
Forty-ninth session of the Governing Council

Procedures for statements by Governors

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Action: The Governing Council is invited to take note of the information provided in this document regarding procedures for general statements by Member States.

Technical questions:

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Introduction

At the forty-first session of the Governing Council, new procedures were introduced with regard to general statements by Member States. Under the new procedures, general statements are no longer included in the agenda of the session, and the Governor, head of delegation or other representatives of a Member State may opt to submit a video recording of their statement or have it posted on the IFAD website. A link to the general statement page on the IFAD website will be provided in the Governing Council Report.

This document provides information on the three options available to Member States for submission of their statements: (i) a pre-recorded statement on video; (ii) a statement recorded at the on-site studio during the week of the Governing Council session; or (iii) submission of a statement in text form.

The Governor, head of delegation or other representative of a Member State wishing to submit a written or video-recorded statement is requested to notify the Secretary of IFAD of his/her intention to do so by sending an e-mail to the Country Statements Desk (countrystatements@ifad.org) no later than Friday, 6 February 2026. IFAD cannot guarantee that requests received after this date will be accommodated.

Table 1

Options and key dates for delivery of Governors' statements

Option	Key dates
1. Pre-recorded video statements	
Governors pre-record their video statements prior to the start of the Governing Council. The video is submitted along with a transcript of the statement.	12 January – 6 February Submission of pre-recorded Governors' videos. 11 February Video-recorded statements are posted on the IFAD website.
2. Video statements recorded at IFAD headquarters	
Governors' offices contact the Country Statements Desk to schedule a recording session. Time slots will be pre-assigned for each recording during the week of the Governing Council session in the recording facility located in room B200 (second floor). A video transcript should be submitted at least one hour before the start of the recording session.	12 January – 6 February Submission of request to schedule on-site recording (Country Statements Desk). 10–11 February: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily Recording of Governors' statements at IFAD.

3. Statements in printed form without video recording

Governors submit written statements.

12 January – 6 February

Submission of written statements by e-mail to the Country Statements Desk.

10–11 February

Statements posted on the IFAD website.

General guidelines for preparation of statements

Content

This year, Member States are encouraged to reflect on the overarching theme of the forty-ninth session, *"From Farm to Market: Investing with Young Entrepreneurs"*. The session will also mark the launch of the IFAD14 Consultation and provide a forum for Governors to share insights on priority areas for strategic action.

Length of statement

Single-country statements. Videos should not exceed three minutes; text length should not exceed two and a quarter pages (1,250 words).

Multi-country statements. Governors' video-recorded statements on behalf of groups of countries should not exceed six minutes; text length is limited to four pages (2,000 words). If multi-country statements are submitted in video format, the speaker should indicate that he or she represents a multi-country constituency view.

Broadcasting and publication

Governors' video statements will be made available to the public during the Governing Council session. The statements will be posted on the IFAD website and broadcasted on screens throughout the Governing Council venues at IFAD headquarters.

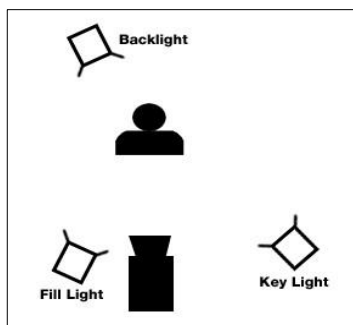
To ensure consistency, videos should display only the image of the person presenting the statement. Videos should not contain PowerPoint presentations, video clips, pictures of events or any other visual content. Technical specifications and operational details are set out below. Videos not meeting these specifications may not be made available to the public.

Option 1: Specifications for pre-recorded video statements

Recordings should be of professional quality in high or standard broadcast definition and formatted as follows:

- Media file format: .mov preferably, or .mp4.
- Video specifications: 1080HD 16:9 aspect ratio, H.264 12Mbps.
- Audio specifications: Stereo AAC 192 Kbps.
- Web-type compressed video file formats cannot be used (wmv, flv, asf).
- There should be no fade in or fade out at the beginning or end of the statement.
- A lavalier clip-type microphone should be attached to the speaker's clothing. Speakers should be prompted to begin reading their message after a two-second video pre-roll.

- Statements should be provided in a single media file with no editing required.
- Standard three-point lighting is preferred (see diagram below):



- Background should be plain, medium blue (PMS 300).



- Framing: medium close-up (waist-to-head) as shown above.
- Speaker should address the camera, without looking down at prepared notes.
- No photos, flags or other decor should appear in the video background.
- No captioning, subtitles, graphics or text should be used.

Submission

Governors' pre-recorded videos and accompanying transcript should be submitted either through:

- The IFAD file-hosting service (IFADbox). Please send an e-mail to countrystatements@ifad.org for instructions on how to upload recordings; or

- A courier service, such as DHL or FedEx, addressed to:
Conference and Meetings Services
Office of the Secretary
International Fund for Agricultural Development
Via Paolo di Dono 44
00142 Rome, Italy

Solid state media devices – such as USB memory sticks, flash drives, memory cards – should be used to minimize the chance of damage during shipping.

- Videos and transcripts must arrive no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, 6 February in order to ensure broadcasting on Wednesday, 11 February.
- For statements delivered in Arabic, French or Spanish, the speaker must provide the transcripts both in the language of delivery and in English.
- Governors should provide a passport-sized photograph (portrait) in .jpeg format to post with their statements.

Option 2: Recording video statements in Rome

The Governor, head of delegation or other representative of a Member State should notify the Secretary of IFAD, via the Country Statements Desk (countrystatements@ifad.org) of his/her intention to record a general statement during the Governing Council session and book a recording time by Friday, 6 February 2026 at the latest (see form in attachment I). The date and time of the video recording will be confirmed by e-mail.

Recording of statements will be scheduled daily between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. from Tuesday to Wednesday, 10–11 February 2026. The duration of each recording session is 30 minutes.

Prior to the scheduled recording, please provide the Country Statements Desk, by e-mail to countrystatements@ifad.org, with:

- The text of the statement, in Microsoft Word format, at least one hour before the scheduled recording session;
- For statements delivered in Arabic, French or Spanish, the speaker must provide the transcripts both in the language of delivery and in English;
- A passport-sized photograph (portrait) in .jpeg format, which will be posted on the website along with the video and transcript.

Option 3: Statements without video recording

The Governor, head of delegation or other representative of a Member State may opt to submit his/her statement in written form only. These statements will be posted on the IFAD website, beginning on Wednesday, 11 February 2026.

Preparation of written statements

Statements for posting on the IFAD website should be submitted in Word, using single line spacing, in Times New Roman, 12 point font, and be accompanied by a .jpeg/.jpg file containing a passport-sized photo of the Governor or Alternate Governor.

Submission for web-posting

- Send the final statement via e-mail to countrystatements@ifad.org.
- In the e-mail message, upload the Word file of the final statement and a .jpeg/.jpg file with the photograph of the Governor or Alternate Governor.

Statements must be submitted no later than 5 p.m., Rome time, on Friday, 6 February 2026.

The Country Statements Desk receives and keeps a record of all statements submitted, in video and text format.

The desk will seek speakers' approval for statements to be posted on IFAD's website.

Availability of final statements

Statements will be posted on the IFAD website, on the Member States Interactive Platform and on monitors throughout the meeting venues. Staff at the Country Statements Desk can be contacted (at countrystatements@ifad.org) for assistance in locating the statements online.

Contact points

For questions on submission procedures, please contact:

Country Statements Desk (countrystatements@ifad.org).



Investing in rural people

Forty-ninth session of IFAD's Governing Council

Rome, 10–11 February 2026

Reservation request for video-recording of Governors' statements at
IFAD headquarters

Head of Delegation:

Name:

Official title:

The Head of Delegation will be delivering his/her statement in: [*Language*]

The Head of Delegation would like to request that a recording session be scheduled for one of the following dates and times sorted by preference:

☐ Option 1: [*Provide preferred date/time*]

☐ Option 2: [*Provide next preferred date/time*]

☐ Option 3: [*Provide next preferred date/time*]

Please e-mail the completed form no later than Friday, 6 February 2026 to
countrystatements@ifad.org.