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# International Fund for Agricultural Development and

# Rwanda

Headquaters Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Rwanda and the International Fund for Agricultural Development on the establishment of the IFAD's country office. Kigali, 9 December 2009, and Rome, 20 March 2010

**Entry into force:** 20 March 2010 by signature, in accordance with article XIV

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# Fonds international de développement agricole et

# Rwanda

Accord de siège entre le Gouvernement de la République du Rwanda et le Fonds international de développement agricole relatif à l'établissement du bureau de pays du FIDA. Kigali, 9 décembre 2009, et Rome, 20 mars 2010

Entrée en vigueur : 20 mars 2010 par signature, conformément à l'article XIV

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# [ ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS ]

HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF RWANDA AND THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE IFAD'S COUNTRY OFFICE

WHEREAS the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), a Specialised Agency of the United Nations Organisation, wishes to establish a Country Office in the Republic of Rwanda to support its operation, including supervision of projects: consolidate its cooperation and linkages; be close to its partners and programmes; and manage knowledge; and the Government of the Republic of Rwanda agrees to permit the establishment of such an office.

WHEREAS the Republic of Rwanda acceded on 15 April 1964 to the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialised Agencies.

WHEREAS the Republic of Rwanda signed 10 May 1977 and ratified on 29 November 1977 the Agreement Establishing IFAD

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Government of the Republic of Rwanda and IFAD hereby agree as follows:

## Article I

#### DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Agreement:

- (a) "Government" means the Government of the Republic of Rwanda;
- (b) "the Fund" or "IFAD" means the International Fund for Agricultural Development;
- (c) "Office" means the International Fund for Agricultural Development's Country Office located in the Republic of Rwanda;
- (d) "IFAD officials" means the Country Representative and all other officials as specified by IFAD in accordance with Article VI, Section 18 of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies, 1947.

#### Article II

## JURIDICIAL PERSONALITY OF THE FUND

- The Government recognizes the juridical personality of the Fund, and in particular its capacity:
  - (i) to contract;
  - (ii) to acquire and dispose of movable and immovable property and
  - (iii) to be a party to juridical proceedings.
- The Government shall permit the Fund to purchase or rent premises to serve as its Office.
- The Office shall be authorised to display the emblem of the Fund on its premises and vehicles.

# Article III

#### INVIOLABILITY OF THE OFFICE

- The property and assets of the Office, wherever located and by whomsoever held, shall be immune from search, requisition, confiscation, expropriation and any other form of interference, whether by executive, administrative, judicial or legislative action.
- The archives of the Office, and in general all documents belonging to it or held by it, shall be inviolable, wherever located.
- 3. The Office and its property and assets, wherever located and by whomsoever held, shall enjoy immunity from every form of legal process except in so far as in any particular case the Fund has expressly waived its immunity. No wniver of immunity shall extend to any measure of execution.
- The Office should not allow its premises to serve as a refuge for any person wanted for a criminal offence or in respect of whom a warrant, conviction or expulsion order has been issued by the competent authorities of the Republic of Rwanda.
- 5. The authorities, officials and agents the Republic of Rwanda shall not enter the Office in an official capacity unless at the request or with the authorisation of the Office, granted by the Country Representative or his or her delegate. In the event of force majeure, fire or any other calamity requiring urgent measures of protection, the consent of the Country Representative or his or her representative shall be considered to have been given. However, if requested

by the Country Representative, any person who has entered the Office with his or her presumed consent shall leave the Office immediately.

- The competent authorities of the Republic of Rwanda shall, to the extent
  possible, take all necessary measures to protect the Office against any
  intrusion or damage, to ensure that their tranquillity is not disturbed and to
  preserve their dignity.
- The residences of IFAD's officials who are not citizens or permanent residents
  of the Republic of Rwanda shall be entitled to the same inviolability and
  protection as the Office.

#### Article IV

## **PUBLIC SERVICES**

- The Government undertakes to assist the Office as far as possible in obtaining and making available where applicable the necessary public services on equitable terms. The Office shall bear the costs of these services.
- 2. In the case of interruption or threatened interruption of any such services, the competent authorities shall consider the Office's need for such services as important as that of any other international organisation and shall therefore take the necessary measures to ensure that the Office's activities are not impaired by such a situation.

#### Article V

# COMMUNICATIONS

The Office's communications small enjoy protection under the conditions and limitations defined in section 11 and 12 of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialised Agencies.

# Article VI

# TAX EXEMPTION

The Office, its assets, income and other property shall be exempt from:

(a) all direct and indirect taxes on goods directly imported or purchased locally by the organisation for its official use in the Republic of Rwanda, it being understood, however, that no claim of exemption will be made from taxes which are, in fact, no more than charges for public utility services;

- (b) Customs duties or other taxes. However, it is understood that the Office shall not be exempted from prohibitions or restrictions on imports and exports in respect of articles imported or exported by the Office for its official use. Articles imported under such exemption will not be sold in the Republic of Rwanda except under conditions agreed with the Government; and subject to compliance with such conditions as the Commissioner for Customs and Sales Tax may prescribe for the protection of revenue.
- (e) customs duties or other taxes on imports and exports in respect of its publications.

#### ARTICLE VII

#### FINANCIAL FACILITIES

- In connection with its official activities the Office may freely acquire currencies and funds, hold them, use the, and have accounts in the Republic of Rwanda in Rwanda Francs or any other currency and convert any currency held by it into any other currency.
- 2. The Office shall enjoy the same exchange facilities as other international organisations represented in the Republic of Rwanda.

# Article VIII

# SOCIAL SECURITY

Since IFAD's officials are covered by the Fund's social security scheme or a similar scheme, the Office shall not be required to contribute to any social security scheme in the Republic of Rwanda, and the Government shall not require any member of the Office covered by the Fund's scheme to join such a scheme. However, it is understood that IFAD shall be responsible to contribute for social security scheme for its employees who are not covered by the Fund's scheme.

## Article IX

ENTRY, TRAVEL AND SOJOURN