

# Information Note on Procedures and Modalities for the Appointment of the President of IFAD

## I. Background

1. Under article 6.8(a) of the Agreement Establishing IFAD, the President of the Fund "shall be appointed for a term of four years and shall be eligible for reappointment for only one further term." Article 6.8(b) states that "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." The current President of IFAD, Mr Alvaro Lario, was appointed at the first special session of the Governing Council, on 7 July 2022. His first term of office will end on 31 March 2027.
2. In accordance with section 6.2 of the By-laws for the Conduct of the Business of IFAD (the By-laws), 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 session of the Governing Council immediately preceding the expiry of the term of office. The Governing Council will therefore consider the appointment of the President of IFAD at its fiftieth session, to be held on 2 and 3 February 2027.

## II. Nomination procedures

3. In February 2013, by resolution 176/XXXVI, the Governing Council endorsed the established good practice for the process leading to the appointment of the President of IFAD (as described in document [GC 36/L.5](#)) and the proposal contained therein that this practice be reviewed from time to time by the Governing Council Bureau, as appropriate.
4. At its fortieth session in February 2017, the Governing Council, taking into consideration the recommendation made by the Executive Board at its 117<sup>th</sup> session in April 2016,<sup>1</sup> by resolution 197/XL, tasked the Governing Council Bureau to review the established practice for the process leading to the appointment of the President of IFAD and make proposals in order to enhance such practice for future appointments.
5. The process leading to the appointment of the President of IFAD was codified in document [GC 41/L.9](#) and endorsed by the Governing Council in 2018 through resolution [202/XLI](#), and further refined through 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](#)), approved by the Governing Council in February 2024 through the adoption of resolution [234/XLVII](#). In accordance with IFAD's basic legal texts and in line with the above-mentioned Governing Council resolutions, the following timeline – which has been approved by the Governing Council Bureau – sets out the activities relative to the nomination procedures to be followed prior to consideration of the appointment of the President of IFAD at the fiftieth session of the Governing Council in February 2027:
  - (a) **Call for nominations.** To be sent by the Secretary of IFAD to all Member States on 15 September 2026, subsequent to the Executive Board's approval of the agenda for the fiftieth session of the Governing Council. The call for nominations is accompanied by a list of questions – prepared by the List Convenors in consultation with the Governing Council Bureau – which candidates for the IFAD Presidency are invited to answer in writing. The call

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<sup>1</sup> At the 117<sup>th</sup> session of the Board, an item on non-binding criteria for the selection and appointment of the President of IFAD was introduced and a proposal was made, which was approved by the Executive Board, that it be recommended to the Governing Council to task the Governing Council Bureau with developing draft terms of reference or selection criteria for consideration by the Governing Council at its forty-first session to be held in 2018.

also makes reference to the following established broad criteria for candidates running for presidency, as well as providing the guidelines (herewith attached as annex I) developed for all candidates for the purpose of identifying unethical practices on the part of candidates or their supporting governments during the campaign/appointment processes.

#### **CRITERIA FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF THE PRESIDENT OF IFAD**

- Strategic leadership skills based on knowledge and experience on 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.
- (b) **Receipt of nominations.** In accordance with section 6.2 of the By-laws and as agreed with the Governing Council Bureau, all nominations for the office of the President 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 deadline for receipt of nominations was set as Tuesday, 24 November 2026.
- (c) **Communication of nominations.** As set forth in [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 the Member States Interactive Platform on Wednesday, 25 November 2026 (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 the pre-advised questions (which should not exceed 3,000 words)<sup>2</sup> shall be posted on the Member States Interactive Platform 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.
- (d) **Meeting with Membership.** As per established practice introduced in 2008, implemented and codified in 2013 and reconfirmed in 2018 and in 2024, a Membership meeting with candidates will be organized prior to the 2027 session of the Governing Council. To this end, on behalf of all Member States, the Convenors of the three Lists, in consultation with the Governing Council Bureau, will invite the nominees for the Presidency of IFAD to an open meeting with IFAD's Membership and, in accordance with the Report of the Governing Council Bureau [GC 47/L.3](#), the proceedings of the meeting shall be webcast on the IFAD website.

### **III. Appointment procedures**

6. This section provides the statutory background and details of the appointment procedures.
7. Rule 41.1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Governing Council provides that the appointment of the President of IFAD is to be considered by the Governing Council at a private meeting and that the voting shall be in accordance with rule 38.1,

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<sup>2</sup> To ensure fairness in the process, where curricula vitae or responses exceed the word limits set by the Governing Council, candidates shall be requested to submit revised versions within 24 to 48 hours. Should any final submissions exceed the word limit, only the first 2,000 or 3,000 words, as relevant, will be translated and posted in accordance herewith.

unless otherwise decided by the Governing Council after considering a report of the Governing Council Bureau thereon. Rule 38.1 reads as follows:

"Except as provided otherwise in respect of elections pursuant to Rule 40, all elections shall be held by secret ballot unless the Governing Council decides otherwise in an election where the number of candidates does not exceed the number of elective places to be filled."

8. As per rule 41.2, in the case of only one nominee, the Governing Council may decide to appoint the President by acclamation.
9. The relevant modalities of the appointment procedure by secret ballot are described in paragraphs 11 to 18 below.
10. Member States will be formally advised of their vote allocations on the first day of the fiftieth session of the Governing Council (Tuesday, 2 February 2027). In order to allow for timely preparation of the appointment procedures, Member States will be invited to make replenishment payments, for which contribution votes will be allocated, in advance of the Governing Council session with a value date not later than 22 January 2027. Proof of payment, including of promissory notes, must be sent to IFAD not later than midnight (Rome time) on Friday, 22 January 2027.
11. In the event of a secret ballot, Governors or, in their absence, Alternate Governors or, in the absence of both, members of delegations (hereinafter referred to as "voting representatives") may cast their votes by electronic means in a manner that ensures the secrecy and integrity of the vote.
12. The Chairperson will outline specific procedures to be followed. Pursuant to resolution 244/XLIX of the Governing Council, voting representatives will be granted access to and the ability to cast, by means of an electronic in-presence and closed voting system, the votes to which they are entitled. The calculation of Members' voting rights is explained in annex III hereto. Voting representatives are requested to verify the correctness of the total number of votes that they have been provided with on the automated voting portal and to inform the Office of the Secretary immediately in the event of a discrepancy.
13. Voting representatives shall cast the votes of the Member they represent in favour of a single person (rule 41.2 of the Rules of Procedure of the Governing Council).
14. The Governing Council will remain in official session during the voting procedure. Voting representatives are requested to remain in the voting session throughout the voting procedure. The Governing Council meeting at which the appointment of the President is considered shall be held in private, with the participation of representatives of Member States only. The proceedings will be webcast to a salle d'écoute for additional delegates from Member States and authorized staff.
15. In accordance with the Report of the Governing Council Bureau [GC47/L.3](#), three tellers, one from each List, as appointed by the Chairperson of the Governing Council with the support of designated IFAD staff members, under the supervision of the Secretary of IFAD, will oversee the counting of the votes cast, with the presence of one representative for each candidate in the running.
16. The counting process will be visible to Member State representatives. Each of the tellers will be given a portion of the electronic secret key<sup>3</sup> required to unlock the counting of votes in the automated voting system. The votes cast will only be able to be counted once the segments of the key are entered together into the system. When the counting of the votes is complete, the totals received by each nominee are generated by the automated voting system and displayed on a tally sheet, which is verified and confirmed by the tellers. The tellers give the tally sheet to the Chairperson, who will announce the results of the vote. The results of intermediate

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<sup>3</sup> The system uses the Shamir key share scheme.

voting rounds shall be shared in the private meeting and webcast to the salle d'écoute, while final results shall be announced publicly.

17. As provided for in rule 41.2 of the Rules of Procedure of the Governing Council, if no nominee receives the required number of votes (two thirds of the total number of votes) on the first ballot, a second ballot will be taken in which the nominee who received the fewest votes will not participate.
18. The procedures outlined above will be repeated until one nominee receives at least two thirds of the total number of votes or the Council decides that the balloting should be discontinued and a decision taken on another date (rule 41.2).

## **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.

## **Voting rights of Member States as at 7 September 2026**

The total number of votes in the Governing Council is currently 7147.280. The table below shows the distribution of voting rights as at 7 September 2026. As explained in annex III, contribution votes are distributed on the basis of contributions<sup>4</sup> actually paid and therefore will change as payments are received from Member States. The voting rights table shown below is therefore valid as at 7 September but will be adjusted according to the contributions received between 7 September 2026 and 22 January 2027 when the final voting shares for the appointment of the President will be determined (see section III, paragraph 10 of the present document).

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<sup>4</sup> Complementary contributions shall not entitle contributing Members to receive contribution votes.

## Voting rights of IFAD Member States as at 7 September 2026

| Country                               | Total votes | % of total votes |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|
| Afghanistan                           | 17.022      | 0.24%            |
| Albania                               | 17.043      | 0.24%            |
| Algeria                               | 46.621      | 0.65%            |
| Angola                                | 21.921      | 0.31%            |
| Antigua and Barbuda                   | 17.022      | 0.24%            |
| Argentina                             | 29.068      | 0.41%            |
| Armenia                               | 17.058      | 0.24%            |
| Austria                               | 76.500      | 1.07%            |
| Azerbaijan                            | 17.132      | 0.24%            |
| Bahamas (The)                         | 17.022      | 0.24%            |
| Bangladesh                            | 20.983      | 0.29%            |
| Barbados                              | 17.025      | 0.24%            |
| Belgium                               | 72.902      | 1.02%            |
| Belize                                | 17.096      | 0.24%            |
| Benin                                 | 17.300      | 0.24%            |
| Bhutan                                | 17.118      | 0.24%            |
| Bolivia (Plurinational State of)      | 17.641      | 0.25%            |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina                | 17.293      | 0.24%            |
| Botswana                              | 17.405      | 0.24%            |
| Brazil                                | 59.982      | 0.84%            |
| Burkina Faso                          | 17.495      | 0.24%            |
| Burundi                               | 17.134      | 0.24%            |
| Cabo Verde                            | 17.071      | 0.24%            |
| Cambodia                              | 17.864      | 0.25%            |
| Cameroon                              | 19.298      | 0.27%            |
| Canada                                | 311.463     | 4.36%            |
| Central African Republic              | 17.029      | 0.24%            |
| Chad                                  | 17.221      | 0.24%            |
| Chile                                 | 17.334      | 0.24%            |
| China                                 | 146.890     | 2.06%            |
| Colombia                              | 17.416      | 0.24%            |
| Comoros                               | 17.064      | 0.24%            |
| Congo                                 | 17.370      | 0.24%            |
| Cook Islands                          | 17.023      | 0.24%            |
| Costa Rica                            | 17.073      | 0.24%            |
| Côte d'Ivoire                         | 17.723      | 0.25%            |
| Croatia                               | 17.022      | 0.24%            |
| Cuba                                  | 17.060      | 0.24%            |
| Cyprus                                | 17.195      | 0.24%            |
| Democratic People's Republic of Korea | 17.097      | 0.24%            |
| Democratic Republic of the Congo      | 17.777      | 0.25%            |
| Denmark                               | 71.496      | 1.00%            |
| Djibouti                              | 17.085      | 0.24%            |
| Dominica                              | 17.041      | 0.24%            |
| Dominican Republic                    | 17.643      | 0.25%            |

| Country                          | Total votes | % of total votes |
|----------------------------------|-------------|------------------|
| Ecuador                          | 17.693      | 0.25%            |
| Egypt                            | 28.379      | 0.40%            |
| El Salvador                      | 17.121      | 0.24%            |
| Equatorial Guinea                | 17.022      | 0.24%            |
| Eritrea                          | 17.071      | 0.24%            |
| Estonia                          | 17.033      | 0.24%            |
| Eswatini                         | 17.177      | 0.24%            |
| Ethiopia                         | 17.225      | 0.24%            |
| Fiji                             | 17.189      | 0.24%            |
| Finland                          | 85.190      | 1.19%            |
| France                           | 263.105     | 3.68%            |
| Gabon                            | 18.371      | 0.26%            |
| Gambia (The)                     | 17.082      | 0.24%            |
| Georgia                          | 17.065      | 0.24%            |
| Germany                          | 297.937     | 4.17%            |
| Ghana                            | 18.955      | 0.27%            |
| Greece                           | 18.640      | 0.26%            |
| Grenada                          | 17.055      | 0.24%            |
| Guatemala                        | 17.941      | 0.25%            |
| Guinea                           | 17.279      | 0.24%            |
| Guinea-Bissau                    | 17.071      | 0.24%            |
| Guyana                           | 18.663      | 0.26%            |
| Haiti                            | 17.317      | 0.24%            |
| Honduras                         | 17.312      | 0.24%            |
| Hungary                          | 17.057      | 0.24%            |
| Iceland                          | 17.152      | 0.24%            |
| India                            | 116.281     | 1.63%            |
| Indonesia                        | 52.755      | 0.74%            |
| Iran (Islamic Republic of)       | 21.809      | 0.31%            |
| Iraq                             | 28.039      | 0.39%            |
| Ireland                          | 46.554      | 0.65%            |
| Israel                           | 17.206      | 0.24%            |
| Italy                            | 291.882     | 4.08%            |
| Jamaica                          | 17.138      | 0.24%            |
| Japan                            | 256.977     | 3.60%            |
| Jordan                           | 17.601      | 0.25%            |
| Kazakhstan                       | 17.070      | 0.24%            |
| Kenya                            | 20.441      | 0.29%            |
| Kiribati                         | 17.032      | 0.24%            |
| Kuwait                           | 126.888     | 1.78%            |
| Kyrgyzstan                       | 17.037      | 0.24%            |
| Lao People's Democratic Republic | 17.274      | 0.24%            |
| Lebanon                          | 17.198      | 0.24%            |
| Lesotho                          | 17.444      | 0.24%            |
| Liberia                          | 17.112      | 0.24%            |
| Libya                            | 34.325      | 0.48%            |
| Lithuania                        | 17.049      | 0.24%            |

| Country                          | Total votes | % of total votes |
|----------------------------------|-------------|------------------|
| Luxembourg                       | 24.841      | 0.35%            |
| Madagascar                       | 17.418      | 0.24%            |
| Malawi                           | 17.098      | 0.24%            |
| Malaysia                         | 17.477      | 0.24%            |
| Maldives                         | 17.076      | 0.24%            |
| Mali                             | 17.343      | 0.24%            |
| Malta                            | 17.042      | 0.24%            |
| Marshall Islands                 | 17.022      | 0.24%            |
| Mauritania                       | 17.189      | 0.24%            |
| Mauritius                        | 17.126      | 0.24%            |
| Mexico                           | 35.008      | 0.49%            |
| Micronesia (Federated States of) | 17.023      | 0.24%            |
| Mongolia                         | 17.101      | 0.24%            |
| Montenegro                       | 17.062      | 0.24%            |
| Morocco                          | 20.947      | 0.29%            |
| Mozambique                       | 17.371      | 0.24%            |
| Myanmar                          | 17.116      | 0.24%            |
| Namibia                          | 17.155      | 0.24%            |
| Naoero*                          | 17.022      | 0.24%            |
| Nepal                            | 17.234      | 0.24%            |
| Netherlands (Kingdom of the)     | 275.176     | 3.85%            |
| New Zealand                      | 26.122      | 0.37%            |
| Nicaragua                        | 17.291      | 0.24%            |
| Niger                            | 17.282      | 0.24%            |
| Nigeria                          | 65.613      | 0.92%            |
| Niue                             | 17.022      | 0.24%            |
| North Macedonia                  | 17.022      | 0.24%            |
| Norway                           | 201.949     | 2.83%            |
| Oman                             | 17.144      | 0.24%            |
| Pakistan                         | 38.572      | 0.54%            |
| Palau                            | 17.022      | 0.24%            |
| Panama                           | 17.175      | 0.24%            |
| Papua New Guinea                 | 17.147      | 0.24%            |
| Paraguay                         | 17.653      | 0.25%            |
| Peru                             | 18.184      | 0.25%            |
| Philippines                      | 18.550      | 0.26%            |
| Poland                           | 17.530      | 0.25%            |
| Portugal                         | 19.168      | 0.27%            |
| Qatar                            | 32.914      | 0.46%            |
| Republic of Korea                | 42.553      | 0.60%            |
| Republic of Moldova              | 17.095      | 0.24%            |
| Romania                          | 17.197      | 0.24%            |
| Russian Federation               | 24.366      | 0.34%            |
| Rwanda                           | 17.355      | 0.24%            |
| Saint Kitts and Nevis            | 17.029      | 0.24%            |
| Saint Lucia                      | 17.029      | 0.24%            |
| Saint Vincent and the Grenadines | 17.022      | 0.24%            |

## Annex II

| Country                            | Total votes      | % of total votes |
|------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Samoa                              | 17.079           | 0.24%            |
| Sao Tome and Principe              | 17.032           | 0.24%            |
| Saudi Arabia                       | 192.997          | 2.70%            |
| Senegal                            | 17.384           | 0.24%            |
| Serbia                             | 17.022           | 0.24%            |
| Seychelles                         | 17.092           | 0.24%            |
| Sierra Leone                       | 17.159           | 0.24%            |
| Solomon Islands                    | 17.025           | 0.24%            |
| Somalia                            | 17.036           | 0.24%            |
| South Africa                       | 17.878           | 0.25%            |
| South Sudan                        | 17.025           | 0.24%            |
| Spain                              | 65.338           | 0.91%            |
| Sri Lanka                          | 21.183           | 0.30%            |
| Sudan                              | 17.647           | 0.25%            |
| Suriname                           | 17.022           | 0.24%            |
| Sweden                             | 230.351          | 3.22%            |
| Switzerland                        | 137.708          | 1.93%            |
| Syrian Arab Republic               | 17.578           | 0.25%            |
| Tajikistan                         | 17.035           | 0.24%            |
| Thailand                           | 18.018           | 0.25%            |
| Timor-Leste                        | 17.060           | 0.24%            |
| Togo                               | 17.116           | 0.24%            |
| Tonga                              | 17.083           | 0.24%            |
| Trinidad and Tobago                | 17.022           | 0.24%            |
| Tunisia                            | 20.156           | 0.28%            |
| Türkiye                            | 30.020           | 0.42%            |
| Tuvalu                             | 17.022           | 0.24%            |
| Uganda                             | 17.593           | 0.25%            |
| Ukraine                            | 17.022           | 0.24%            |
| United Arab Emirates               | 40.009           | 0.56%            |
| United Kingdom                     | 230.150          | 3.22%            |
| United Republic of Tanzania        | 17.451           | 0.24%            |
| United States                      | 454.219          | 6.36%            |
| Uruguay                            | 17.421           | 0.24%            |
| Uzbekistan                         | 17.159           | 0.24%            |
| Vanuatu                            | 17.022           | 0.24%            |
| Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) | 85.373           | 1.19%            |
| Viet Nam                           | 18.922           | 0.26%            |
| Yemen                              | 18.578           | 0.26%            |
| Zambia                             | 17.981           | 0.25%            |
| Zimbabwe                           | 18.187           | 0.25%            |
| <b>Grand TOTAL</b>                 | <b>7 147.280</b> | <b>100.00%</b>   |

\*Effective 26 June 2026, the Republic of Nauru has been renamed Republic of Naoero.

## Voting rights of Member States in the Governing Council

Under article 6, section 3(a), of the Agreement Establishing IFAD, "Voting in the Governing Council":

"The total number of votes in the Governing Council shall be comprised of Original Votes and Replenishment Votes. All Members shall have equal access to those votes on the following basis:

- (i) **Original Votes** shall consist of a total of one thousand eight hundred (1 800) votes made up of membership votes and contribution votes:<sup>5</sup>
  - (A) **membership votes** shall be distributed equally among all Members; and
  - (B) **contribution votes** shall be distributed among all Members in the proportion that each Member's cumulative paid contributions to the resources of the Fund, authorized by the Governing Council prior to 26 January 1995 and made by Members in accordance with Sections 2, 3 and 4 of Article 4 of this Agreement, bear to the aggregate of the total of the said contributions paid by all Members;
- (ii) **Replenishment Votes** shall be made up of membership votes and contribution votes in a total amount of votes to be decided by the Governing Council upon each occasion that it calls for additional contributions under Section 3 of Article 4 of this Agreement (a "replenishment") commencing with the fourth such replenishment. Except as the Governing Council shall by a two-thirds majority of the total number of votes otherwise decide, the votes for each replenishment shall be established in the ratio of one hundred (100) votes for the equivalent of each one hundred and fifty-eight million United States dollars (USD 158 000 000) contributed to the total amount of that replenishment, or a fraction thereof:
  - (A) **membership votes** shall be distributed equally among all Members on the same basis as that set forth in provision (i)(A) above; and
  - (B) **contribution votes** shall be distributed among all Members in the proportion that each Member's paid contribution to the resources contributed to the Fund by Members for each replenishment bears to the aggregate of the total contributions paid by all Members to the said replenishment; and<sup>6</sup>

<sup>5</sup> Among these original 1,800 votes, 790 are Membership votes divided equally among all Members. This gives the present 180 Members 4.389 Membership votes each. After subtracting the Membership votes from the original 1,800 votes, the remaining 1,010 contribution votes are distributed among Members in accordance with their paid share of cumulative convertible currency contributions up to and including the Third Replenishment, but excluding any promissory note contributions against which accounting provisions have been made. The 790 Membership votes are redistributed each time a new Member joins IFAD.

<sup>6</sup> From the Fourth Replenishment onwards, new replenishment votes are created for each replenishment. The total amount of such votes is calculated based on the total amount of pledges to (core) contributions, as of the date six months after the date of adoption of the respective replenishment resolution (i.e. the effectiveness date of replenishment votes). Membership votes are distributed equally among all Member States immediately on the effectiveness date of replenishment votes. Contribution votes are distributed among Members in the proportion that each Member's paid contribution bears to the aggregate of the paid (core) contributions to the respective replenishment.

- (iii) The Governing Council shall decide the total number of votes to be allocated as membership votes and contribution votes under paragraphs (i) and (ii) of this Section. Upon any change in the number of Members of the Fund, the membership votes and contribution votes distributed under paragraphs (i) and (ii) of this Section shall be redistributed in accordance with the principles laid down in the said paragraphs. In the allocation of votes, the Governing Council shall ensure that those Members classified as members of Category III before 26 January 1995 receive one-third of the total votes as membership votes."