

**MEETING OF THE FAO COUNCIL,
IFAD EXECUTIVE BOARD AND WFP EXECUTIVE BOARD
Friday, 14 February
IFAD Headquarters, Rome**

NOTE

1. **Background:** Within the context of the United Nations efforts to promote a more effective and efficient United Nations system, the ongoing collaboration between the Rome-based agencies (RBAs) – the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the World Food Programme (WFP) – is of particular significance in achieving the objectives of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This is because, inter alia, the RBAs' complementary mandates and areas of expertise in the food and agriculture sector are at the core of achieving the SDGs, in particular SDGs 1 and 2.
2. **Objectives:** Against this backdrop, Member States' representatives called upon the three RBAs to organize a joint informal meeting of the FAO Council and the Executive Boards of IFAD and WFP. The broad aim was to exchange insights on RBA collaboration and discuss issues of common concern to the three organizations across Memberships and with the principals of the RBAs.
3. **Past meetings:** The First Joint Informal Meeting took place at FAO headquarters in September 2017, and the second was hosted by IFAD. These meetings were appreciated by both the Member States and the Management of the RBAs. It was agreed that further such meetings would be held on an annual basis. It was also agreed that such events should be hosted on a rotational basis by the RBAs and chaired by the Chair/President of the respective Council/Executive Boards.
4. **Host, chair, date and venue of the 2025 meeting:** IFAD will host the Eighth Joint Informal Meeting on Friday, 14 February, at IFAD headquarters. Building on the feedback of Member States at the seventh joint meeting and from subsequent conversations and consultations, the eighth joint meeting will be a half-day event focused on strategic topics and interactive dialogue across the three governing bodies, the respective Memberships and Management, and with the principals of the RBAs. While past joint meetings were generally held in the latter part of the year, the Eighth Joint Informal Meeting has purposefully been scheduled in early 2025 to allow Membership and Management to have strategic discussions with a forward-looking focus.
5. The **Chairperson of the IFAD Executive Board and President of IFAD** will chair the overall meeting, while specific segments will be chaired by the **Independent Chairperson of the FAO Council** and the **President of the WFP Executive Board**. The interactive segments will involve active discussions with the Membership and Management of the RBAs.

6. **Structure and topics for the meeting:** The proposed agenda aims to provide space for informal interaction among participants. Two priority items for discussion have emerged from feedback, conversations and consultations with Member States, the governing body Chairs/Presidents and Management for 2025: first, to focus on the RBAs and the humanitarian-development-peace (HDP) nexus, and second, to provide an opportunity for reflections on how the RBAs can accelerate the achievement of the 2030 Agenda in the current global context through initiatives such as the G20 Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty.
7. The President of the Executive Board of WFP will moderate and chair the segment on the RBAs and the HDP. The segment will begin with a moderated panel of Member States and RBA representatives, followed by interactive discussions with the floor.
8. The Independent Chairperson of the FAO Council will moderate and chair the segment on reflections on how the RBAs can accelerate the achievement of the 2030 Agenda in the current global context. The segment will open with a briefing on the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty by the 2024 and 2025 G20 Presidencies. This will be followed by an interactive discussion with the floor, including reflections by the RBAs.
9. The 2024 RBA Award of Excellence will be presented jointly by the Director-General of FAO, the President of IFAD and the Executive Director of WFP on Thursday, 13 February, at the forty-eighth session of the IFAD Governing Council.

Proposed provisional agenda:

Time	Item
08:30 – 9:00	Welcome coffee
09:00 – 9:30	Introduction Welcome and opening remarks by the Chairperson of the IFAD Executive Board and President of IFAD Statement by the Director-General of FAO Statement by the Executive Director of WFP <i>Video of the 2024 RBA Award of Excellence</i>
9:30 – 11:00	The RBAs and the humanitarian-development-peace nexus Chair/Moderator: Her Excellency Elissa Golberg, President of the Executive Board of WFP Panellists: His Excellency Andreas von Brandt, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany His Excellency Ngor Ndiaye, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Senegal Carl Skau, Deputy Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer, WFP Gérardine Mukeshimana, Vice-President of IFAD Maurizio Martina, Deputy Director-General, FAO Discussion <i>Member States and the RBAs will have the opportunity to exchange ideas on how the three agencies can best work along the nexus, building on lessons learned so far, and considering the changing environment.</i>
11:00 – 11:15	PAUSE
11:15 – 12:45	How can the RBAs accelerate the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: Reflections on the RBAs' effectiveness in the current global context Chair/Moderator: His Excellency Hans Hoogeveen, Independent Chairperson of the FAO Council Quick brief on the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty: Her Excellency Carla B. Carneiro, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Federative Republic of Brazil – G20 Presidency for 2024 Her Excellency Nosipho N.J. Jezile, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Republic of South Africa – G20 Presidency for 2025 Discussion <i>This segment kicks off with the G20 Presidencies introducing the latest on the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty, within the broader context of how the RBAs can accelerate the achievement of the 2030 Agenda. It is an opportunity for reflections on the RBAs' effectiveness in the current global context, building on lessons learned and considering the changing environment.</i> Responses: Maximo Torero, Chief Economist, FAO Donal Brown, Associate Vice-President, Department for Country Operations, IFAD Rania Dagash-Kamara, Assistant Executive Director, Partnerships and Innovation, WFP
12:45 – 13:00	Closing Closing remarks by the Chairperson of the IFAD Executive Board and President of IFAD
13:00 – 14:00	Refreshments