



United Nations

ICCD/COP(10)/INF.5



Convention to Combat Desertification

Distr.: General
3 August 2011

English only

Conference of the Parties

Tenth session

Changwon, Republic of Korea, 10–21 October 2011

Item 8 (b) of the provisional agenda

Follow-up to the assessment of the Global Mechanism by the Joint Inspection Unit

Evaluation of existing and potential reporting, accountability and institutional arrangements for the Global Mechanism

The response of the International Fund for Agricultural Development

Summary

The present document contains the response of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to the assessment of the Global Mechanism. Please note that this document is published as received from IFAD and without further editing.



Enabling poor rural people to overcome poverty
Œuvrer pour que les populations rurales pauvres se libèrent de la pauvreté
Dar a la población rural pobre la oportunidad de salir de la pobreza
تمكين السكان الريفيين الفقراء من التغلب على الفقر

11 April 2011

Dear Mr Gnacadija,

I refer to your letter of 18 March 2011 to Dr. Rodney Cooke concerning the assessment of the Global Mechanism (GM), and I apologize for the delay in providing you with a response.

With respect to your request that IFAD provide a “management response” to the assessment, I would like to point out that Dr. Cooke spoke to the session of the COP Bureau on 20 February 2011, providing IFAD’s general views on the issues raised in the course of the assessment. A written summary of IFAD views was also submitted to the COP Bureau at that time. Because IFAD is not the “management” of the GM, we do not feel that it would be appropriate to develop a more detailed response to what is essentially an internal working document of the COP.

As we have stated before, IFAD is ready to support the changes which the COP may choose to make with respect to the organization of the GM. There can be no doubt that the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which currently governs the relationship between IFAD and the GM is out of date and needs to be reformulated. Based upon the approach chosen by the COP, IFAD is ready to discuss a new working relationship, founded on two basic principles: The first is the idea that the GM is an organ of the COP, and that IFAD’s role is that of a host, without accountability or responsibility for the acts of the GM. IFAD would however agree to the GM moving physically to another location, if the COP were to so decide. The second key principle is that there should be no cost or liability to IFAD associated with its role as host of the GM.

IFAD believes that its relationship with the GM can be a synergistic and mutually-beneficial one, within the context of the principles set forth above. We are therefore ready to discuss a revised MOU as soon as the COP has decided on the direction it will take with respect to the GM in the future.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rutzel Silvestre J. Martha".

Rutzel Silvestre J. Martha
General Counsel

Mr Luc Gnacadja
Executive Secretary
UNCCD Secretariat
Bonn