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Investing in rural people

Appointment of the President of IFAD

(Background note on relevant appointment rules, procedures and modalities)

Note to Governors

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Governing Council — First Special Session
Rome, 7 July 2022

For: Information

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Steps to be taken by Member States before:

23 June 2022 – Member States should communicate the details of the voting representative (name and title) to the Office of the Secretary (gb@ifad.org), no later than Thursday, 23 June 2022.

29 June 2022 – The total number of votes that each Governor or his/her designated alternate is entitled to cast for the appointment of the President is calculated on the basis of replenishment payments received by IFAD from the Member State that he/she represents. Accordingly, to allow for timely preparation of the appointment procedures, Member States wishing to make replenishment payments, for which contribution votes will be allocated, are urged to do so promptly so that their payments are received by IFAD by 5 p.m. (Rome time) on Wednesday, 29 June 2022.¹

Appointment of the President of IFAD (Background note on relevant appointment rules, procedures and modalities)

1. This document provides the relevant information and guidance on the appointment rules, procedures and modalities.

A. Appointment rules

2. Article 6, section 8(a) of the Agreement Establishing IFAD provides that the Governing Council shall appoint the President by a two-thirds majority of the total number of votes (i.e. 6,283.511). Rule 41.1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Governing Council provides that:

“The appointment of the President shall be considered by the Governing Council at a private meeting, and voting shall be in accordance with Rule 38.1 unless otherwise decided by the Governing Council after considering a report of the Bureau thereon.”

Rule 38.1 specifies that:

“...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.”

As indicated in document GC S1/L.2/Rev.1, which is presented to the first special session of the Governing Council under item 3 of its provisional agenda, IFAD received seven nominations for the position of President of IFAD by the established deadline. Two nominations were withdrawn prior to the issuance on 20 May 2022 of the communication on nominations received to all Members and the Governing Council Bureau. Subsequent to this communication, the candidature of Mariano Jiménez Talavera, a national of the Republic of Honduras, nominated by the Republic of Panama, was withdrawn (as communicated in GC S1/L.2/Add.1).

Rule 41.2 provides that:

“The Governing Council shall appoint the President by at least two-thirds of the total number of votes. In the case of only one nominee, the Council may use the method of acclamation to appoint the President. In the case of more than one nominee, if no nominee receives the required number of votes on the first ballot, a second ballot shall be taken in which the nominee who

¹ The number of votes to which Members are entitled will be posted prior to the session as an addendum to this document. Article 6, section 3(a) of the Agreement Establishing IFAD provides details of Member States' voting rights (see annex II).

received the fewest votes shall not participate. This procedure shall be repeated until one nominee receives at least two-thirds of the total number of votes or the Council decides that such balloting be discontinued and decision be taken on another date. Each Governor casting the votes of the Member he represents shall cast them in favour of a single person.”

B. Appointment procedures

3. The procedures indicated in the following paragraphs apply for vote by secret ballot.

3.1. Place of voting

3.1.1. Voting shall be conducted in the plenary hall at IFAD headquarters, where booths will be set up for Governors of Member States or, in their absence, Alternate Governors or, in the absence of both, authorized members of the delegations (hereinafter referred to as “voting representatives”) to cast the votes of the Member States they represent in complete privacy. The plenary will remain in official session in a private meeting during the voting procedure. Only voting representatives and authorized staff shall be allowed into the private meeting.

3.2. Voting session

3.2.1. The Chairperson will open the private meeting, which shall be attended only by the voting representatives whose details (name and title) have been previously communicated to the Office of the Secretary no later than Thursday, 23 June 2022. Voting representatives will only be admitted to the plenary hall through the use of an electronic badge provided by the Office of the Secretary. The specific procedures to be followed will then be outlined by the Chairperson.

3.3. Order of voting

3.3.1. The names of Member States will be called in their English alphabetical order.

3.4. Number of votes

3.4.1. Before each ballot, the voting representative will receive an envelope containing one or more ballot papers. The total number of votes specified on the papers received shall equal the total number of votes to which the Member State he/she represents is entitled.

3.5. Before voting

3.5.1. Voting representatives will be requested to check the ballot papers immediately upon receipt and sign for them accordingly; if the ballot papers do not tally with the number of votes that the Member State is entitled to cast, the voting representative should inform the officials immediately of such discrepancy **before** signing.

3.6. How to vote

3.6.1. After having collected the ballot papers, voting representatives may then proceed to one of the voting booths to cast their votes.

3.6.2. Voting representatives are requested to remain in the plenary hall prior to being called to cast their votes. After casting their votes, they may remain in or leave the room.

3.6.3. In the voting booth, the voting representative shall indicate the surname of the nominee of his/her choice in the box space provided in each of the ballot papers (see attached sample in annex III) by using the stamp with the selected candidate’s name, which will be provided in the voting booth. In accordance with rule 41.2 of the Rules of Procedure of the Governing Council, “Each Governor casting the votes of the Member he represents shall cast them in favour of a single person.” After completion, ballots shall be

placed in the ballot box by the voting representative. Ballots may be considered null and void in various instances, examples of which are provided in annex IV.

3.7. Counting of votes

- 3.7.1. The ballots will be counted in a special room designated for that purpose. The counting will be done by tellers appointed by the Chairperson, assisted by the IFAD staff members designated for that purpose under the supervision of the Secretary. According to standard practice, the Chairperson appoints one teller from each List. When the counting of votes is complete, the totals received by each nominee will be entered on a tally sheet that will be signed by each teller.

3.8. Announcement of the results

- 3.8.1. Voting representatives are requested to take their places quickly in the plenary hall when the meeting is called to order by the Chairperson. The Chairperson will subsequently be presented with the signed tally sheet and will announce the results of the voting in private session. When the voting results in the appointment of a candidate, such final results will be announced in open session.

Excerpts from IFAD's basic legal texts related to the appointment of the President

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

ARTICLE 6 – ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

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.

[...]

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

SECTION 6 - THE PRESIDENT

[...]

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.

[...]

Relevant provisions of the Rules of Procedure of the Governing Council

Rule 26: Quorum

1. A quorum for any meeting of the Governing Council shall be constituted by Governors exercising two-thirds of the total number of votes.

[...]

Rule 33: Voting Rights

1. Each Member shall have the number of votes distributed to it in accordance with the formulae set out in Section 3(a) of Article 6 of the Agreement [Establishing the

International Fund for Agricultural Development] and in the decisions that the Governing Council shall take, from time to time, in accordance therewith.

2. Each Governor shall be entitled to cast the votes of the Member he represents. In his absence, the alternate appointed by that Member or, in the absence of both, a member of their delegation shall be entitled to cast these votes.

Rule 34: Majority Required

1. The following decisions of the Governing Council shall require at least two-thirds of the total number of votes:

[...]

(c) Appointment or termination of the appointment of the President;

[...]

Rule 35: Method of Taking Decisions

1. At any meeting of the Governing Council, the Chairman should attempt to secure a consensus on a proposal in lieu of taking a vote thereon. However, the Council shall take decisions by vote at the request of any Governor.
2. Roll-call votes shall be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the Members, starting with the Member whose name is drawn by lot by the Chairman. The name of each Member shall be called in all roll-calls, and its representative shall reply "yes", "no" or "abstention". Unless otherwise decided by the Council, the vote of each Member participating in roll-call shall be recorded.
3. Secret ballots shall be taken by the casting of paper ballots³ or, if available, through an electronic voting system, in such a way as to safeguard the secrecy and integrity of the secret ballot. Each Member shall have access to and the ability to cast, the specific number of votes to which they are entitled.

Rule 36: Conduct Relating to Voting

1. The Chairman shall announce the commencement of voting, after which no one shall be permitted to intervene until the results of the vote have been announced except on a point of order in connection with the process of voting.
2. Governors may make brief statements consisting solely of explanation of their votes, before the announcement of the commencement of voting or after the results of the vote have been announced.

³ In the case of paper ballots, each Governor shall be provided with one or more ballot papers each indicating a specific number of votes, which shall be so distributed that: (i) papers specifying any particular number of votes shall be received by at least four Governors, and (ii) the total number of votes specified on the papers received by any Governor shall equal the number of votes he is entitled to cast; each Governor may indicate his vote on all the papers he receives and deposit them in ballot boxes from which they shall be taken and counted by tellers appointed by the Chairman.

Rule 38: Elections

1. [...] 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.

[...]

Rule 41: President

1. The appointment of the President shall be considered by the Governing Council at a private meeting, and voting shall be in accordance with Rule 38.1. unless otherwise decided by the Governing Council after considering a report of the Bureau thereon.

2. The Governing Council shall appoint the President by at least two-thirds of the total number of votes. In the case of only one nominee, the Council may use the method of acclamation to appoint the President. In the case of more than one nominee, if no nominee receives the required number of votes on the first ballot, a second ballot shall be taken in which the nominee who received the fewest votes shall not participate. This procedure shall be repeated until one nominee receives at least two-thirds of the total number of votes or the Council decides that such balloting be discontinued and decision be taken on another date. Each Governor casting the votes of the Member he represents shall cast them in favour of a single person.

Voting rights of Member States in the Governing Council

Under article 6, section 3(a) and 3(b), of the Agreement Establishing the International Fund for Agricultural Development, Voting in the Governing Council:

- “(a) 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:
 - (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
 - (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.
- (b) For the purposes of Section 3 (a) (i) (B) and (ii) (B) above, the grant element of a concessional partner loan and the discount or the credit generated from the early encashment of contributions shall be considered as “paid contributions” and contributions votes shall be distributed accordingly; ...”

SAMPLE BALLOT PAPER

INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT		
XXX Votes	<div style="border: 2px solid black; width: 80%; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>	XXX Votes
Governing Council		
<p>This ballot is for use within the Governing Council during secret balloting. Please indicate the surname of the participating candidate of your choice in the box above by using the stamp provided in the polling booth. After completion, this ballot will be placed in the ballot box. Ballots indicating more than one candidate or a candidate not participating will be considered null and void.</p> <p>Bulletin pour les scrutins secrets du Conseil des gouverneurs. Prière d'inscrire le nom du candidat de votre choix dans la case ci-dessus en utilisant le tampon à disposition dans l'isoloir. Ensuite, déposer le bulletin dans l'urne prévue. Les bulletins sur lesquels figureront plus d'un nom ou celui d'un candidat ne faisant pas partie de la liste officielle seront considérés nuls.</p> <p>Esta papeleta se utilizará para la votación secreta que celebrará el Consejo de Gobernadores. Sírvase indicar el apellido del candidato de su elección en el recuadro que figura más arriba utilizando el sello apropiado, que encontrará en la cabina. Una vez rellena, la papeleta se depositará en la urna instalada al efecto. Las papeletas en las que se indiquen varios candidatos, o un candidato que no participa, se considerarán nulas.</p> <p>تُستخدم هذه البطاقة في عمليات الاقتراع السري في مجلس المحافظين. ويرجى كتابة اللقب العائلي للمرشح المشارك الذي تختارونه ضمن الإطار الوارد أعلاه. وبعد الانتهاء، توضع هذه البطاقة في صندوق الاقتراع أعلاه باستخدام الختم المتوفر في عازل الاقتراع. وتعتبر البطاقات التي تتضمن أكثر من اسم مرشح واحد أو اسم مرشح غير مشارك باطلة ولاغية.</p>		

Scenarios in which ballots may be considered null and void

نموذج عن بطاقات الاقتراع الملاحية	SAMPLE OF INVALID BALLOTS	EXEMPLE DE BULLETINS NULS	EJEMPLOS DE PAPELETAS DE VOTO NULAS
بموجب المبادئ المقبولة عموماً، تعتبر الفئات التالية من بطاقات الاقتراع لاجية:	Under generally accepted principles, the following categories of ballots must be regarded as invalid:	En application des principes généralement admis, les bulletins ci-après doivent être considérés comme nuls:	Conforme a principios generalmente aceptados, deberán considerarse nulas las siguientes categorías de papeletas de voto:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • بطاقات الاقتراع التي تحدد الشخص أو البلد الذي يدلي بالأصوات • بطاقات الاقتراع التي لا تحدد أي مرشح • بطاقات الاقتراع التي تحدد أكثر من مرشح واحد • بطاقات الاقتراع التي تحدد مرشحاً أفضي أو انسحب • بطاقات الاقتراع التي تحدد شخصاً من غير المرشحين • بطاقات الاقتراع التي لا تتطابق مع جولة الاقتراع الحالية (أي بطاقات الاقتراع المخصصة للجولة الأولى والمستخدمة للتصويت في الجولة الثانية، إلخ) • بطاقات الاقتراع التي تحمل إشارات غير اسم المرشح • بطاقات الاقتراع التي لا تعكس بوضوح اختيار مرشح ما، على سبيل المثال، عندما يكون اللقب العائلي غير كامل 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ballots that identify the person or country casting the votes • Ballots that do not identify any candidate • Ballots that identify more than one candidate • Ballots that identify a candidate who has been eliminated or who has withdrawn • Ballots that identify a non-candidate • Ballots not corresponding to the current ballot round (e.g. ballots marked First ballot used to vote in the Second ballot round, etc.) • Ballots that have markings other than the name of a candidate • Ballots that do not clearly reflect the choice of a candidate, for instance, when the surname is incomplete 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Les bulletins sur lesquels est indiqué le pays ou la personne exerçant le droit de vote • Les bulletins sur lesquels ne figure le nom d'aucun candidat • Les bulletins sur lesquels figurent les noms de plus d'un candidat • Les bulletins sur lesquels figure le nom d'un candidat qui a été éliminé ou qui s'est retiré • Les bulletins sur lesquels figure un nom qui n'est pas celui d'un candidat • Les bulletins qui ne correspondent pas au tour de scrutin en cours (par exemple, les bulletins portant la mention "premier tour de scrutin" utilisés pour le deuxième tour, etc.) • Les bulletins portant des inscriptions autres que le nom d'un candidat • Les bulletins qui ne reflètent pas clairement le choix d'un candidat, par exemple lorsque le nom est incomplet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • papeletas en las que se indica la persona o el país que emite los votos • papeletas en las que no se señala ningún candidato • papeletas en las que se señala más de un candidato • papeletas en las que se señala un candidato que ha sido eliminado o que se ha retirado • papeletas en las se señala a una persona que no es candidata • papeletas que no se corresponden con la ronda de votación de que se trate (p. ej., papeletas en las que se indica que son para la primera ronda de votación utilizadas para votar en la segunda ronda de votación) • papeletas en las que figuran otras indicaciones además del nombre de un candidato • papeletas en las que no se refleja claramente la elección de un candidato (p. ej., en aquellos casos en que el nombre figura de manera incompleta)
في حالة الشك، يتولى القائمون بعدّ الأصوات تقييم صلاحية بطاقة الاقتراع، بمساعدة ممثل مكتب المستشار العام، حسب الاقتضاء.	In case of doubt, the validity of a ballot shall be assessed by the Tellers, with assistance by the representative of the Office of the General Counsel as may be required.	En cas de doute, il appartient aux scrutateurs d'évaluer la validité d'un bulletin, si nécessaire avec l'aide du représentant du Bureau du Conseiller juridique.	En caso de duda, la validez de una papeleta será determinada por los escrutadores, con la ayuda del representante de la Oficina del Asesor Jurídico si fuera preciso.