

Document: EB 2011/104/R.55
Agenda: 19
Date: 14 November 2011
Distribution: Public
Original: English

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Enabling poor rural people
to overcome poverty

Draft provisional agenda for the thirty-fifth session of the Governing Council

Note to Executive Board representatives

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Executive Board — 104th Session
Rome, 12-14 December 2011

For: Approval

Recommendation for approval

1. Rule 6 of the rules of procedure of the Governing Council provides that the President shall prepare, with the approval of the Executive Board, a provisional agenda for each session of the Governing Council. Accordingly, the Executive Board is invited to consider and approve the attached draft provisional agenda for the thirty-fifth session of the Governing Council.
2. The Executive Board is also invited to take note of the draft programme of events for the Council, which is attached to the present document.

Draft provisional agenda for the thirty-fifth session of the Governing Council

1. Opening of the session
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Election of the Bureau of the Governing Council
4. Application for non-original membership
5. Statement of the President of IFAD
6. General statements
7. Report on the Eighth Replenishment of IFAD's resources
8. Ninth Replenishment of IFAD's resources
9. Revision of the IFAD Lending Policies and Criteria
10. Consolidated financial statements of IFAD for 2010
11. IFAD's capital and administrative budgets and the budget of the Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD for 2012
12. Revision of the Financial Regulations of IFAD
13. Report on the special expenditure for the Voluntary Separation Programme for IFAD for 2011
14. Election of members and alternate members of the Executive Board
15. Progress report on implementation of the performance-based allocation system
16. Other business

Annotations

1. Opening of the session

The thirty-fifth session of the Governing Council will be held on Wednesday, 22 February and Thursday, 23 February 2012.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The provisional agenda, prepared by the President and approved by the Executive Board in accordance with rule 6 of the Rules of Procedure of the Governing Council, is contained in the present document (GC 35/L.1).

3. Election of the Bureau of the Governing Council

The Governing Council is invited to elect a chairperson and two vice-chairpersons for the coming two years, in accordance with rule 12 of its rules of procedure.

4. Application for non-original membership

The Executive Board considered the application for membership received from the Republic of South Sudan. The recommendation of the Board in this regard, together with a draft resolution thereon, will be presented in document GC 35/L.2.

5. Statement of the President of IFAD

Mr Kanayo F. Nwanze will make a statement to the Governing Council.

6. General statements

Governors are invited to make statements under this agenda item and are strongly encouraged to submit a video recording of their individual statements or to prepare statements by cluster, i.e. IFAD List or geographical country grouping.

7. Report on the Eighth Replenishment of IFAD's resources

A report on the status of the Eighth Replenishment of IFAD's resources will be presented in document GC 35/L.3.

8. Ninth Replenishment of IFAD's resources

Document GC 35/L.4 will provide the Governing Council with the final report of the Consultation on the Ninth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources. In addition, the document will contain a draft resolution on the Ninth Replenishment for approval by the Governing Council.

9. Revision of the IFAD Lending Policies and Criteria

In accordance with resolution 158/XXXIII on the Revision of the Lending Policies and Criteria, the Executive Board shall submit to the thirty-fifth session of the Governing Council revised lending policies and criteria that shall take into account all developments since the last revision of the Lending Policies and Criteria in 1998 and express concisely and clearly the broad policies and criteria applicable to financing by the Fund. The Revised Lending Policies and Criteria will be provided in document GC 35/L.5.

10. Consolidated financial statements of IFAD for 2010

In accordance with regulation XII of the Financial Regulations of IFAD and section 9 of the By-laws for the Conduct of the Business of IFAD, the Governing Council will be invited to consider document GC 35/L.6, which will contain the consolidated financial statements of IFAD for 2010 and the report of the external auditor. The 102nd session of the Executive Board reviewed the statements in May 2011 and recommended that they be submitted for approval by the Governing Council.

11. IFAD's capital and administrative budgets and the budget of the Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD for 2012

The budgets of IFAD and the Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD for 2012, as recommended by the Executive Board for approval by the Governing Council, will be presented in document GC 35/L.7, together with a draft resolution thereon.

12. Revision of the Financial Regulations of IFAD

The Financial Regulations of IFAD, which were adopted in 1978 and last amended in 2004, need to be revised in order to reflect various developments in the organization's financial governance. These relate, inter alia, to the capital budget, the budget of the Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD, and the Executive Board's role in matters pertaining to the investment of IFAD's resources. Document GC 35/L.8 will provide the Governing Council with the proposed revisions as recommended by the Executive Board.

13. Report on the special expenditure for the Voluntary Separation Programme for IFAD for 2011

In adopting resolution 162/XXXIV in February 2011, the Governing Council approved the extension of the appropriation of the special expenditure for the Voluntary Separation Programme for IFAD for 2011. In accordance with the Council's request, document GC 35/L.9 will provide a final report on the expenditures incurred with respect to the Voluntary Separation Programme. Furthermore, the document will include a proposal, as considered by the Executive Board at its 104th session, for the repurposing and reallocation of the balance from the Voluntary Separation Programme special appropriation as a Special Reform Actualization Fund to finance the implementation of the outcomes of the major Human Resources Reform initiatives, together with a draft resolution thereon, for adoption by the Governing Council.

14. Election of members and alternate members of the Executive Board

The three-year term of office of the current membership of the Executive Board expires at the present Council session. In accordance with rule 40.1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Governing Council, "the President shall circulate a list indicating the number of members and alternate members of the Executive Board that must be elected or appointed from among the Members of the Fund." This information will be provided to the Governing Council in document GC 35/L.10. Rule 40.2 of the Rules of Procedure provides that: "During the course of the annual session the Governors shall meet in private to conduct such elections in accordance with procedures specified by the respective part of Schedule II to the Agreement" (reproduced as an attachment to document GC 35/L.10). Arrangements for such private meetings may be made through the Office of the Secretary of IFAD.

15. Progress report on implementation of the performance-based allocation system

Document GC 35/L.11 will provide the Council, for its information, with the ninth progress report on the implementation of the performance-based allocation system for IFAD, which was approved by the Executive Board in September 2003.

16. Other business

Under this item, the Governing Council will consider any additional matters not included in the provisional agenda that may be proposed by members of the Council and/or the Secretariat.

Draft programme of events for the thirty-fifth session of the Governing Council

1. In the context of the upcoming RIO+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, to be held from 4-6 June 2012, the thirty-fifth session of IFAD's Governing Council will be centred around the overarching theme "*Sustainable smallholder agriculture: Feeding the world, protecting the planet*".
2. The first day of IFAD's 2012 Governing Council will open discussions on the centrality of smallholder agriculture to sustainable development and the green economy. Speakers and panellists will address the most pressing challenges in adopting evergreen approaches to smallholder agriculture. They will also highlight successful examples of new approaches and green technologies which are already changing the way smallholder farming is practiced and beginning to tackle issues such as environmental degradation, diminishing natural resource bases and climate change. In this regard, a number of consecutive events will be held during the Governing Council. They will also discuss specific regional initiatives, approaches, challenges and opportunities. A number of eminent people have been invited to take part in the discussion, and contacts have been made with their respective organizations and offices with a view to ensuring their participation.
3. The second day of the Governing Council will focus on finding concrete institutional solutions and specific policy proposals to adopt evergreen approaches to farming. Policymakers have access to a range of tools to help create a supportive enabling environment and to unleash the potential of smallholder producers to build sustainable livelihoods while helping the world protect natural resources and mitigate climate change.
4. A draft programme of events is provided, with a preliminary timetable for the proposed schedule of work. It encompasses the formal items as set out in the provisional agenda for consideration by the Governing Council, and the panel discussions and other events. The timetable seeks to allow sufficient time to handle the formal agenda, while maximizing opportunities for interactive dialogue on substantive issues related to the activities of the Fund.
5. The timetable is to be considered a work-in-progress and subject to change as confirmation of attendance is received.

Draft programme of events

Wednesday, 22 February 2012

Morning session 9 a.m. to 1.30 p.m.

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| 9 a.m. to 9.45 a.m. | Inaugural ceremony |
| 9.45 a.m. to 11.45 a.m. | High-level panel discussion: " <i>Adopting sustainable approaches to smallholder agriculture</i> " (Technology permitting, the moderator will invite participants from the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to join in the panel discussion) |
| 11.45 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. | GC 35 th session – Agenda items |

Afternoon session 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

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| 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. | Centre-stage event. An interactive question-and-answer session with one high-level person being asked specific, focused and challenging questions by both a journalist/moderator and members of the audience on the Governing Council theme |
| 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. | Regional event on specific topics |
| 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. | Continuation of agenda items, including general statements |
| 7 p.m. | Reception for all delegates |

Thursday, 23 February 2012

Morning session 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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| 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. | General statements |
| 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. | Centre-stage event |
| 11 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. | High-level panel discussion with policy makers: " <i>Creating a supporting environment to unleash the potential of smallholder farmers</i> " |
| 12.45 p.m. to 1 p.m. | President's concluding remarks |
| 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. | Farewell lunch |