

15 September 2026

SUBJECT: Appointment of the President of IFAD

Distinguished Governor,

I have the honour to inform you that, in accordance with article 6, section 8(a) of the Agreement Establishing IFAD, the appointment of the President of IFAD will be considered at the fiftieth session of the Governing Council, to be held in Rome on 2 and 3 February 2027. Information on relevant procedures and modalities for the appointment of the President can be found on IFAD's [Member States Interactive Platform](#).

The duties and responsibilities of the President are mainly set out in IFAD's basic documents. Excerpts from the Agreement Establishing IFAD, the By-laws for the Conduct of the Business of IFAD and the Financial Regulations of IFAD pertaining to the overarching duties of the President are attached hereto as annex I. Further details relative to these duties may also be found in the following documents, available on the [IFAD website](#):

- By-laws for the Conduct of the Business of IFAD;
- Policies and Criteria for IFAD Financing;
- Rules of Procedure of the Governing Council;
- Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board.

In line with the decision of the Governing Council, the following criteria for candidates running for the presidency are included in the present call for nominations:¹

CRITERIA FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF THE PRESIDENT OF IFAD

- Strategic leadership skills based on knowledge and experience of development issues;
- Strong demonstrated commitment to all the objectives of the Fund;
- Communication and advocacy skills to influence decision makers at the highest level, including ministers and heads of other development agencies;
- Ability to build and maintain a cohesive and effective top management team;
- Experience in managing substantial financial resources.

The procedure for obtaining nominations for the office of the President of IFAD is set out in section 6.2 *in fine* of the By-laws for the Conduct of the Business of IFAD, as follows:

"Nominations for the office of President may be submitted to the Secretary of the Fund by Members, along with a curriculum vitae. Except as the Bureau of the Council may decide otherwise, all nominations shall be

¹ [GC 41/L.9](#).

submitted no less than 60 days before the opening of the session at which the appointment of the President is to be decided. The President shall communicate timely nominations to all Members and the Bureau no less than 40 days prior to the session of the Council.”

I wish to inform you that, in accordance with the provisions set forth in section 6.2 of the By-laws, the Governing Council Bureau has endorsed a **deadline of midnight (Rome time), Tuesday, 24 November 2026**, for receipt of all nominations of candidates by Member States. Nominations must be submitted by Member States through their designated representatives or channels of communication to the Secretary of IFAD using the following e-mail address: elections@ifad.org.

In accordance with the practice established for the 2017 appointment process and the recommendation of the Governing Council Bureau, the call for nominations is accompanied by a list of questions to which candidates are invited to respond in writing. These questions (together with the corresponding instructions) are attached herewith as annex II. The questions have been prepared by the List Convenors and reviewed by the Governing Council Bureau.

In accordance with the Report of the Governing Council Bureau on the review of the process leading to the appointment of the President of IFAD ([GC 47/L.3](#)), the names, nationality(ies) and nominating Member States for each nomination shall be communicated in the four official languages of IFAD on **Wednesday, 25 November** (immediately after the deadline for the receipt of nominations).

Full documentation, including letters of nomination, curricula vitae (which should not exceed 2,000 words) and answers to pre-advised questions (which should not exceed 3,000 words) shall be posted in the four official languages as soon as possible thereafter, and no more than 40 days prior to the Governing Council session, in accordance with section 6.2 of the By-laws for the Conduct of the Business of IFAD.

Also, at the recommendation of the Bureau, the Governing Council decided ([GC 41/L.9](#)) that guidelines to regulate the campaigns of candidates for the presidency be included in the call for nominations for the purpose of identifying unethical practices on the part of candidates or their supporting governments during the campaign/appointment processes. These guidelines are attached hereto as annex III.

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone on +39 06 5459 2254, by mobile on +39 366 570 6298 or by e-mail at elections@ifad.org.

Accept, Distinguished Governor, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Claudia ten Have
Secretary of IFAD

Relevant provisions of the Agreement Establishing the International Fund for Agricultural Development²

ARTICLE 6 – ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

Section 1 - Structure of the Fund

The Fund shall have:

- (a)** a Governing Council;
- (b)** an Executive Board;
- (c)** a President and such staff as shall be necessary for the Fund to carry out its functions.

Section 7 - Chairman of the Executive Board

The President of the Fund shall be the Chairman of the Executive Board and shall participate in its meetings without the right to vote.

Section 8 - President and Staff

- (a)** The Governing Council shall appoint the President by a two-thirds majority of the total number of votes. He shall be appointed for a term of four years and shall be eligible for reappointment for only one further term. The appointment of the President may be terminated by the Governing Council by a two-thirds majority of the total number of votes.
- (b)** Notwithstanding the restriction on the term of office of the President of four years, contained in paragraph (a) of this Section, the Governing Council may, under special circumstances, on the recommendation of the Executive Board, extend the term of office of the President beyond the duration prescribed in paragraph (a) above. Any such extension shall be for no more than six months.
- (c)** The President may appoint a Vice-President, who shall perform such duties as shall be assigned to him by the President.
- (d)** The President shall head the staff and, under the control and direction of the Governing Council and the Executive Board, shall be responsible for conducting the business of the Fund. The President shall organize the staff and shall appoint and dismiss members of the staff in accordance with regulations adopted by the Executive Board.

[...]

- (f)** The President and the staff, in the discharge of their functions, owe their duty exclusively to the Fund and shall neither seek nor receive instructions in regard to the discharge thereof from any authority external to the Fund. Each Member of the Fund shall respect the international character of this duty and shall refrain from any attempt to influence them in the discharge of their duties.
- (g)** The President and the staff shall not interfere in the political affairs of any Member. Only development policy considerations shall be relevant to their decisions and these considerations shall be weighed impartially in order to achieve the objective for which the Fund was established.
- (h)** The President shall be the legal representative of the Fund.

² For further information, please also see the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board.

- (i) The President, or a representative designated by him, may participate, without the right to vote, in all meetings of the Governing Council.

Section 10 - Administrative Budget

The President shall prepare an annual administrative budget which he shall submit to the Executive Board for transmission to the Governing Council for approval by a two-thirds majority of the total number of votes.

ARTICLE 7 – OPERATIONS

Section 2 - Forms and Terms of Financing

- (c) The President shall submit projects and programmes to the Executive Board for consideration and approval.

Relevant provisions of the By-Laws for the Conduct of the Business of IFAD

Section 6 - THE PRESIDENT

1. The salary, allowances and other entitlements of the President shall be determined by resolution of the Governing Council. In addition, he shall 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 emoluments.
2. When the term of office of the President is due to expire, the appointment of a President shall be placed on the agenda of the annual session of the Governing Council immediately preceding the expiry of the term of office; whenever, for other reasons, the office of President becomes vacant or a vacancy is due to occur, the Executive Board shall request that the Governing Council be convened in special session for the purpose of appointing the President. Nominations for the office of President may be submitted to the Secretary of the Fund by Members, along with a curriculum vitae. Except as the Bureau of the Council may decide otherwise, all nominations shall be submitted no less than 60 days before the opening of the session at which the appointment of the President is to be decided. The President shall communicate timely nominations to all Members and the Bureau no less than 40 days prior to the session of the Council.
3. The Vice-President, or in the absence thereof, the Associate Vice-President with longer seniority in the office, shall exercise the authority and perform the functions of the President, should he/she become incapacitated or there arise a vacancy in his/her office. Any person exercising the authority and performing the functions of the President under this paragraph shall have the same powers and duties as the President, except the power to appoint a Vice-President.
4. In the event that the President applies for, or is appointed to, an external position during the course of his/her term that may be in conflict with his/her functions as IFAD President, he/she should disclose the prospective employment to the Governing Council, not allow it to affect the performance of his/her duties, and recuse himself/herself from involvement in matters related to the prospective employer.
5. The handling of allegations of misconduct against the President shall be regulated by a policy to be approved by the Executive Board, which will have the authority to impose interim measures deemed appropriate under the circumstances, including suspension from office. The Governing Council shall retain final authority on any decision to be taken pursuant to article 6, section 8 of the Agreement.

Relevant provisions of the Financial Regulations of IFAD

REGULATION VI – ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET

1. The President shall submit an annual administrative budget estimate to the Executive Board for transmission to the Governing Council for approval by a two-thirds majority of the total number of votes.

[...]

3. To meet the Fund's requirements the President may, with the approval of the Executive Board, reallocate funds between categories of the administrative budget.

REGULATION VII – BUDGETARY PROJECTIONS

As part of the annual budgetary process, the President shall prepare for consideration by the Executive Board medium-term budgetary projections on the basis of projected income flows to the Fund from all sources and projected operational plans and disbursements covering the same period. The assumptions underlying the projections shall reflect principles of sound financial planning.

REGULATION VIII – INVESTMENT OF FUNDS

1. The President may place or invest cash funds, not needed immediately for the Fund's operations or administrative expenditures.

REGULATION IX – PROCUREMENT AND CONTROL OF EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

Equipment, supplies and other requirements for servicing the Fund shall be procured and, when necessary, disposed of in accordance with rules prescribed by the President.

REGULATION X – INTERNAL CONTROL

1. Consistent with well-recognized international standards of financial management and accountancy, the President shall:
 - (a) Establish detailed financial rules and procedures in order to ensure:
 - (i) Effective financial administration and the exercise of economy;
 - (ii) Effective custody of the physical assets of the Fund; and
 - (iii) That all payments are made on the basis of relevant supporting evidence;
 - (b) Designate the officers who may receive moneys, incur commitments or obligations and make payments on behalf of the Fund;
 - (c) Establish and maintain appropriate internal financial control and audit systems;
 - (d) Establish, maintain and implement an appropriate internal control framework.
2. Commitments or obligations shall not be incurred and payments shall not be made unless an appropriate authorization has been made in writing under the authority of the President.
3. The President may, after full investigation, with the approval of the Executive Board, authorize the writing-off of losses of cash, supplies, equipment and other assets, other than arrears of contributions or payments due under loan or guarantee agreements, and shall inform the Executive Board.

REGULATION XI - ACCOUNTS

- 1.** The President shall cause such annual accounts to be maintained as shall be necessary to show properly the Fund's: (i) income and expenditures; (ii) utilization of budgetary allocations; (iii) operations; and (iv) financial position.
- 2.** The accounting records may be kept in such currency or currencies as the President may determine, and in the SDR to the extent necessary.

REGULATION XII – EXTERNAL AUDIT

- 5.** The President shall provide the external auditor with the facilities required in the performance of the audit.

REGULATION XIV – GENERAL PROVISIONS

To ensure effective financial administration of the Fund, the President shall from time to time prescribe such rules, procedures and guidelines as may be necessary to implement these Regulations.

Questions for candidates

The following four questions have been prepared by the Convenors of the Lists of IFAD's Member States, and reviewed by the Governing Council Bureau.

1. What is your vision for IFAD, and how would you position its role within the international development architecture, including through collaboration with the other Rome-based agencies and UN80?
2. In a context of scarce public funding, how would you prioritize the use of IFAD's resources to achieve maximum impact?
3. What should be the key strategy to scale up the impacts of IFAD operations? What improvements would you make at the management level to strengthen the work of IFAD? Beyond project delivery and financial performance, what indicators would you use to assess whether your presidency has strengthened IFAD as an institution?
4. How would you strengthen IFAD's country-led approach and ensure greater alignment of its programmes with national priorities while deepening partnerships with governments, multilateral development banks, development finance institutions and the private sector to maximize development impact?

Candidates are kindly invited to provide their responses and adhere to an overall limit of 3,000 words for all four answers combined.

Candidates are also reminded that both the responses and the nominations must be received by the Secretary of IFAD by midnight (Rome time), Tuesday, 24 November.

Any queries should be sent to the following e-mail address: elections@ifad.org.

Guidelines for the Campaign

These guidelines relate only to the campaign leading up to the appointment of the President of IFAD. Their aim is to promote an open, fair, equitable and transparent electoral process among candidates who are running for the office of President of IFAD.

From the date on which nominations are announced and during the entire campaign process, Member States and candidates should:

- (a) Act in good faith and with mutual respect towards one another, bearing in mind the shared objectives of promoting equity, openness, transparency and fairness throughout the appointment process;
- (b) Refrain from:
 - disrupting or impeding the campaign activities of other candidates and generally campaigning in an improper manner against other candidates;
 - making any oral or written statement or other representation that could be deemed slanderous or libellous;
 - making promises or commitments (other than as considered generally acceptable in diplomatic and international negotiations) that could undermine, or be perceived as undermining, the integrity of the appointment process or the governance of IFAD;
 - attempting to influence the appointment process in an improper manner.