

List C statement (Angola)

List C welcomes the consultation documents and commends the management and staff for their efforts and handwork their quality. We are of the view that these documents provide us a good starting point for further deliberation. We would like to share the following 6 comments.

The world has finally realized that the potential role and contribution of smallholders isn't small: it's enormous. Collectively, smallholder family farmers account for more than a quarter of the world's population. They also represent a majority of those living in absolute poverty. Investments that enable smallholders to grow and market more food contribute to poverty reduction while also meeting the increasing demand from urban centres for food and other agricultural products.

IFAD is a preferred partner for borrowers.

IFAD has a unique depth of knowledge and experience about smallholders and rural entrepreneurs based on its specialized mandate. It finance_ projects in remote regions_ where other investors are few or altogether absent. It takes a community level approach, which is where producers organizations are formed and strengthened. But it also focuses on the regional and national policies needed to support smallholders. IFAD understands that farming is a business and it brings vital resources and know-how to our efforts to create and implement our national policies. But it does this collaboratively, taking a back seat to the borrowing governments and key stakeholders . In short,. IFAD is a welcome and valued partner to reinforce our national efforts to foster prosperous, healthy, and sustainable rural areas.

We need IFAD to enlarge its resources and impact — and we are confident that it is ready to do so.

With our support and guidance, IFAD has worked hard to improve its performance and its efficiency so that its investments produce greater impact and better value to its Member States. With this strong foundation, it is well positioned to look out over the horizon at the opportunities and challenges that lay ahead, as management has done in the Strategic Vision that it has shared with us.

IFAD is a fund. Its unique ability lies in mobilizing and channelling resources at concessional terms to smallholders in ways that enable them to grow their businesses while conserving their natural resources. We echo the finding from the Corporate-Level evaluation on IFAD replenishments which says replenishment is, and will remain, the foundation of IFAD's operations. So we urge the developed countries fulfil their international development commitment and significantly increase their support to IFAD10. We also call on major producers of oil and other donors seeking to contribute to this effort to help the poorest rural populations.

We are of the view that the growing demand for agricultural products from urban dwellers with rising incomes — among others -- is creating important new opportunities both for mobilizing resources and for leveraging investments for greater impact. In the first instance, we have asked management to explore new mechanisms and approaches for mobilizing resources from new sources, in addition to our replenishment contributions. If successful, these additional resources will allow IFAD to expand its lending portfolio while increasing the flow of resources to highly-concessional borrowers. On the ground, IFAD is strengthening its capacity to bring together smallholders and private investors in business partnerships. These directions — both for mobilizing resources and for leveraging partnerships and investments — will enable IFAD to operate at a scale that better corresponds to the growing demand and need for investment in smallholder agriculture.

The future direction of IFAD — our institution — depends on a shared vision.

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One of the most important outcomes for IFAD10 should be agreement about the future directions for the Fund. This is a moment when the interests of all of IFAD's Member States can come together. It is very likely that the post-2015 development agenda will give its priority to eradicating extreme poverty. A World Bank study released last October confirms that more than three quarters, or 78 percent, of those living in extreme poverty lived in rural areas, with nearly two thirds of the extreme poor deriving their livelihoods from agriculture. It is also a fact, though paradoxical, that 75% of the world poor live not in poor countries but in middle income countries.

We need IFAD to scale up its resources and impact now, more than ever. We need it to continue with its commitment to continually improving performance, by meeting new challenges and extending its reach to more of those smallholders who currently lack the investment of knowledge and resources that can help them become more productive and profitable producers.

Our countries — who are home to these smallholders who aspire to better, more prosperous lives — share the commitment to eradicate extreme poverty. We need the knowledge, expertise, services, and resources that IFAD commands.

The IFAD we want is one that:

be inclusive and sustainable, which means it must be more financially capable and strategically flexible to address the global challenges, and strengthen its engagement with all recipient members states.

continues to improve its effectiveness in different development settings — through improved analysis and new knowledge and lending instruments, and

does much more to facilitate the south-south and triangular cooperation and exchange of knowledge and experience among borrowing countries.

can mobilize and leverage new and innovative sources of finance and who can bring together commercial investors to match the farmers own investments;

This is a time for the consolidation of the ongoing reforms and to make change.

This is a moment of opportunity, when we can make much greater progress toward achieving food security and wiping out poverty. It is our job here to make sure that IFAD can seize the opportunity to use its institutional knowledge and assets to achieve bigger, more sustainable results on the ground. We hope that this consultation will join together — and together join with Management -- to chart the future of this unique institution, which is so necessary for achieving our national and global goals.

Thank you for your attention