INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (IFAD)

COMPOSITION OF LISTS OF MEMBER COUNTRIES

According to paragraph 3(a), schedule II of the Agreement Establishing the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), “a Member may, at the time of each election for the members and alternate members representing the List of Member Countries to which it belongs, decide to withdraw from one List of Member Countries and place itself upon another List of Member Countries, with the approval of the Members therein. In such event, the concerned Member shall inform the President of the Fund in writing of such change, who shall, from time to time, inform all Members of the composition of all the Lists of Member Countries.”

I am pleased to announce that, by a Note Verbale dated 17 January 2018, the Republic of Cyprus has informed me of its transfer from List C to List A, confirming at the same time that it will no longer be eligible for IFAD financing. Likewise, by a Note Verbale dated 7 December 2017, the State of Israel has informed me of its transfer from List C to List A and confirmed that it will no longer be eligible for IFAD financing. Both transfers will be effective immediately before the election of new Executive Board members at the forty-first session of IFAD’s Governing Council to be held in February 2018.

These transfers followed the consideration by the Governing Council, at itsfortieth session in February 2017, of the Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Governance and related recommendation of the Executive Board, and the adoption of resolution 194/XL setting forth definitions as guidelines for membership in the three Lists of IFAD Members and recommending that “...each Member State join, or transfer to, the List whose definition best matches its individual characteristics, in accordance with the procedures set out in paragraph 3(a) of schedule II of the Agreement Establishing IFAD; it being understood that it is for each Member State to decide whether it wishes to avail itself of this option.”

As stated in the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Governance, the Working Group recommended that List A and List B agree to the transfer of one or more List C Member States to their Lists at the time of the next election for the members and alternate members of the Executive Board, provided that they meet all relevant conditions set forth in the guidelines for membership contained in the report. In the case of a transfer to List A, those conditions are as follows: (i) be a contributor to IFAD resources; (ii) be off the official development assistance (ODA) list; (iii) declare or confirm their ineligibility for IFAD financing; and (iv) express their wish to transfer to List A.
In view of the above, the Republic of Cyprus and the State of Israel have conveyed their request to the members of List A to transfer from List C to List A. Both countries have confirmed their compliance with the above-mentioned conditions. On behalf of the members of List A, the Convenor for List A has communicated approval of the requests of the Republic of Cyprus and the State of Israel to join that List.

An updated list of Member States, classified under their respective Lists, will be provided in the context of the forty-first session of the Governing Council to be held in February 2018.

Gilbert F. Houngbo