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Programme
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Food
Programme

Programa
Mundial
de Alimentos

**Executive Board
First Regular Session**

Rome, 21 - 23 January 1997

WORKING METHODS AND PROCEDURES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

**NOTE BY THE BUREAU OF THE
EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Supplementary proposals

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The proposals listed below have arisen from the Board's discussions on the programme of work for 1997 and the lessons learned from the Third Regular Session of 1996.

Types of fora

1. In addition to paragraphs 26 and 27 of United Nations General Assembly resolution 48/162, which stipulate that the Executive Boards of the United Nations Funds and Programmes meet in an annual session at such a time as they determine and hold regular sessions between the annual sessions, the Board agreed at its Third Regular Session of 1996 to meetings of Member States in the following fora, with a view to enhancing efficient and effective governance:
 - a) Formal Executive Board sessions, to focus on issues requiring decisions, policy guidance and/or recommendations, and matters on which the Board has requested WFP to provide documents for its consideration. These comprise:
 - i) one annual session;
 - ii) regular sessions; and
 - iii) resumed and/or ad hoc session of the Board.
 - b) Consultations on resources: these meetings would take place in principle twice a year, on the last day of the annual and of the third regular sessions of the Board in a given year.
 - c) Open-ended information meetings, scheduled prior to each session of the Board and at least two weeks before that session. These meetings are convened by the Bureau of the Executive Board in consultation with the Secretariat in order to provide a briefing on those agenda items that require policy guidance and/or decision-making.
 - d) Meetings of the Executive Board's working groups: the Board may establish ad hoc or open-ended working groups, as and when it deems necessary, to deal with specific issues. The Board, in consultation with the Secretariat, may authorize such working groups to meet between sessions.

Annual programme of work of the Executive Board

2. At its Third Regular Session of 1996, the Executive Board decided as a general principle that the programme of work for the following year - together with the sequence and tentative schedule of sessions, pre-session briefings and of its working groups (if any were established) - would be approved at its last regular session each year.

Agenda and documentation

3. The Bureau of the Executive Board, in consultation with the Executive Director, may amend the provisional agendas for the forthcoming sessions provided in the programme of work for the subsequent year.



Conduct of business during a debate

4. In addition to the powers conferred upon him/her by the Rules of Procedure, during the debate on an agenda item the President may propose to the Board the closure of the list of speakers, a limitation on the time to be allowed to representatives (in any case not to exceed five minutes) and to the Secretariat for providing answers/clarification. The President may also decide on the number of times the representative of each member of the Board may speak on any question. The debate shall be confined to the question before the Executive Board, and the President may call a speaker (representative or Secretariat staff member) to order if his/her remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.



