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Minutes of the Seventh Meeting of the Working Group on the Transition Framework

Note to Transition Framework Working Group members

Focal points:

Technical questions:

Ruth Farrant
Director
Financial Management Services Division
Tel.: +39 06 5459 2281
e-mail: r.farrant@ifad.org

Jill Armstrong
Director, a.i.
Operational Policy and Results Division
Tel.: +39 06 5459 2324
e-mail: j.armstrong@ifad.org

Lisandro Martin
Director
West and Central Africa Division
Tel.: +39 06 5459 2388
e-mail: lisandro.martin@ifad.org

Dispatch of documentation:

Deirdre McGrenra
Chief
Governing Bodies
Tel.: +39 06 5459 2374
e-mail: gb@ifad.org

Minutes of the Seventh Meeting of the Working Group on the Transition Framework

1. The seventh meeting of the Working Group on the Transition Framework (TFWG) was held on 10 December 2018; the discussions are summarized in this document.
2. As approved by Working Group members, the minutes will be shared with the Executive Board at its 126th session for information.

Agenda item 1: Opening of the meeting

3. The Chairperson welcomed members, observers and staff to the meeting.
4. Participants included Working Group members from Argentina (Chairperson), Cameroon, France, India (via videoconference), Italy, Kuwait and the United Kingdom. Executive Board observers present at the meeting included Angola, China, the Dominican Republic, Mexico, the Netherlands and Nigeria. IFAD was represented by the Associate Vice-President, Programme Management Department; Director, Financial Management Services Division; Director, West and Central Africa Division; Director, ad interim, Operational Policy and Results Division; the Secretary of IFAD; Senior Legal Counsel; and other staff.
5. Prior to the adoption of the agenda, the Chairperson informed members of a clarification requested by India relating to the effectiveness of the phasing-out/phasing-in mechanism. The Chair clarified that the mechanism would come into effect in during the Eleventh Replenishment of IFAD's Resources (IFAD11) period, once the Transition Framework was approved. It would apply to countries that are eligible for less concessional lending terms from IFAD11 onwards (i.e. that are subject to a change in financing terms from 2019). Therefore, it would not have retroactive effect from its approval date. Management proposed, and members agreed to, minor editorial changes to the Transition Framework document and related technical note on the phasing-out/phasing-in mechanism to clarify this. A seventh addendum to the Transition Framework document reflecting these changes would be posted for the 125th session of the Executive Board.
6. The representative for India would provide additional comments on the Transition Framework during the forthcoming Executive Board session.

Agenda item 2: Adoption of the agenda

7. The provisional agenda, document TFWG 2018/7/W.P.1, contained the following items: (i) Opening of the meeting; (ii) Adoption of the agenda; (iii) Transition Framework – Post phase II (Terms of Reference of the Working Group on the Transition Framework); and (iv) Other business.
8. The Working Group adopted the agenda, including a proposal to consider suggested dates for meetings of the Working Group in 2019.

Agenda item 3: Transition Framework – Post phase II (Terms of Reference of the Working Group on the Transition Framework)

9. The Chairperson presented a proposal for the post-phase II period, based on a written note that had earlier been shared with members via e-mail.
10. The Working Group welcomed the proposal, which foresees the Working Group continuing its work in line with its mandate as described in paragraph 8 of its Terms of Reference.
11. Members also welcomed the idea of working closely with other working groups and subcommittees of the Executive Board. It was agreed that the modalities of collaboration would be discussed in 2019, once the Working Group had a clearer picture of its work schedule.

Agenda item 4: Other business

12. Under other business, the Secretary of IFAD noted that tentative dates had been identified for the Working Group meetings in 2019, pending the feedback of the Executive Board on the process for post phase II. These dates were: 29 March, 18 June, 3 September, 7 October and 29 November 2019.
13. One member requested that, in the interests of efficiency, meetings be scheduled as close as possible to Executive Board sessions. To accommodate this request, the Secretariat would identify other dates and share these with members of the Working Group for their approval.