab States of the Gulf*

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## Governing Council - Programme of events

**Wednesday, 13 February 2013**

**Morning session 9 a.m. to 1.30 p.m.**

9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Inaugural ceremony and agenda items

11 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. **Panel discussion:** *Secrets of mutually beneficial and successful partnerships*

**Afternoon session 3 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.**

3 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. General statements

3.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. **Plenary panel:** *The power of partnerships: Investing in sustainable rural development.* A one-on-one discussion with Dr James Mwangi, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director, Equity Bank of Kenya, followed by an expert technical panel.

5.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. Continuation of agenda items, including general statements

7.30 p.m. Reception for all delegates

**Thursday, 14 February 2013**

**Morning session 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

9 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. Continuation of agenda items

9.30 a.m. to 10 a.m. Award of excellence: Working together in the field

10 a.m. to 12 p.m. **High-level round table with Governors:** *Partnerships for financing agricultural and rural development* (Italian Conference Room)

12 p.m. to 1.45 p.m. General statements

1.45 p.m. to 2 p.m. Continuation of agenda items

President's concluding remarks

Closure of the session

## List of documents placed before the thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council

<b>Document No.</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Title</b>
GC 36/L.1	2	Provisional agenda and draft programme of events
GC 36/L.1/Add.1	2	Schedule of work
GC 36/L.2	3	Applications for non-original membership
GC 36/L.3	5	Report of the Emoluments Committee
GC 36/L.4	6	Appointment of the President of IFAD
GC 36/L.5	8	Established good practice for the process leading to the appointment of the President of IFAD
GC 36/L.6	9	Report on the status of the Ninth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources
GC 36/L.7	10	Consolidated audited financial statements of IFAD as at 31 December 2011
GC 36/L.8/Rev.1	11	IFAD's 2013 results-based programme of work and regular and capital budgets, the IOE results-based work programme and budget for 2013 and indicative plan for 2014-2015, and the HIPC and PBAS progress reports
GC 36/L.9	12	Review of the Lending Policies and Criteria
GC 36/L.10	13	Report on IFAD's Hosting of the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa
GC 36/INF.1		Thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council - Organizational aspects
GC 36/INF.2		Appointment of the President of IFAD (Background note on relevant appointment rules, procedures and modalities)
GC 36/INF.2/Add.1		Voting Rights of Member States
GC 36/INF.3		Financial highlights of the year ended 31 December 2012
GC 36/INF.4 + Rev.1		Order of Speakers
GC 36/Resolutions		Resolutions adopted by the Governing Council at its thirty-sixth session
		Statement by the Vice-Chairperson, His Excellency Miguel Ruiz Cabañas Izquierdo, closing the thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council

Document:	<u>GC 36/Resolutions</u>
Date:	<u>14 February 2013</u>
Distribution:	<u>Public</u>
Original:	<u>English</u>

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## **Resolutions adopted by the Governing Council at its thirty-sixth session**

## **Resolutions adopted by the Governing Council at its thirty-sixth session**

1. The Governing Council, at its thirty-sixth session, adopted resolutions 171/XXXVI, 172/XXXVI, 173/XXXVI, 174/XXXVI, 175/XXXVI, 176/XXXVI, 177/XXXVI and 178/XXXVI.
2. These resolutions are transmitted for the information of all Members of IFAD.

## **Resolution 171/XXXVI**

### **Approval of the Republic of Nauru as a non-original Member of the Fund**

**The Governing Council,**

**Taking into account** Articles 3.1 (a), 3.2(b) and 13.1(c) of the Agreement Establishing IFAD and Section 10 of the By-laws for the Conduct of the Business of IFAD;

**Considering** that non-original Members of the Fund shall be those States members of the United Nations or any of its specialised agencies that, after the approval of their membership by the Governing Council, become parties to the Agreement Establishing the International Fund for Agricultural Development by depositing an instrument of accession with the Secretary General of the United Nations;

**Considering** that the Republic of Nauru, has been a member of the United Nations since September 1999;

**Considering** therefore that the Republic of Nauru is eligible for membership in the Fund;

**Having considered** the application for non-original membership by the Republic of Nauru transmitted to the Council in document GC 36/L.2, and the recommendation of the Executive Board that the Republic of Nauru should be admitted to membership in the International Fund for Agricultural Development;

**Taking note** of the contribution amount proposed by the Republic of Nauru, AUD 1,000, upon approval of its membership application;

**Approves** the membership of the Republic of Nauru;

**Tasks** the President to notify the Secretary General of the United Nations of this decision

## **Resolution 172/XXXVI**

### **Approval of Tuvalu as a non-original Member of the Fund**

**The Governing Council,**

**Taking into account** articles 3.1 (a), 3.2(b) and 13.1(c) of the Agreement Establishing IFAD and section 10 of the By-laws for the Conduct of the Business of IFAD;

**Considering** that non-original Members of the Fund shall be those States members of the United Nations or any of its specialized agencies that, after the approval of their membership by the Governing Council, become parties to the Agreement Establishing the International Fund for Agricultural Development by depositing an instrument of accession with the Secretary-General of the United Nations;

**Considering** that Tuvalu has been a member of the United Nations since September 2000;

**Considering** therefore that Tuvalu is eligible for membership in the Fund;

**Having considered** the application for non-original membership by Tuvalu transmitted to the Council in document GC 36/L.2, and the recommendation of the Executive Board that Tuvalu should be admitted to membership in the International Fund for Agricultural Development;

**Taking note** of the initial contribution amount proposed by Tuvalu, AUD 1,000, upon approval of its membership application;

**Approves** the membership of Tuvalu;

**Tasks** the President to notify the Secretary General of the United Nations of this decision.

## **Resolution 173/XXXVI**

### **Approval of the Republic of Vanuatu as a non-original Member of the Fund**

**The Governing Council,**

**Taking into account** articles 3.1 (a), 3.2(b) and 13.1(c) of the Agreement Establishing IFAD and section 10 of the By-laws for the Conduct of the Business of IFAD;

**Considering** that non-original Members of the Fund shall be those States members of the United Nations or any of its specialized agencies that, after the approval of their membership by the Governing Council, become parties to the Agreement Establishing the International Fund for Agricultural Development by depositing an instrument of accession with the Secretary-General of the United Nations;

**Considering** that the Republic of Vanuatu has been a member of the United Nations since September 1981;

**Considering** therefore that the Republic of Vanuatu is eligible for membership in the Fund;

**Having considered** the application for non-original membership by the Republic of Vanuatu transmitted to the Council in document GC 36/L.2, and the recommendation of the Executive Board that the Republic of Vanuatu should be admitted to membership in the International Fund for Agricultural Development;

**Taking note** of the initial contribution amount proposed by the Republic of Vanuatu of US\$500, upon approval of its membership application;

**Approves** the membership of the Republic of Vanuatu;

the President to notify the Secretary General of the United Nations of this decision.

## Resolution 174/XXXVI

### The emoluments of the President of IFAD

#### The Governing Council of IFAD,

**Taking into account** section 6(1) of the By-laws for the Conduct of the Business of IFAD, which states, inter alia, that the salary, allowances and other entitlements of the President of IFAD shall be determined by resolution of the Governing Council;

**Recalling** resolution 163/XXXIV, adopted by the Governing Council on 19 February 2011, whereby a committee was established to review the overall emoluments and other conditions of employment of the President of IFAD;

**Noting and having considered** the report of the Emoluments Committee contained in document GC 36/L.3 and the recommendations of the Executive Board thereon;

#### Decides that:

- 1) The salary of the President of IFAD shall continue to be established on a par with that of the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).
- 2) The President's representation allowance of US\$50,000 per annum shall continue to be provided.
- 3) The President shall continue to be entitled to participate in insurance, medical, pension, retirement and other plans as may be established for the employees of the Fund and not otherwise covered by his/her emoluments.
- 4) The Fund shall make housing arrangements for the President in accordance with the following conditions:
  - a) The Fund, with due consideration to the cost implications of the security aspects, will continue to provide appropriate housing for the President. Subject to subparagraphs 4(b) through 4(d) below, the Fund's annual housing expenditures will not exceed the amount of EUR 180,000. The ceiling will apply to expenditure incurred over a calendar year and be pro-rated in the event that a President does not serve for a full calendar year. A statement of recurrent housing expenditures will be prepared annually and audited after the end of each year, with IFAD recovering from the President any amounts determined to be in excess of the ceiling or ineligible for payment by IFAD.
  - b) The recurrent housing costs that will be payable by IFAD and counted as expenditures subject to the ceiling will include rent and associated banking/service charges; utilities; telecommunications equipment and connections; and upkeep, repairs and maintenance for the house and grounds and other related expenses.
  - c) Recurrent expenditures on security will be paid by IFAD, provided that they are certified as necessary by the United Nations Department of Safety and Security; they will not be subject to the ceiling. The cost of official telephone calls will be reimbursed by IFAD and not counted against the ceiling. The cost of personal telephone calls will be paid by the President. In the event that the costs of official and personal phone calls are difficult to separate,

the total cost of calls will be divided equally between the President and IFAD.

- d) The Fund will cover reasonable and necessary one-time expenditures in connection with the acquisition and setting up, equipping, and refurbishing of a President's residence. Such expenditures will be charged either against the ceiling for the first year of a President's term or, in equal instalments, against the ceilings for each year of the term. Such installation costs will be payable by IFAD only on one occasion and only upon the initial appointment of a President.
- 5) The salary, allowances and other entitlements specified in paragraphs 1 to 4 of this resolution shall apply to the person appointed as President of IFAD at the thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council.

## **Resolution 175/XXXVI**

### **Appointment of the President of IFAD**

**The Governing Council of IFAD,**

**Having acted upon** the proposal for the appointment of the President contained in document GC 36/L.4 dated 16 January 2013;

**Decides,** in accordance with Article 6, Section 8(a), of the Agreement Establishing IFAD, to appoint Mr Kanayo Felix Nwanze of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, as President of IFAD for a term of office of four years, to take effect from 1 April 2013.

## **Resolution 176/XXXVI**

### **Established good practice for the process leading to the appointment of the President of IFAD**

**The Governing Council,**

**Taking into account** Article 6.8 (a) of the Agreement Establishing IFAD, Section 6.2 of the By-Laws for the Conduct of the Business of IFAD, and Rule 41 of the Rules of procedure of the Governing Council;

**Having considered** the report regarding the "*Established good practice for the process leading to the appointment of the President of IFAD*" contained in document GC 36/L.5;

**Taking into consideration** the recommendation made by the Executive Board at its 107<sup>th</sup> session thereon;

**Desirous** of ensuring that IFAD remains at the forefront of international good practice;

**Endorses** the current, established practice regarding the process leading to the appointment of the President of IFAD; and

**Proposes** that this practice be reviewed from time to time by the Governing Council Bureau, as appropriate.

## **Resolution 177/XXXVI**

### **Administrative budget comprising the regular and capital budgets of IFAD for 2013 and the budget of the Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD for 2013**

**The Governing Council of IFAD,**

**Bearing in mind** article 6.10 of the Agreement Establishing IFAD and regulation VI of the Financial Regulations of IFAD;

**Noting** that, at its 107<sup>th</sup> session, the Executive Board reviewed and agreed upon a programme of work of IFAD for 2013 at a level of SDR 682 million (US\$1,066 million), which comprises a lending programme of SDR 644 million (US\$1,007 million) and a gross grant programme of US\$59 million;

**Having considered** the review of the 107<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board concerning the proposed regular and capital budgets of IFAD for 2013 and the budget of the Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD for 2013;

**Approves** the administrative budget, comprising: firstly, the regular budget of IFAD for 2013 in the amount of US\$144.14 million; secondly, the capital budget of IFAD for 2013 in the amount of US\$3.7 million; and thirdly, the budget of the Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD for 2013 in the amount of US\$6.01 million, as set forth in document GC 36/L.8/Rev.1, determined on the basis of a rate of exchange of EUR 0.72/US\$1.00; and

**Determines** that in the event the average value of the United States dollar in 2013 should change against the euro rate of exchange used to calculate the budget, the total United States dollar equivalent of the euro expenditures in the budget shall be adjusted in the proportion that the actual exchange rate in 2013 bears to the budget exchange rate.

## **Resolution 178/XXXVI**

### **Revision of the Lending Policies and Criteria**

#### **The Governing Council of IFAD,**

Recalling Resolution 158/XXXIII, in which it decided that upon the proposal of the President, the Executive Board should submit to the thirty-fourth session of the Governing Council the revised Lending Policies and Criteria that shall take into account all developments since the last revision of the Lending Policies and Criteria in 1998 and express concisely and clearly the broad policies and criteria applicable to financing by the Fund;

Having reviewed the proposed Policies and Criteria for IFAD Financing submitted by the Executive Board as contained in document GC 36/L.9;

Adopts the Policies and Criteria for IFAD Financing, which shall take effect immediately; and

Tasks the President with maintaining a consolidated text of the policies and guidelines adopted by the Executive Board pursuant to the Policies and Criteria for IFAD Financing hereby adopted.