

## **List B Joint General Statement**

### **IFAD10 Consultation, June 2014 session**

Thank you, Mr Chairman.

I make this general statement on behalf of List B countries and thank you for giving me the opportunity to do so, at this stage in the deliberations.

List B would like to start by thanking IFAD for its valuable efforts and preparations made for the second meeting of the tenth consultation of IFAD resources. This is an extremely important meeting in the IFAD10 process, with consideration of some critical papers and topics that will shape the future of the Fund.

Overall, List B considers IFAD to be a very important organisation with a special mandate that includes a focus on smallholder agriculture in rural areas. It has a fundamental role to assist rural poor people in all developing countries of the world to improve agricultural production and productivity, promote food security and gender equality, enhance incomes and livelihoods, and achieve overall well-being.

As we heard yesterday in the presentation on the corporate level evaluation of IFAD Replenishments by IOE, we agree that partnership between the three Lists A, B and C is a unique characteristic of IFAD among multilateral development organisations. This is what makes IFAD special. We also agree it is essential that all member states rally together to strengthen this partnership by enhancing cooperation and dialogue across all Lists, in the broader interest of the Fund. As such, it is imperative that all Lists share responsibility to ensure the Fund is on the right track to meet its laudable mandate, and has an adequate level of resources to meet the ever increasing demand for its assistance.

List B appreciates the documents and discussions held so far during this consultation. We are pleased by the charting out of a longer time Strategic Vision for IFAD, and thank the President for his insights and leadership on the topic. We also appreciate the corporate level evaluation on IFAD replenishments and the evaluation synthesis report on MICs, which served their purpose of laying the basis for a rich debate on the respective topics. On this note, we would like to commend the excellent work in general of the Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD, which continues to raise critical issues and make strategic recommendations that provide a solid basis for IFAD's organisational transformation and improvement.

With regard to the business model, we appreciate the efforts that are underway to sharpen the way IFAD does business, so that its programme can be effective and efficient. In this regard, there are three essential points List B believes deserve added attention moving forward. These include: (i) consolidating IFAD country offices, especially because evidence suggests they are an essential ingredient for better programmes and deeper policy engagement at the national level; (ii) the need for more sharply defining the pathways for scaling up, to ensure IFAD can leverage resources from national governments, private sector and other organisations for achieving a wider impact on rural poverty; and (iii) a more customised and tailored engagement in different country contexts, including both MICs and Fragile States.

Mr Chairman, you requested our views yesterday on China's proposal for further studies on specific topics. As the USA, List B supports the request by China for IOE to undertake a corporate level evaluation on the PBAS in the future, as a basis for taking stock of how the allocation mechanism has served IFAD's needs in the last decade since the introduction of the instrument. We agree also that the Board's dedicated Working Group on PBAS should have a special role in the evaluation process. We also support the request for power point presentations to be delivered, respectively, by the IFAD Management and IOE, on south-south and triangular cooperation at the October 2014 session of the IFAD10 consultation.

In closing, once again, List B underlines the importance it attaches to the tenth replenishment of IFAD. From our side, please rest assured of our continued commitment and interest in seeing a stronger IFAD, and constructive engagement in the replenishment consultation process.

Thank you.