

## Interaction with Media

### Board Policy IV

*Adopted 07-10-13*

*It is important that the news media have appropriate access to IFAD activities and operations. Consistent with a desire to inform the public and robustly observe all applicable "sunshine" laws and procedures, the Board of Directors is anxious to communicate in a timely, accurate, credible, and consistent manner. The intent is to be as open and transparent as possible and ensure the free flow of information to the news media and the general public.*

- A. Official Spokesperson.** Unless otherwise stipulated, the official Point of Contact/Spokesperson for all media inquiries shall be the Chair of the IFAD Board. The chair will receive, analyze, and reply to inquiries on IFAD policies, programs, activities, and news trends.
- B. Additional Spokespersons.** The IFAD Board, may, by a simple majority vote, authorize others to speak on behalf of the Board either permanently or on a case-by-case basis. Typically this would be another board member with specialized knowledge.
- C. IFAD Board Employees.** Board employees may clarify routine board administrative practices or provide public information such as calendar and meeting items.
- D. "Private Citizen" Communications.** IFAD Board members wishing to speak with the news media as private citizens or candidates are always free to do so, provided that their remarks are prefaced with the following disclaimer or something similar: "I am speaking not as an IFAD Board Member, but as a private citizen."
- E. Written Communications.** The preparation of written communications, such as press releases, shall be completed by assignment, with the final product being subject to review by the Board Chair.
- F. Communication and Coordination.** Whenever practical, the Board Chair will report on or circulate the nature of any media contact with other board members to facilitate general awareness. The IFAD Board Chair shall also make all IFAD partners in the development, construction, and operation of the Idaho Falls Event Center aware of this policy as needed. While IFAD

partners are not be bound by this policy, the desire for coordination and the sharing of information requires good communication practices.

**G. Confidentiality.** Matters of a sensitive or proprietary nature, as well as those matters discussed in Executive Sessions, shall not be discussed or shared with the news media or any persons outside of the Board except as directed by legal counsel or by an express action of the Board.