
MINUTES

**ICA Sub-Committee for Agriculture & Trade
Trade Promotion Group
Fisheries Group**

Sixth Meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee for
Agriculture and Trade

Second Meeting of the Trade Promotion Group
Second Meeting of the Fisheries Group

Venue Perth, Western Australia

Dates November 1-2, 1971

**International Cooperative Alliance, Regional Office
& Education Centre for South-East Asia,
43 Friends Colony, New Delhi-14, India**

December 27, 1971

Minutes of the Sixth Meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee
for Agriculture and Trade held at Perth, Western Australia
on November 1 and 2, 1971.

The sixth meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee for
Agriculture and Trade for South-East Asia was held in Perth
on 1st and 2nd November, 1971 in the office of the Cooperative
Bulk Handling Limited, Perth. The following were present :

Members :

Mr I Hunter, Australia
Mr K W Devanayagam, Ceylon
Mr M Chaudhary, India
Mr G H Azadi, Iran
Mr H Yanagida, Japan
Mr N A Kularajah, Malaysia
Mr B P Faustino, Philippines
Mr Ahmed Mian Soomro, Pakistan

Special Invitees :

Mr R G Tiwari, Member, AC, India
Mr Eddiwan, Member, AC, Indonesia
Mr Mak Kam Heng, Member, AC, Singapore
Dr Suthee Singhasane, Alternative Member,
AC, Thailand
Mr M J Lane, General Manager,
Cooperative Bulk Handling Limited, Perth and
President-Elect Cooperative Federation of
Australia
Mr W W Rawlinson, Secretary,
Cooperative Federation of Australia
Mr H Togawa, Managing Director, IDACA, Japan

I.C.A.

Mr P.E. Weeraman, Regional Director for
South-East Asia
Mr J.M. Rana, Director (Education), Regional
Office and Education Centre
Mr M.V. Madane, Joint Director, TA&T -
Regional Office & Secretary of the Sub-Committee

In attendance :

Mr Shiro Futagami, Central Union of
Agricultural Cooperatives, Japan
Mr A.H. Ganesan, P.A. to Regional Director

Mr H. Yanagida, Chairman of the Sub-Committee presided
over the meeting.

At the outset Mr Irwin Hunter, Member for Australia, in a brief speech welcomed the Chairman and members of the Sub-Committee to Australia and introduced the office bearers of the Cooperative Federations of Australia and Western Australia and of the Cooperative Bulk Handling Limited, Perth who were present by special invitation.

Mr M.J. Lane, General Manager of the Cooperative Bulk Handling Limited and President-elect of the Cooperative Federation of Australia, extended a hearty welcome to the delegates attending the Sub-Committee meeting on his own behalf and on behalf of the President of the Cooperative Federation of Australia, Mr W Kidston, who could not be present due to other engagements.

Mr Clayton, while welcoming the delegates on behalf of the Cooperative Federation of Western Australia, stressed the need of greater collaboration between Australia and other countries in the South-East Asian Region. He felt that the old and traditional links which Australia had with the outside world were gradually weakening owing to developments such as Great Britain's entry into the European Common Market and it was necessary for Australia to identify herself with the countries of this part of the world.

The Regional Director of the ICA, Mr P.E. Weeraman, thanked Messrs Lane, Clayton and Hunter for their warm welcome. He congratulated Mr Lane on his election to the high office of President of the Cooperative Federation of Australia. He thanked the Cooperative Federations of Australia and of the States of Western Australia, Victoria and New South Wales for the assistance given by them to the ICA in respect of the meetings scheduled to be held in Australia and for taking care of not only the local costs of all the delegates and the ICA staff but also for paying the additional part of the international travel expenses that the ICA had to incur on transporting the members from their countries to distant Australia. The Regional Director welcomed the new member of the Sub-Committee for India, Mr Motilal Choudhary, to the meeting. He also welcomed Mr Azadi, the Member for Iran, who attended the Sub-Committee meeting for the first time since his nomination to the Sub-Committee. He congratulated the Dewan Koperasi Indonesia and the Cooperative League of Thailand on their admission to the ICA membership and welcomed their representatives to the meeting. The Regional Director thanked the special invitees for accepting the ICA's invitation to them to attend the Sub-Committee meeting.

In his opening remarks the Chairman of the Sub-Committee, Mr Yanagida, thanked the Cooperative Federation of Australia and other organisations for the excellent arrangements that had been made for the meeting of the Sub-Committee and for their generous hospitality. He was grateful for the support extended by the Cooperative Federation of Australia, the Cooperative Bulk Handling Ltd. to hold the meetings of the

Sub-Committee and its subsidiary groups for the first time in Australia. The Chairman also expressed his high appreciation of the contribution made by Mr V.N. Puri, the former Member for India and ex-Member of the ICA Executive Committee, to the deliberations and the work programmes of the Sub-Committee. He extended a warm welcome to the new members of the Sub-Committee.

The Chairman made a few remarks concerning recent international developments and the significance of the current meeting in Australia. He felt that this was the most opportune moment for holding the meeting in Australia in view of the fact that Australian economic relations with other countries of the region are continuously on the increase. Mr Yanagida made special mention of the serious problems faced in the field of international trade owing to the tariff barriers imposed by the United States and other countries and because of the current Dollar problem. He added that there was still a great disparity, even in a developed country like Japan, between industrial income and agricultural income and efforts will have to be made to bridge this gap. As agricultural products have to be competitive in the international markets, serious efforts will have to be made to improve productivity and the marketing ability of the producers. He added that Australia, as a developed movement, could play a very important role in assisting the cooperative movements of the other countries of the Region.

The meeting then took up for consideration the various items on the Agenda. The following business was transacted.

Agenda Item No. I : Confirmation of the minutes of the last meeting of the Sub-Committee held at New Delhi on February 15-16, 1971.

The minutes of the fifth meeting which were circulated in advance among the members were confirmed.

Agenda Item No. II : Matters arising from the Minutes of the last meeting.

While reviewing the follow-up action taken on the minutes of the last meeting, the following comments and suggestions were made,

Members of the Sub-Committee desired the early preparation of a paper on Multi-purpose Cooperatives in the Region. It was explained by the Regional Director that he had decided that the paper could be written better after hearing the views and recommendations of the forthcoming Regional Seminar on Multi-purpose Cooperatives due to be held in Japan in May 1972. The members agreed with the suggestion that the paper could be prepared after the Regional Seminar. A suggestion was made that

for the purpose of this paper large Multi-purpose cooperatives like the WESTFARMERS in Australia should be included in the Study. It was also suggested that the paper should be as comprehensive as possible and should deal with all types of cooperatives which function as multi-purpose cooperatives although some of them may not be named as such. The consensus was that the multi purpose concept should be the subject of study in this paper.

2. The Member for Iran informed the Sub-Committee that Iran's contribution for 1970-71 to the Regional Office as subscription for the Sub-Committee had already been remitted by the Central Organisation for Rural Cooperatives of Iran (CORC). The Sub-Committee requested the member-countries which had not so far paid the contribution to do so at an early date.

3. Members of the Sub-Committee requested the Regional Office to publish the final report of the First Survey covering India, Indonesia and Australia at an early date.

4. Members of the Sub-Committee noted with appreciation the information given them that a further contribution of four million Yen (equivalent to US\$1,250,00 had been made by the Japanese Agricultural Cooperative Movement to the ICA Development Fund. The Committee was also informed of the ICA's contribution of US\$6,250,00 to the Regional Office Agricultural Marketing Survey account with the Bank of Tokyo in Japan as the second and final instalment of the contribution of US\$12,500 promised by the ICA for the Survey of Cooperative Agricultural Marketing Projects in South-East Asia.

Agenda Item No. III : Report on the meeting of the Agricultural Committee held at Bucharest, 4th October, 1971.

Mr Yanagida made an oral report of the discussions held at the last meeting of the ICA Agriculture Committee held at Bucharest on October 4, 1971. He regretted that owing to indisposition he could not attend the meeting and had deputed the Chief of the International Department of the Central Union to represent him.

2. Mr Yanagida informed the Sub-Committee that the main discussion at the Agricultural Committee centered around two problems, viz., the Open World Conference on the Role of Agricultural Cooperatives in Economic and Social Development to be held in Rome during May 1972 and the future role and functions of the Agricultural Committee. As regards the World Conference it has now been decided that the conference will be held between 22nd and 26th May, 1972 at the FAO Headquarters in Rome. There will be six main speakers introducing various topics covering the theme of the conference. The Chairman requested the members of the Sub-Committee to send him any suggestions and comments which they would like to be included in his introduction of the

Regional Paper to be presented on behalf of our Region. The preparation of the conference documentation is expected to be completed before February 1972 when the Committee is expected to meet in London.

3. Mr Yanagida informed the Sub-Committee that a paper entitled "Directions of activities of ICA Agricultural Committee" was circulated on behalf of the Japanese Agricultural Movement and briefly discussed at the Agricultural Committee. He invited members of the Sub-Committee to give their comments on the paper. Mr Yanagida pointed out that through this paper the Japanese Movement had tried to suggest ways and means by which the work of the Agricultural Committee could be made more effective. He had also drawn the attention of the Agricultural Committee to the work being done at present by the Sub-Committee for our Region with special reference to its role in strengthening international trade between cooperatives. Members of the Sub-Committee while commenting on Mr Yanagida's introduction emphasized the need for presenting at the Agricultural Committee the views of all the movements in the Region and not those of the Japanese movement only. Mr Yanagida agreed to the suggestion.

Agenda Item No. IV : Survey of Cooperative Agricultural Marketing Projects in South-East Asia.

Second Part of the Survey

The Joint Director, Technical Assistance and Trade and Leader of the second Study Team of the Survey briefly reviewed the projects that had been examined by the Study Team in Ceylon and the Republic of Korea. He also drew the attention of the Sub-Committee to the main recommendations of the Study Team for improving the marketing of agricultural commodities in these two countries. He informed the Sub-Committee that Iran which was to be included in the Second part of the Survey had requested the postponement of the visit of the Study Team till autumn 1972.

2. Members of the Sub-Committee, while appreciating the work done by the Study Team in Ceylon and the Republic of Korea, stressed the need of early implementation of the various recommendations made by the Team for improving cooperative marketing in Ceylon and the Republic of Korea. The areas which needed special attention by way of follow-up action were packaging, grading, seed production, market information and storage. The Sub-Committee requested the ICA and the national movements concerned to organise the necessary follow-up action.

Follow-up of the first part of the Survey

a) India

The Sub-Committee was informed that discussions were concerning the organisation of a project-

working in the projects surveyed by the first Study Team. The purpose of the Training Programme in IDACA during 1972 was to help the personnel working in the Solvent Extraction Plant in India and in the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation to get practical training in the areas connected with the export from India of raw material for animal feedstuffs and their utilization in Japan. The emphasis in this training programme would be on field training and very few days would be devoted to general introductions. The possibility of getting the international travel costs paid by the Government of Japan could not be explored owing to the problem of protocol. The costs of travel, therefore, will have to be equally shared by the ICA, the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives and the Indian Cooperative Movement.

The Member for India welcomed the proposal of organising a training programme for five Indians and offered to discuss the matter further with the Government of India with a view to getting a request made by the Government of India to the Government of Japan for providing the desired training. He added that in case such a request could not be sponsored by the Government of India the second alternative of meeting the international travel costs should be chosen, namely that the ICA, the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives of Japan and the Indian Cooperative Movement should each share one third of the total international travel costs. The local expenses of the trainees in Japan should be paid by IDACA. Members of the Sub-Committee emphasised the need of organising the training programme to suit the actual requirements of the trainees who are sent to Japan.

b) Indonesia

Members of the Sub-Committee noted with satisfaction the action taken by the Japanese Agricultural Cooperative Movement and the Government of Japan in providing training in IDACA to five executives working in the cooperatives of Indonesia during July 1971.

c) Australia

The Sub-Committee noted with appreciation the developments in the field of international trade as a result of the visit of the ICA Study Team to Australia during November 1970. The Committee was informed that as a result of the visit of the Study Team trade to the tune of \$5,000,000 had already taken place between the cooperatives in Australia and those in Japan.

Third part of the Survey

The Sub-Committee then discussed the plans for the third part of the survey to be conducted during 1972. According to the original proposal, the third part of the survey was to cover The Philippines, Pakistan, Iran and Malaysia. The Sub-Committee decided that Thailand should also be included as the alternative Member for Thailand requested the Sub-Committee to include his country in the Survey.

Members representing the countries to be covered by the survey during 1972 welcomed the making of the survey and emphasised the need for a flexible approach in selecting commodities for examination by the Study Team. It was, therefore, decided that the question of suggesting the commodities and the project areas should be left to the discretion of the country movements concerned. The survey, therefore, should not only cover raw material for feedstuffs but any other commodities which may be preferred by the member movements in these countries.

The selection of experts for serving on the Study Teams should be selected after holding preliminary discussions with the member movements in the countries concerned and after identification of the commodities to be surveyed. As five countries yet remain to be surveyed it was suggested that the survey should be carried out in two stages. The study teams should visit the countries at the convenience of the member movements. As the ICA Congress is to be held during autumn 1972, care should be taken to see that the period of the survey would not coincide with the dates of the Congress.

Members of the Sub-Committee stressed that only properly examined projects should be submitted to the ICA. This will facilitate the task of the Study Team in identifying areas for intensive development in the field of cooperative agricultural marketing.

Agenda Item No. V : Statistical Information of Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives in South-East Asia.

The Sub-Committee noted the collection of additional information by the Regional Office for bringing its statistical information upto date. Members emphasised the need for early compliance of the request sent by the Regional Office to the member movements for sending statistical information and data of the various developments that had taken place. It was felt that such information, if sent after the elapse of a certain period would lose its value as the data would then be obsolete.

Agenda Item No. VI : Third Asian International Trade Fair,
New Delhi.-----

The Sub-Committee endorsed the following decision of the Working Group for Trade Promotion concerning the participation of the Regional Office in the Third Asian International Trade Fair to be held in Delhi during November/December, 1972.

"The participation of the cooperatives of the Region in this fair was discussed in the context of the total world participation in the trade fair. It was felt that the impact that could be created by establishing a stall on behalf of the ICA would be very insignificant compared to the total effort made by trading organisations and governments from different parts of the world. The Group, therefore, decided not to participate in the trade fair."

Agenda Item No. VII : Technical Assistance and Trade in the
field of Agriculture-----

The information given in the agenda notes was noted by the Sub-Committee. Appreciation was expressed by the meeting of the work being done by the Regional Office for the promotion of international cooperative trade and of its efforts to secure technical assistance for the projects already submitted to the Regional Office by various movements in the Region.

Agenda Item No. VIII : Proposal for the establishment of an
Asian Cooperative Development Bank (ACDB)-----

The Sub-Committee decided to refer the proposal for establishing an Asian Cooperative Development Bank to the Advisory Council.

Agenda Item No. IX : World Conference on the Role of Agricultural
Cooperatives in Economic and Social
Development, Rome, May 1972.-----

Members of the Sub-Committee approved of the paper prepared by the Regional Office as a Regional Background Paper for the World Conference. It was decided that the paper should be submitted to the Conference with additional comments that may be received from member movements in the Region. It was also decided that member movements should send their comments to the Regional Office at the latest by December 15, 1971.

2. In addition to the problems discussed in the Regional Paper it was suggested that the work done at present by the Sub-Committee for promoting agricultural cooperation in general and international trade in particular should also be highlighted in the Regional Paper.

3. The Sub-Committee requested Mr Yanagida to introduce the regional paper on behalf of the Region highlighting the important developments and problems of agricultural cooperatives in this region. It was generally agreed that member-movements should be at liberty to present their own views at the Conference in their capacity as delegates of their respective national cooperative movements.

Agenda Item No. X : Any other matter with the permission
of the Chair.

1. Establishment of a Cooperative Trade Exchange

The Sub-Committee then discussed, the recommendation made by the Working Group for Trade Promotion for the establishment of a Cooperative Trade Exchange of the ICA. The Chairman of the Trade Promotion Group informed the Sub-Committee of the decision taken by the Group on the subject and added that the Group had suggested that the Trade Exchange be called "Cooperative Trade Promotion and Information Centre". After a lengthy discussion the Sub-Committee endorsed the following recommendations of the Trade Promotion Group on the subject.

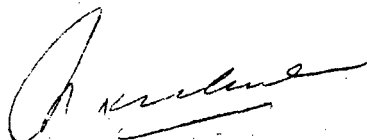
- i) that immediate steps be taken by the Regional Office to look into the proposal regarding the establishment of a Cooperative Trade Exchange of the ICA.
- ii) that simultaneously, efforts should be made to strengthen the trade promotion activities of the Regional Office.
- iii) that Singapore, Hong Kong and other important places in the Region should be considered as possible centres for locating a trade exchange. For this, information should be collected concerning the costs of hiring the premises, maintaining the staff and operating the Exchange.
- iv) that the emphasis should now be on active trade promotion work by the Regional Office.
- v) that the Regional Office should ascertain whether the trade exchange could be operated on a contributory basis by the cooperative trading organisations.
- vi) that each member organisation should be requested to formulate its own recommendations concerning the functioning of such an exchange. The member organisations should also be requested to formulate their own terms of reference for operating the centre. These recommendations and terms of reference should be sent to the ICA Regional Office not later than the 15th February, 1972.
- vii) that on the basis of information received from member organisations, the ICA Regional Office should write a

- viii) that while examining the proposal the feasibility of establishing a Regional Cooperative Marketing Organisation should also be examined.
- ix) that a final recommendation on the subject will be considered at the next meeting of the Working Group.

Agenda Item No. XI : Venue and date of the next meeting
of the Sub-Committee.-----

The Sub-Committee accepted the invitation of the alternative Member for Thailand of the Advisory Council to hold the next meeting of the Sub-Committee in Bangkok during November 1972 at the time of the Advisory Council Meeting.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair the meeting was closed.



M.V. Madane
Secretary, ICA Sub-Committee
for Agriculture and Trade

December 20, 1971

Minutes of the Second Meeting of the Trade Promotion Group of the ICA Sub-Committee for Agriculture and Trade for South-East Asia held on 1st November, 1971.

The second meeting of the Working Group for Trade Promotion of the ICA Sub-Committee for Agriculture and Trade for South-East Asia was held at Perth on 1st November, 1971 in the office of the Cooperative Bulk Handling Limited, Perth. The following were present :

Members

1. Mr Irwin Hunter, Chairman of the Group and Member for Australia.
2. Mr K.W. Devanayagam, Member for Ceylon
3. Mr Moti Lal Choudhary, Member for India
4. Mr Gholam Hossein Azadi, Member for Iran
5. Mr Eddiwan, representing Indonesia
6. Mr H. Yanagida, Member for Japan
7. Mr N.A. Kularajah, representing Malaysia
8. Mr B.P. Faustino, Member for the Philippines
9. Mr Ahmed Mian Soomro, Member for Pakistan

Special invitees

1. Mr H. Togawa, Japan
2. Dr Suthee Singhasane, Thailand
3. Mr Mak Kam Heng, Singapore

ICA Regional Office for South-East Asia

1. Mr P.E. Weeraman, Regional Director
2. Mr J.M. Rana, Director (Education)
3. Mr M.V. Madane, Joint Director (TA&T) and Secretary, Working Group for Trade Promotion

In attendance

1. Mr Shiro Futagami, Japan
2. Mr A.H. Ganesan, Personal Assistant to the Regional Director.

Mr Irwin Hunter, Member for Australia and Chairman of the Working Group, presided over the meeting.

Item No. I Confirmation of the Minutes of the last meeting of the Working Group for Trade Promotion held at New Delhi on February 16, 1971.

The minutes of the first meeting of the Group held on 16th February, 1971, in New Delhi, which were circulated earlier, were confirmed.

The Group decided to discuss agenda items II and IV together as they were closely related to one another.

Items No. II Trade Development and No. IV Cooperative Trade Exchange

Members of the Group noted with appreciation the efforts being made by the Regional Office in the field of trade development through exchange of information and documentation among the various cooperative trading organisations in the Region. It was also noted that as a result of the recently concluded Survey of Cooperative Agricultural Marketing Projects the process of trade development in some countries has been accelerated. However, the majority of the members felt that much more was needed to be done in this field if the cooperatives were to create any noticeable impact in the field of international trade. The private sector was still in a very dominant position with its exclusive channels of negotiation and communication.

The Group discussed at great length the possibilities of intensifying trade development work through the ICA Regional Office. It was felt that majority of the cooperative organisations in the Region were producers' organisations and as such there was a need to develop marketing outlets for their products. The emphasis, therefore, must shift from the exchange of information to the active promotion of international trade. The Chairman of the Group emphasised that the developed cooperatives in Australia and Japan were in a position to open their own branches and offices in different parts of the world to promote trade in their own products. However, the need for active assistance was greater in respect of the countries of the Region where the cooperatives were not in a position to establish such outlets with their own resources. It was, therefore, necessary for trade development efforts to be geared in future to the requirements of these movements.

The Chairman, while agreeing with the views expressed by the members, emphasised that this was the most opportune moment for initiating measures to accelerate the development of cooperative trade. The Survey that is being conducted by the Regional Office will also greatly facilitate the strengthening of trade development activity, he added. He, therefore, requested the Group to consider the establishment of a cooperative trade exchange in a suitable place in the Region. The Member for India

emphasised the need for coordinating our activities with that of the State Trading Corporations in several countries with a view to avoiding duplication of efforts in respect of certain commodities. He also emphasised that the ICA Regional Office should continue to obtain information on the trade agreements made between various countries in the Region in order to keep itself informed of the possibilities of trade by cooperatives under the general provisions of these agreements.

The Member for the Philippines mentioned that there were three degrees of trade promotion work, namely, exchange of trade information, active trade promotion or engaging in trade. It was necessary to decide which one of these activities are to be undertaken by the Regional Office. After a lengthy discussion it was decided that the Regional Office should take up the second line namely active trade promotion on behalf of the cooperatives in the Region.

The Member for Malaysia then recommended that a Cooperative Trade Exchange be established at Singapore and the staff involved in trade promotion activities at the Regional Office be moved to that place with a view to setting up an active trade promotion centre for the Region. He added that this Centre should deal with all products and should also provide buying facilities for European and other cooperatives which are already purchasing considerable quantities of goods in Singapore and other commercial centres. The suggestion was generally welcomed. However, it was felt that a detailed examination of the proposal would be necessary before making a final recommendation. The Member for Singapore, welcoming the proposal, felt that Singapore would be an ideal place for locating the Trade Exchange.

The Member for Japan stated that Japan was not against the proposal for establishing such a trade exchange. However, considerable information will have to be collected concerning the economic viability of the scheme with special reference to the commodities that are to be handled and the cost of operating the centre.

The Chairman of the Group then summarized the recommendations as follows:

- i. that immediate steps be taken by the Regional Office to look into the proposal regarding the establishment of a Cooperative Trade Exchange of the ICA.
- ii. that simultaneously, efforts should be made to strengthen the trade promotion activities of the Regional Office.
- iii. that Singapore, Hong Kong and other important places in the Region should be considered as possible centres for locating a trade exchange. For this, information should be collected concerning the costs of hiring the premises,

- iv. that the emphasis should now be on active trade promotion work by the Regional Office.
- v. that the Regional Office should ascertain whether the trade exchange could be operated on a contributory basis by the cooperative trading organisations.
- vi. that each member organisation should be requested to formulate its own recommendations concerning the functioning of such an exchange. The member organisations should also be requested to formulate their own terms of reference for operating the centre. These recommendations and terms of reference should be sent to the ICA Regional Office not later than the 15th February, 1972.
- vii. that on the basis of information received from member organisations, the ICA Regional Office should write a note on the subject and circularise it among the members of the Working Group,
- viii. that while examining the proposal the feasibility of establishing a Regional Cooperative Marketing Organisation should also be examined.
- ix. that a final recommendation on the subject will be considered at the next meeting of the Working Group.

Item III Follow-up of the recommendations of the Survey of Cooperative Agricultural Marketing Projects in South-East Asia - Part I

The Members of the Group noted with satisfaction the developments that were taking place in the field of international trade as a result of the marketing survey currently being conducted by the Regional Office. It was felt that the survey would help to establish a good basis for the intensive development of international trading activity by the Regional Office.

Item No. V Third Asian International Trade Fair

The Group discussed the proposal for participation in the Third Asian International Trade Fair to be held in New Delhi during November/December 1972. The participation of the cooperatives of the Region in this fair was discussed in the context of the total world participation in the trade fair. It was felt that the impact that could be created by establishing a stall on behalf of the ICA would be very insignificant compared to the total effort made by trading organisations and governments from different parts of the world. The Group, therefore, decided not to participate in the trade fair.

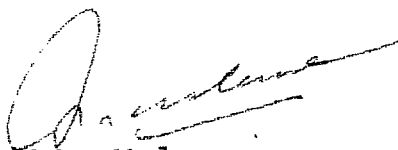
Item No. VI ICA Cooperative Trade Study

The Members of the Working Group welcomed the proposal of the ICA Head Office to initiate a Study of cooperative trade as a follow-up of the 24th ICA Congress resolution which had recommended that a report be prepared on the present position of trade development and its future prospects. The Group recommended that the cooperative trading organisations in the Region should provide as much information as possible to the Regional Office for finalizing the regional report.

Item No. VII Any other matter with the permission of the Chair

The Member for India suggested that ICA should collect and disseminate information concerning wool marketing. The Chairman assured the member that he would send whatever information was available concerning wool marketing in Australia.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair the meeting was closed.



M.V. Madane
Secretary, Working Group
for Trade Promotion

December 21, 1971

Minutes of the Second Meeting of the ICA Fishery Group of the ICA Sub-Committee for Agriculture & Trade for S-E Asia, held at Perth on Nov 2, 1971

The second meeting of the Fishery Group of the ICA Sub-Committee for Agriculture and Trade for South-East Asia was held at Perth, Western Australia on Tuesday the 2nd November, 1971 in the office of the Cooperative Bulk Handling Limited, Western Australia.

The following were present :

Members

1. Mr Irwin Hunter, Member for Australia
2. Mr K.T. Devanayagam, Member for Ceylon
3. Mr Motilal Choudhary, India
4. Mr Gholam Hossein Azadi, Member for Iran
5. Mr H. Yanagida, Member for Japan
6. Mr N.A. Kularajah, Member for Malaysia
7. Mr B.P. Faustino, Member for the Philippines
8. Mr Ahmed Mian Soomro, Member for Pakistan
9. Mr Mak Kam Heng representing Singapore
10. Mr Eddiwan representing Indonesia
11. Dr Suthee Singhasaneh representing Thailand

Special invitee

1. Mr H. Togawa, Managing Director of IDACA, Japan

ICA Regional Office for South-East Asia

1. Mr P.E. Weeraman, Regional Director
2. Mr J.M. Rana, Director (Education)
3. Mr M.V. Madane, Joint Director (TA&T) and Secretary, Working Group for Fisheries.

In attendance

1. Mr Shiro Futagami, Japan
2. Mr A.H. Ganesan, Personal Assistant to the Regional Director, New Delhi.

Mr K.W. Devanayagam, Member for Ceylon and Chairman of the Group, presided over the meeting.

The Chairman of the Group welcomed the members to the meeting. He also extended a special word of welcome to the new member of the Fishery Group from Iran and Mr Eddiwan representing the new member of the ICA the Dewan Koperasi Indonesia.

Agenda Items

1. Confirmation of minutes

The minutes of the First meeting of the Fishery Group which was held at New Delhi on 15th February, 1971, circulated earlier, were confirmed.

2. Information on development of fisheries

The Members of the Group noted that information on the development of cooperative fisheries was being collected by the Regional Office. The Group recommended that the member-movements in the Region should assist the Regional Office in collecting this information by sending as much material and information as possible to the Regional Office on the development of fisheries in their respective countries.

3. FAO/SIDA Course on Fishery Management

The Group noted that the proposed FAO/SIDA Course on the Management of Fishery Cooperatives which was to be held at Bombay (India) in 1972 has since been postponed to 1973. The Group stressed the importance of organising Management Training Courses for the personnel of fishery cooperatives and suggested that developments in this regard be reported to the next meeting of the Sub-Group.

4. Assistance to Ceylon Cooperatives

The Group noted the assistance that is being extended to the Fishery cooperatives in Ceylon by the Cooperative Fisheries Movement of France at the instance of the Fisheries Sub-Committee of the ICA. The group was informed that a fishery expert from France was currently in Ceylon to study the conditions of fishery cooperatives and ascertain their requirements for development. The group was also informed that the proposal for establishing a fish canning plant had been abandoned and that the emphasis placed by the Government of Ceylon as well as by the Cooperative Federation of Ceylon was on the improvement of fishing methods and the development of facilities for better

fishing such as the improvement of boats and nets and the increase of storage capacity, transport, etc. The group expressed the hope that the visit of the French expert to Ceylon would result in the considerable improvement of fishing methods through the cooperative organisations in that country.

5. IBASEC

The Group welcomed the action of the Regional Office in circulating the additional information on IBASEC. It was not yet known what the exact constitution and functions of IBASEC would be and as such the members desired to be kept informed of future developments.

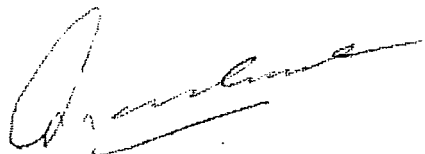
6. Emphasis on Marketing

The Group also discussed the problem of increasing the share of the fishery cooperatives in the marketing of fish. A suggestion was made that more emphasis should be given to inland fisheries as it was more economical than coastal fishing. The group emphasised that non-agricultural areas should receive greater attention in regard to the development of fisheries.

7. Discussion paper at the next meeting

The Members felt that the Fishery Group should address itself to some of the important problems faced by the Fishery cooperatives in the Region. With a view, therefore, to bringing about a meaningful discussion on some of these problems, it was decided that a paper be presented for discussion at the next meeting of the Group. It was later decided that Mr Eddiwan, Advisory Council Member for Indonesia, should prepare a paper on fishery cooperatives and present it at the next meeting of the Fishery Group.

8. With a vote of thanks to the Chair the meeting terminated.



M.V. Madane
Secretary, Working Group on
Fishery Cooperatives

ICA Sub-Committee for Agriculture & Trade
Trade Promotion Group
Fisheries Group

6th Meeting
2nd Meeting
2nd Meeting

Venue Perth, Australia

Dates 1-2 November, 1971

**International Cooperative Alliance, Regional Office
& Education Centre for South-East Asia,
43 Friends Colony, New Delhi-14, India**

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE
Regional Office & Education Centre
for South-East Asia, P.O. Box 3312
43 Friends' Colony, New Delhi-14, India

A/October 6, 1971

TERM : 1969 - 1972

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE FOR
AGRICULTURE & TRADE

1. AUSTRALIA Mr Irwin Hunter
Marketing Manager
Westralian Farmers Cooperative Limited
569 Wellington Street, PERTH
2. CEYLON ^S Mr K.W. Devanayagam (VICE CHAIRMAN)
Cooperative Federation of Ceylon
455 Galle Road, COLOMBO 3
3. INDIA Mr Motilal Chaudhary
Chairman
National Agricultural Cooperative
Marketing Federation Ltd. (NAFED)
D-44 NDSE Part II, New Delhi-49
4. IRAN Mr Gholam Hossein Azadi
Central Organisation for Rural Cooperatives
of Iran, Training & Guidance Department
357 Pahlavi Avenue, TEHERAN
5. JAPAN ^S Mr H. Yanagida (CHAIRMAN)
Executive Director
Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives
1-8-3, Ohtemachi, Chiyoda-ku, TOKYO
6. REP. OF KOREA Mr Dong Hoo Joh
Manager, Research Department
National Agricultural Cooperative Federation
75, 1st-ka, Choongjung-Ro, Sudaemoon-ku,
SEOUL
7. MALAYSIA ^S Mr N.A. Kularajah
President
Cooperative Union of Malaysia Ltd.,
29 Leboh Ampang, KUALA LUMPUR
8. PHILIPPINES ^S Mr B.P. Faustino
General Manager
Central Cooperative Exchange, Inc.
PO Box 1968, MANILA
9. PAKISTAN (WEST) Mr Ahmed Mian Soomro
Soomro Manzil, Shaheed Allah Bakhsh Road,
JACOBABAD

10. SINGAPORE Mr A.K. Isaac
Singapore Cooperative Union Ltd
PO Box 366
Singapore.1

Secretary Mr M.V. Madane
Joint Director (Technical Assistance &
Trade)
ICA RO & EC, New Delhi.

\$ Also Members of the ICA Advisory Council for South-East Asia

SIXTH MEETING OF THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURE & TRADE

PERTH (S.AUSTRALIA) : NOVEMBER 1-2, 1971

A G E N D A

- A. Welcome by Mr Irwin Hunter, Member for Australia.
- B. Remarks by Mr P.E. Weeraman, Regional Director for South-East Asia of the I.C.A.
-
- Item No. 1 Confirmation of the minutes of the last meeting of the Sub-Committee held at New Delhi on February 15-16, 1971.
- Item No. 2 Matters arising from the Minutes of the last meeting.
- Item No. 3 Report on the meeting of the Agricultural Committee held at Bucharest, 4th October, 1971.
- Item No. 4 Survey of Cooperative Agricultural Marketing Projects in South-East Asia.
- Item No. 5 Statistical information on Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives in South-East Asia.
- Item No. 6 Third Asian International Trade Fair, New Delhi.
- Item No. 7 Technical Assistance and Trade in the field of Agriculture.
- Item No. 8 Proposal for the establishment of an Asian Cooperative Development Bank (ACDB).
- Item No. 9 World Conference on the Role of Agricultural Cooperatives in Economic and Social Development, Rome, May 1972.
- Item No. 10 Any other matter with the permission of the Chair.
- Item No. 11 Venue and date of the next meeting of the Sub-Committee.

1

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING OF THE
SUB-COMMITTEE HELD AT NEW DELHI ON FEBRUARY 15-16, 1971

The Minutes of the Fifth Meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee for Agriculture and Trade held at New Delhi on February 15-16, 1971, were circulated and are submitted for confirmation. A copy of the Minutes is annexed hereto for ready reference.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

- 2.1 Paper on Multi-purpose Cooperatives in the Region (Para 11.1 of the last Minutes)

No action has so far been taken on the suggestion. It is proposed to prepare this paper after the proposed Regional Seminar on Multi-purpose Cooperatives is held in May 1972.

- 2.2 Contributions to the ICA Regional Office for the activities of the Sub-Committee (Para 11.3 of the last Minutes)

The Regional Office has so far received contributions from Australia, Iran, Japan, Malaysia, the Philippines and Singapore for the year 1969-70, and from Australia, India and Japan for 1970-71. Reminders have been sent during August 1971 to Iran, Malaysia and the Philippines to remit their contribution for 1970-71 and to Korea and West Pakistan for the years 1969-70 and 1970-71. As regards Ceylon, the ICA Head Office has authorised the Regional Office to open a bank account in Ceylon for depositing the contribution and retaining it there for possible future use by the ICA for some of its activities in Ceylon.

- 2.3 World Conference on the Role of Agricultural Cooperatives in Economic and Social Development to be held during May 1972. (Para 14 of the last Minutes)

A Regional paper on agricultural cooperatives has been prepared by the Regional Office and circulated among member movements. This paper will be submitted to the above Conference as a background paper.

- 2.4 Study of the Structural aspects of cooperatives in different countries (Para 14 of the last Minutes)

A brief note on the subject is given under Agenda Item No.9.

- 2.5 Checking of factual information contained in the Report of the first part of the Survey of Cooperative Agricultural Marketing Projects in South-East Asia (Para 15.2 of the last Minutes)

Relevant portions of the Survey Report were sent to the member-organisations in Australia, India and Indonesia for verifying the factual information given in the Report.

Australia and India have replied. Reminders have been sent to Indonesia.

- 2.6 Recommendations of the Study Team of the Second Part of the Survey of Cooperative Agricultural Marketing Projects in South-East Asia (para 16 of the minutes)

Important recommendations of the Study Team of the second part of the Survey conducted in Ceylon and the Republic of Korea during September/October 1971 will be placed before the meeting of the Sub-Committee in Perth.

- 2.7 Contribution of 4 million Yen by the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives, Japan, to the ICA Development Fund (para 19 of the minutes)

This contribution has been made to the ICA Development Fund by the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives of Japan with a request that the money be used for following up the recommendations of the Survey.

- 2.8 Circulation of the paper on "Review of Agricultural Cooperative Marketing in the Region" prepared by Mr Shiro Futagami of the Regional Office (para 21 of the minutes)

As desired by the Sub-Committee at its last meeting, the above paper prepared for the Top Level Conference has been circulated among the member movements in the Region.

- 2.9 Proposal for the establishment of an Asian Cooperative Development Bank (ACDB) (para 29 of the minutes)

Kindly see notes under agenda item No. 8

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3

REPORT ON THE MEETING OF THE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE
HELD AT BUCHAREST DURING OCTOBER 1971

An oral report on the meeting of the ICA Agriculture Committee will be made at the meeting, by the Chairman.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4SURVEY OF COOPERATIVE AGRICULTURAL MARKETING PROJECTS
IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA4.1 Schedule of second part of the Survey

As decided at the last meeting of the Sub-Committee, the second part of the Survey has been undertaken during September-October 1971 in respect of cooperative agricultural marketing projects in Ceylon and the Republic of Korea. Iran which was to be included in the Survey has requested postponement of the Survey till 1972.

The Regional Director has appointed the following Study Team for the second part of the Survey:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 1. Leader of the Study Team | Mr M.V. Madane,
Joint Director (Technical
Assistance and Trade)
ICA Regional Office
New Delhi. |
| 2. Member | Mr Russell Holyoak
Export Manager
Murray Goulburn Cooperative,
Melbourne (Victoria), Australia |
| 3. Member | Mr Yong Jin Kim,
Research Department
National Agricultural
Cooperative Federation,
Seoul,
Republic of Korea |

The Study Team was in Ceylon from September 19 to October 1, 1971, and then proceeded to the Republic of Korea where it will be from October 6 to 17, 1971. During these visits, the Study Team will examine all aspects of the cooperative marketing projects already submitted by the member-organisations to the ICA. Projects in Ceylon relate to the marketing of vegetables and fruits. The Korean projects deal with fruit marketing.

4.2 FOLLOW-UP ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIRST PART
OF THE SURVEY REPORT

The following follow-up action has been taken on the basis of the recommendations made by the first Study Team appointed for the Survey of projects in India and Indonesia.

INDIA: The Regional Office has suggested to the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation Ltd. (NAFED), New Delhi, to initiate the planning of cooperative projects on the basis of the recommendations made by the first Study Team. On the basis of the recommendations of the Study Team for the training of technical personnel, the Regional Office had informal consultations with the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives in Japan during June 1971. It was felt that a beginning could be made by carrying out a training programme for five technical officers in Japan through the IDACA during April 1972. The five technical officers should be drawn from among the existing solvent extraction plants in India and the offices of the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation Ltd. (NAFED). This programme will aim at the orientation of the trainees in the various business practices of the feedstuffs industry in Japan and their relationship to the importation of raw materials. The total period of the course will not exceed one month. It will be divided into theoretical training and on-the-job training. A major portion of the training period will be spent in field visits.

All the local costs of the course in Japan will be borne by the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives and the IDACA.

The question of the costs of international travel, is at present being discussed with NAFED and the Government of India.

INDONESIA: At the instance of the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives, the Government of Japan offered to the Government of Indonesia facilities for training five executives of the cooperative movement of Indonesia in cooperative marketing activities. The five Indonesian trainees have been selected by the Government of Indonesia from among those who are working in cooperatives which are connected with the East Java Maize Project. The training was given at IDACA from mid-July 1971 for a period of one month. Three weeks of this training were devoted to on-the-spot study. Costs which were not met by the Government of Japan were met by the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives of Japan.

4.3 THIRD PART OF THE SURVEY

The Sub-Committee at its last meeting held in New Delhi had suggested that the Third part of the Survey relating to animal feedstuffs raw material be conducted in early 1972. The countries ~~to be covered are~~ Malaysia, Pakistan and the Philippines. In addition, Iran, which could not be covered during the Second part of the survey, will have to be included in the Third part of the Survey. As time for making adequate preparations for the Third Survey is very short, it is suggested that the Third part of the Survey be postponed to the Autumn of 1972. This will enable adequate preparations to be made. It was also noticed during the First and Second parts of the Survey that Autumn is more suitable for surveys of agricultural operations.

AGENDA ITEM NO.5STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON AGRICULTURE AND AGRICULTURAL
COOPERATIVES IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA

This information has so far been received only from West Pakistan and Ceylon. Efforts are being made to collect as much additional information as possible to bring the statistics upto date.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6THIRD ASIAN INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR, NEW DELHI

The Government of India have recently announced their plans to hold the Third Asian International Trade Fair in cooperation with ECAFE of the United Nations at New Delhi from November 3 to December 17, 1972.

It will be recalled that the ICA participated in the Second Asian International Trade Fair held at Teheran (Iran) during October 1969 with the active support and collaboration of 12 cooperative organisations from the Region and one from Europe.

The total expenditure incurred by the ICA on its participation in the Second Fair amounted to Rs.33,000, out of which the participating organisations contributed Rs.13,500. each participating organisation making contribution of US\$150). The ICA had to heavily subsidize the costs incurred on the Second Fair, the deficit being Rs.19,500.

According to the tentative budget drawn up, the costs involved in participating in the Third Fair would amount to Rs.20,000 (US\$2,670 approximately). It is felt that ICA participation in the Third Fair should be made as self-financing as possible. For collecting the total amount of Rs.20,000 from cooperative trading organisations, at least 13 organisations will have to participate paying US\$200 each.

The proposal has been put before the Working Group for Trade Promotion. Members of the Sub-Committee may like to consider the recommendations of the Group on the subject.

AGENDA ITEM NO.7TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRADE IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURETECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The following is the present position of the agricultural project plans received in the Regional Office for exploring possibilities of technical assistance:

7.1 Bhor Dairy Project

All the machinery gifted by the West German Consumers Cooperative Congress as well as the indigenous machinery has been installed at the Dairy. The Dairy is now faced with a shortage of water due to severe drought conditions in that area. The Maharashtra State Cooperative Milk Federation and the Government of Maharashtra are jointly trying to solve the water problem, so that the dairy may be started in the current flush season. The Regional Office has taken up the question of extending the services of the Technical Manager deputed to the Union by the West German Cooperative Congress.

7.2 Consolidated Fruit Processing Plant, Republic of Korea

On the basis of the marketing feasibility study made by Mr Donald M. Taylor during November 1970, the Regional Office is at present exploring the possibility of securing financial support for the project through the good offices of Norges Kooperative Landsforening (NKL) of Norway.

7.3 Multi-Commodity Fruit & Vegetable Processing Unit of NAFED, India.

On the basis of the techno-economic feasibility study of the project, the Regional Office is exploring the possibilities of securing the required technical assistance. The matter is at present being informally discussed with the West German Consumers Cooperative Congress. The estimated amount of assistance required is around Rs.275,000.

7.4 Pineapple Canning Project, Ceylon

The Cooperative Federation of Ceylon informed the Regional Office during April 1971 that the question of setting up a cooperative pineapple canning factory has been postponed.

7.5 Fisheries Assistance Project in Ceylon

As reported at the last meeting, the proposal to start a fish canning factory has been abandoned. The Fisheries Cooperative Movement in France will be sending an expert to stay three weeks in Ceylon during November 1971 for the purpose of studying the present position of cooperative fisheries societies and to determine the nature and extent of technical assistance required for the improvement of the fishing industry.

TRADE

7.6 The Regional Office continued to function as a clearing house of market information. The following are some of the important activities undertaken to promote inter-cooperative trade in the Region.

7.7 Trade Information Bulletin

The "ICA TRADE NEWS" is being issued regularly as a monthly bulletin.

7.8 Trade Development

The Regional Office provided contacts to several cooperatives for starting trade relations in countries of the Region and outside. The follow-up action has not been reported by these organisations to the Regional Office and hence it is not possible to give any information on the outcome of these contacts.

7.9 The following are some of the important trade relations developed through the Regional Offices:

7.9.1 The National Federation of Industrial Cooperatives of India was provided with trade contacts in Nigeria and Ghana for the export of leather footwear and hosiery goods. The ICA was, however, unable to provide trade contacts in Libya, Sierra Leone, Aden, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain and Dubai as the ICA does not have any members in these countries.

7.9.2 The Chief Cooperatives Officer, Ministry of Economic Development, Cooperatives Division, Guyana, was provided with introductions to a number of cooperatives in countries of the Region for the import of a variety of consumer goods into Guyana. During June 1971, that Ministry had informed our Head Office that it was planning to establish a Cooperative Wholesale Society within a few months and was interested in establishing contact with suppliers abroad.

7.9.3 The S.K. District Cooperative Fish Marketing Federation Ltd., Mangalore (India) was provided with contacts for the export of marine products, such as canned sardines, shrimps and mackerel.

7.9.4 The Sepah Consumers Cooperative, Teheran (Iran), approached the Regional Office for providing it with cooperative contacts for the import of rice and pulses into Iran. The Regional Office addressed letters to cooperatives in Thailand, Philippines and India, and contact has since been established between the Sepah Society and cooperatives in the above countries.

7.9.5 The Northern Province Fishermen's Cooperative Societies Union, Jaffna, (Ceylon) approached the Regional Office requesting it to approach the West Bengal Small Industries Corporation, Calcutta (India), for the import of Ceylonese Chanks. After this had been done, the Fishermen's Society informed the Regional Office, that import of Chanks had been banned by the Government of India under its current licensing policy. This was checked by the Regional Office and found to be correct.

7.9.6 There is a current trade contract between ZENKOREN-UNICOOP JAPAN in Japan and NAFED in India for the supply of solvent extraction meal from India to Japan.

AGENDA ITEM No.8PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ASIAN COOPERATIVE
DEVELOPMENT BANK (ACDB)

As suggested by the Sub-Committee at its last meeting, **the Regional Office requested the Movements** in the Region to conduct feasibility studies from the point of view of their own countries concerning the proposal for the establishment of an Asian Cooperative Development Bank. The Regional Office prepared guidelines and sent them to the Movements for conducting such a feasibility study. Japan, Iran and Australia have responded to this request. A note based on the replies and studies received from the member-movements will be circulated at the time of the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9WORLD CONFERENCE ON THE ROLE OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES
IN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, ROME, MAY 1972.

A comprehensive Regional report has been prepared by the Regional Office on Agricultural Cooperation in South-East Asia. On the basis of the discussions on the report at the meeting of ICA Sub-Committee for Agriculture and Trade, a final report will be made and sent to London for circulation among the delegates attending the conference.

Structural aspects of cooperatives

During the discussion under Agenda Item No.5 at the last meeting relating to the World Conference, the members of the Sub-Committee stressed the need for conducting a study of the structural aspects of cooperatives in the different countries. It is suggested that the need for such a study be stressed by the representatives from the Region during the discussions at the Conference.

AGENDA ITEM No. 10ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIRAGENDA ITEM NO. 11VENUE AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE

No invitation has been received as yet in regard to the next meeting.

ICA Regional Office for
South-East Asia, PO Box 3312
New Delhi-14, India

M.V. Madane
Secretary, ICA Sub-Committee
for Agriculture and Trade

October 12, 1971.

SECOND MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP FOR TRADE PROMOTION

PERTH (W.AUSTRALIA) : NOVEMBER 1, 1971

PROGRAMME AND AGENDA

- Item No. I Confirmation of the Minutes of the last meeting of the Working Group for Trade Promotion held at New Delhi on February 16, 1971.
- Item No. II Trade Development.
- Item No. III Follow-up of the recommendations of the Survey of Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Projects in South-East Asia - Part I
- Item No. IV Proposal for the establishment of a Cooperative Trade Exchange.
- Item No. V Third Asian International Trade Fair.
- Item No. VI ICA Cooperative Trade Study.
- Item No. VII Any other matter with the permission of the Chair.
- Item No. VIII Date and venue of the next meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. I

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING OF THE
WORKING GROUP FOR TRADE PROMOTION HELD AT NEW DELHI
ON FEBRUARY 16, 1971.

The Minutes of the first meeting of the Working Group for Trade Promotion held at New Delhi on February 16, 1971, were circulated and are submitted for confirmation. A copy of the Minutes of the meeting held at New Delhi is annexed hereto.

AGENDA ITEM No.IITRADE DEVELOPMENT

The Regional Office continued to function as a clearing house of trade information. The following are some of the important activities undertaken to promote inter-cooperative trade in the Region:

1. Trade Information Bulletin

The Bulletin entitled "ICA TRADE NEWS" continued to be issued on a monthly basis.

2. Trade Development

The Regional Office provided contacts to several cooperatives for starting trade relations in countries of the Region and outside. The follow-up action has not been reported by these organisations to the Regional Office and hence it is not possible to give any details about the trade contracts entered into by them.

Following are some of the important trade contacts developed through the Regional Office:

1. The National Federation of Industrial Cooperatives, India were provided trade contacts in Nigeria and Ghana for the export of leather footwear and hosiery goods, as they wanted to depute one of their Assistant Managers to go on a tour of Middle East and some African countries. The ICA was, however, unable to provide trade contacts in Libya, Sierra Leone, Aden, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain and Dubai, as we have no member organisation in these countries. The proposed tour of the representative of the Federation was later postponed.

2. The Chief Cooperatives Officer, Ministry of Economic Development, Cooperatives Division, Guyana, was provided with introductions to a number of cooperatives in countries of the Region for the import of a variety of consumer goods into Guyana. During June 1971, the Ministry had informed the Head Office that they were planning to establish a Cooperative Wholesale Society within a few months and were interested in obtaining contacts with suppliers abroad.

3. The S.K. District Coop. Fish Marketing Federation Ltd., Mangalore (India) were provided contacts for export from India of marine products, such as canned sardines, shrimps and mackerel.

4. The Sepah Consumers Cooperative, Teheran (Iran), approached the Regional Office for providing them with cooperative contacts for the import of rice and pulses into Iran. The Regional Office addressed letters to cooperatives in Thailand, Philippines and India, and contacts have since been established between the Sepah Society and those in the above countries.

5. The Northern Province Fishermen's Cooperative Societies Union, Jaffna, (Ceylon) approached the Regional Office requesting that it approaches the West Bengal Small Industries Corporation, Calcutta (India), for the import of Ceylonese Chanks. After this had been done, the Fishermen's Society informed the Regional Office, that import of Chanks had been banned by the Government of India under its current licensing policy, which was checked by the Regional Office and found to be correct.

There is an ongoing trade contract between ZENKOREN-UNICOOJAPAN in Japan and NAFED in India for the supply of solvent extraction meal from India to Japan.

AGENDA ITEM NO. IIIFOLLOW-UP OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SURVEY OF
AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE MARKETING PROJECTS IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA -
PART I

The following follow-up action has been taken on the basis of the recommendations made by the Study Team appointed for the Survey in respect of India and Indonesia.

INDIA: The Regional Office has suggested to the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation Ltd. (NAFED), New Delhi, to initiate planning on cooperative projects for exploring possibilities of assistance on the basis of the recommendations made by the Study Team appointed for the Survey.

As regards the training of technical personnel, the Regional Office had informal consultations with the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives in Japan during June 1971. It was felt that a beginning could be made in the follow-up action by organising a training programme in Japan for five technical personnel at IDACA in Tokyo during April 1972. The five technical personnel should be drawn from some of the existing solvent extraction plants in India and the offices of NAFED. This training programme will aim at orienting the trainees on the various business practices concerning the feedstuff industry in Japan and their relationship with the import of raw materials from abroad. The total period of the course will not exceed one month and will be divided into theoretical training and on-the-job training. A major portion of the training period will be spent in field visits.

All the local costs of the course in Japan will be borne by the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives and the IDACA in Tokyo.

As regards the costs of international travel, the Regional Office has been informed that there is a possibility of obtaining the costs of travel from the Government of Japan. The matter is at present being discussed with NAFED and the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives in Japan.

INDONESIA

At the instance of the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives, the Government of Japan offered to the Government of Indonesia to train five executives of the cooperative movement of Indonesia in cooperative marketing activities. The five Indonesian workers have been selected by the Government of Indonesia from among those who are working for cooperatives which are connected with the East Java Maize Project. The training was given at IDACA from mid-July 1971 for a period of one month. Three weeks of this training were devoted to on-the-spot study. Costs not met by the Government of Japan were met by the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives of Japan.

AGENDA ITEM NO. IV

PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COOPERATIVE TRADE EXCHANGE

As suggested at the 1st meeting of the Working Group, available information on the organisation and functioning of Overseas Farmers' Cooperative Federations Ltd. in the U.K. and the Nordisk Andelsforbund (NAF), the Scandinavian Cooperative Wholesale Society in Denmark, has been collected and is given below. From the information reproduced here, it appears that both the organisations are engaged in direct trading activities on behalf of their constituent members. The work they do is far beyond trade promotion work. It is now to be decided whether we should develop the proposal for the establishment of a Trade Exchange for undertaking direct export-import activities or should restrict the activities to trade information and active promotion. Another way would be (as suggested in the note circulated at the meeting of the Agriculture Sub-Committee held in Seoul) to create a centre with facilities for trading organisations willing to participate in the scheme to conduct business on their own.

The Overseas Farmers' Cooperative Federation Ltd., London.

The company was founded in London in 1920 under control of primary producers from British Commonwealth countries, with the following objects to be achieved on behalf of the affiliated cooperative primary producers:

- i. Marketing and distributing all kinds of produce sent to the U.K. and to the Continent.
- ii. Combined purchasing of all requirements for export to the shareholding federations and their associates from the U.K. or elsewhere.

The shareholders in "Overseas Farmers" are :

1. The Australian Producers' Wholesale Cooperative Federation Pty. Ltd., Melbourne.
2. The Farmers' Cooperative Wholesale Federation (N.Z.) Ltd., Wellington.

3. Federated Central Cooperative Company of Southern Rhodesia Ltd., Salisbury.
4. Die Federale Landbouko-öperasie van Suid-Afrika Boperk., Cape town.

These four constituent federations are in turn made up of various bodies representing primary producers' interests in the respective countries.

"Overseas Farmers" charge a commission for services rendered and from this income their expenses are defrayed; the residue, after deduction for tax payments and for allocations to reserves, is returned to member-federations in proportion to their turnover.

The principal commodity groups handled by the organisation include: fresh, dried, and canned fruits, fruit juices, nuts, vegetables, honey, wheat, barley, oats, seeds, dairy produce, bacon, wool, fresh and canned meat products and wine.

Total turnover of "Overseas Farmers" amounted to £Stg.113 million in the three years ended March 1965. From its inception to that date, the entire trade over a period of 45 years totalled £Stg. 808 million. In addition to the London Office, there are branches in Liverpool and Bristol, the U.K. being the most important market for the produce brought in from the commonwealth countries.

In November 1965, "Overseas Farmers" entered into an agreement with the British firm of Adams Butter Ltd., who are large importers, packers and distributors of butter, and claim to own the world's largest butter packing unit. Under the terms of this agreement, a joint subsidiary is being established and registered in the U.K., to be known as Australian Dairies Ltd., with the object of improving the sales organisation for, and the efficiency of, the distribution of Australian butter in the U.K.

NORDISK ANDELSPORBUND (NAF) - Scandinavian Cooperative Wholesale Society, Copenhagen (Denmark)

Long before the NAF was established in 1918, the Cooperative Movements in the Scandinavian countries had discussed the idea of establishing a joint international buying organisation.

The NAF comprises at present of six cooperative wholesale societies of Denmark, Finland (2 societies), Iceland, Norway and Sweden. The main object of the NAF is to make available to its member-organisations economies by buying collectively on their behalf.

When the organisation was founded, the strength and size of the cooperative movements in the member-countries was very unequal. The total turnover of the three wholesale societies that had joined the NAF (after the withdrawal of Finland) was in 1917, 112 million Crowns, and the turnover of the FDB alone that year was 81.5 million Crowns or 73 per cent. If a strictly mathematical and proportional distribution of the representation on the board had been applied - which is not foreign to cooperative principles in an association of this kind - the right of decision would have been in the hands of one single national organisation. The risk that this might in the future cause internal friction within the association could not be ignored. The provisions of the regulations governing representation, therefore, were formulated to prevent any one country having an absolute majority in any sphere of activity, which confirmed the feeling of equality among member organisations. The agreement of the largest national society to this rule at the foundation of the organisation may be regarded as an important concession made in the interests of inter-Scandinavian cooperation. The rule, however, was probably necessary if the association was to be formed at that time, when the wholesale societies of the Scandinavian countries were as yet at such divergent stages of development.

According to the present rules of NAF, the general congress (annual meeting) consists of two delegates from each country and sixteen representatives in relation to each country's share capital and share in the turnover of the NAF during the two previous years. As no country may have more than seven additional representatives, it is impossible for any one country to get a majority. The greatest number of representatives at the annual congress is thus twenty-six, while the highest possible number of votes for any country is nine. The present rules, which are in principle the same as the original ones, stipulate that the board shall consist of a maximum

of twelve and a minimum of nine members, elected by the member-organisations in accordance with their representation at the annual meeting, and decisions are made by simple majority, except with regard to proposals referring to the purchase of real estate or ships, when a two-thirds majority is required. In the board, too, a majority for a single country is, therefore, out of question.

The regulation stipulating shares in proportion to the total turnover of the organizations in the respective countries was naturally intended to make the number of shares dependent upon the economic strength of the organisations.

The stipulation regarding the liabilities of members were formulated, of course, to conform to Danish Law, for the NAF was created formally as a Danish cooperative society. It seems highly unlikely that the NAF in 1918, with members in three different countries, could have been established in any other country than Denmark with its greater freedom for the association of cooperative societies. In the other Scandinavian countries, every form of cooperative organisation with members in other countries was, and still is attended with considerable limitations as regards the types of activities, the right to own real property and the general legal position.

When the NAF became legally settled in Denmark, it was faced with the choice between unlimited and limited liability, and it was deemed necessary to limit the liability of the members, so that the smaller societies with weak economic resources would not have to run exceptionally great risks in case of failure, or burden the larger societies with too heavy obligations if a crash came, for unlimited liability was mutual - "each for all and all for each". Therefore, limited liability was chosen. Limited liability has meant, however, that the NAF has only been able to sell to its members, but it has unlimited powers to buy from or act as intermediary in purchases from both its own members and outside firms.

Prior to the establishment of the NAF, the consumer cooperatives had made their purchases from the nearest private wholesale dealers. When a number of consumer cooperatives had been established, cooperative wholesales were set up which bought goods through the private representatives of foreign business houses. **The NAF was, therefore, a logical development to obviate a large chain of middlemen and to establish direct relations between the producers and the consumers.** Having been established as a joint buying and importing agency since the end of World War I, NAF had to establish contacts with, and obtain supplies from, private firms and satisfactory relations of this nature have continued since that time. Where possible, business was developed with cooperatives.

The initial difficulties experienced by the NAF consisted mainly in establishing the right contacts, but once the large buying requirements of the NAF were known, sellers' representatives were keen to sell their goods to the NAF. The NAF has direct relations with a number of big cooperative producers' associations particularly in the U.S.A., Australia, etc. For economic reasons, there is a tendency on the part of NAF to concentrate its purchases through a few selected organisations in order to provide incentives which are powerful enough to initiate offers from suppliers that are beneficial to the consumers.

The imports of NAF consist mainly of dry, fresh and canned fruits, tea and coffee, spices, oilseeds, sisal, rubber and raw materials for oil and margarine industries. Dry, fresh and canned fruits are imported from all over the world and are among the most important goods bought through the NAF. Coffee is another important item of imports. Many of the commodities listed above are bought through the London branch of NAF. The NAF also has a number of buying depots in various parts of the world.

AGENDA ITEM NO. VTHIRD ASIAN INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR, NEW DELHI

The Government of India have recently announced their plans to hold the Third Asian International Trade Fair in cooperation with ECAFE of the United Nations at New Delhi between November 3 and December 17, 1972.

It will be recalled that the ICA was able to participate in the Second Asian International Trade Fair held at Tehran (Iran) during October 1969 with the active support and collaboration of 12 cooperative organisations from the Region and one from Europe.

The total expenditure incurred by the ICA for its participation in the Second Fair amounted to Rs.33,000, out of which the participating organisations contributed a sum of Rs.13,500. The ICA had to heavily subsidize the costs incurred for the Second Fair, the deficit being Rs.19,500.

According to the tentative budget drawn up for the costs involved for participation in the Third Fair amounts to Rs.20,000 (US\$2,670). It is suggested that ICA participation in the Third Fair should be made as self-sufficient as possible. For collecting the total amount of Rs.20,000 from cooperative trading organisations, the ICA will have to get at least 13 organisations paying US\$200 each. It may be added that each participating organisation paid a contribution of US\$150 for the Second Fair.

AGENDA ITEM NO. VI

ICA COOPERATIVE TRADE STUDY

The 24th Congress of the ICA held at Hamburg had unanimously adopted a joint proposal of the National Cooperative Union of India and the Cooperative League of the USA to prepare a general report on the existing trade between cooperatives in various countries and between countries on the basis of the recommendations of the Second and Third Asian Agricultural Cooperative Conferences and the documentation available on the subject with various organisations.

A copy of the letter received from the London Head Office is annexed hereto.

Members of the Council would like to comment and make suggestions as to the manner in which this report could be prepared in the light of the present problems and the experience gained so far in the field of trade development.

AGENDA ITEM NO. VII

ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

AGENDA ITEM NO. VIII

DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE GROUP

H. V. Madane
Secretary, ICA Sub-Committee for
Agriculture and Trade

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE

11 Upper Grosvenor Street,
London W1X 9PA, England

11th August 1971

Dear Mr Weeraman,

Cooperative Trade Study

You will recall that the 24th Congress of the I.C.A. unanimously adopted a joint proposal of the National Cooperative Union of India and the Cooperative League of the USA to the effect that the Alliance should consider the resolutions "of the second and third Asian Agricultural Cooperative Conferences held at Tokyo and New Delhi respectively in 1964 and 1967, and take necessary follow-up action to facilitate international trading between developed and developing countries to their mutual benefit, and seek funds outside the regular budget and in collaboration with member cooperatives, to develop a general report on the trade taking place between cooperatives in the various countries and between countries. The report should show products or services handled, annual volume, how import or export regulations are handled, problems related to trade, etc., and, if possible, opportunities for further trade and the benefits to cooperative participants from such trade. Experiences of the International Cooperative Petroleum Association could be used as an example. Such data to be collected by a special I.C.A. Committee formed for this purpose with the results of the survey to be discussed in regional seminars in Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Americas".

We are now beginning intensive work on this Study within the I.C.A. London Secretariat. It has not proved possible to obtain financial support from outside sources, and because of limited staff and pressure of other work it is only now that we have been able to start actual research. Our present proposal is

to draw together a general report on problems and prospects for International Cooperative Trade, to be submitted to the 1972 Congress. This will be based on existing materials and will be structured according to the attached outline.

~~It would then be~~ for the Congress to assess whether and to what extent it wished this work to be carried forward via:

- a) regional conferences for exchange of information, identification of trade opportunities and discussion on next steps;
- b) detailed field surveys by teams of trade experts (trade promotion officers)
- c) specific projects for management training in cooperative export promotion;
- d) investigation into feasibility of a cooperative export advisory service;
- e) consideration of machinery for regional or international insurance funds to underwrite financial security for both cooperative buyers and cooperative sellers with respect to regional or international cooperative trade transactions; and
- f) support for aided-trade projects on the Japanese/Thailand model.

My purpose in writing is to seek your comments on this procedure and any suggestions that you may have as to the outline and as to available information, particularly in respect of South-East Asia. More particularly, Dr. Saxena (who is now abroad, as you know), has asked me to enquire as to whether it would be possible for Mr. Madane to prepare a South-East Asia paper on the basis of the attached outline, utilising material from the Eisenberg report, the various Asian conferences on agricultural cooperation, and on inter-cooperative trade, the Asian Marketing Survey, and of course anything else available in your office. It would be very helpful if we could have such a report by early spring.

With Cooperative Greetings,

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-

Mr P.E. Weeraman
Regional Director,
ICA RO & EC, New Delhi 14.

Leonora Stettner
Secretary for Research

Outline for Study on

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE TRADE

1. Types of cooperative trade across national borders.
 - a) Imports or exports of cooperatives in developing countries
 - b) Inter-cooperative trade
 - c) Joint buying
 - d) Joint selling
 - e) Aided-trade arrangements
2. Specific data on trade flows
3. Benefits of trade across national borders
4. Problems in respect of cooperative trade of developing countries
5. Action to be taken by cooperatives
 - a) in developing countries
 - b) in developed countries
6. Action to be taken by governments
 - a) in developing countries
 - b) in developed countries
7. Action to be taken by international organisation
 - a) governmental
 - b) NGOs

SECOND MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP FOR COOPERATIVE
FISHERIES

PERTH (W. AUSTRALIA) : NOVEMBER 2, 1971

PROGRAMME AND AGENDA

- Item No. I Confirmation of Minutes of the last meeting of the Fishery Group held at New Delhi on February 15, 1971.
- Item No. II Information on fishery cooperatives in the Region.
- Item No. III FAO/SIDA Course on Management of Fisheries Cooperatives, Bombay (India).
- Item No. IV Fisheries Assistance Project in Ceylon.
- Item No. V IBASec
- Item No. VI Any other matter with the permission of the Chair.

AGENDA ITEM No. I

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING OF THE
WORKING GROUP FOR COOPERATIVE FISHERIES HELD AT NEW DELHI
ON FEBRUARY 15, 1971.

The Minutes of the first meeting of the Fishery Group held at New Delhi on February 15, 1971, were circulated and are submitted for confirmation. A copy of the Minutes is annexed hereto for ready reference.

AGENDA ITEM NO. IIINFORMATION ON FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN THE REGION

Information on fishery cooperatives has so far been received from Ceylon and Iran. West Pakistan has sent the information on the Fishermen's Cooperative Society Ltd., Karachi. Reminders have been sent to other movements to collect the information and send it to the Regional Office.

AGENDA ITEM NO. IIIFAO/SIDA COURSE ON MANAGEMENT OF FISHERIES COOPERATIVES, BOMBAY (INDIA)

The Course has been postponed to March 1973 at FAO's instance.

AGENDA ITEM NO. IVFISHERIES ASSISTANCE PROJECT IN CEYLON

The Fisheries Cooperative Movement in France will be sending out an expert to stay three weeks in Ceylon during November 1971 to study the present position of cooperative fishery societies and determine the nature of the technical assistance that is required for the improvement of the fishing industry through cooperative methods.

AGENDA ITEM NO. VIBASec

As desired by members of the Group, additional information on the proposed organisation has been collected and the same has been reproduced below :

International Business Advisory Service for Agriculture and Fishermen's Cooperatives (IBASec)

The proposal to start IBASec was first discussed at a meeting of the Agricultural Executive in London in 1966, and at the meeting of the Fisheries Sub-Committee in Vienna in 1966,

it was decided to start its activities.

IBASEC's aim is to help agricultural and fishermen's cooperatives within the scope of the Agricultural Committee and the Fisheries Sub-Committee of the ICA in matters related to **international business, particularly on problems such as promotion of cooperative sales and purchase (including equipment), spreading of business information among cooperatives, fostering trade between cooperatives, especially agricultural and consumer cooperatives, assistance in capital projects (comprising technical know-how, supply of finance, representation before institutions for international finance, and agencies for bilateral funds, etc.), improvement in business management, and in methods of production and marketing.**

It was decided as a start that IBASEC should begin to work on a modest scale by selecting efficiently managed agricultural and fishermen's cooperatives to give advice on a voluntary basis. This has been done during the past few years, and the Agricultural Secretary of the ICA in London has given information and made enquiries on behalf of members on many questions, such as the establishment of livestock cooperatives, and integrated activities including processing; organisation of cooperative credit and insurance systems; production and processing of wine; marketing and processing activities of fishermen's cooperatives; evaluation of feasibility projects concerning a processing plant for citrus fruit, canned fish and fruit juices. Help was provided in finding outlets for products such as molasses, lac, fish, etc., and advice in establishing courses for managers of cooperatives and business unions. In most cases the help given came from the experts recruited from ICA member-organisations, e.g. experts from France for evaluating a project to establish a cooperative fish canning factory in Ceylon.

The number of requests from cooperatives in developing countries would have been higher if the ICA Secretariat in London and the Agricultural Committee of the ICA had encouraged them, but that has not been possible because of the modest ICA means available. There are still uncovered requests concerning fruit

juice factories, feeding-stuff factories, pineapple factories, managers for fishermen's cooperatives, managers for large-scale farms, etc.

Taking into account the need and potentialities for work in this field, an informal meeting of the cooperative management consultants was held in Hamburg after the Agricultural Conference in 1969. They came from Sweden, England, Finland and France. Although the idea was to establish a pool of consultants to help cooperative movements in their work described above, it was not possible to attain this at this stage. At this stage, it was agreed that those who are members of the ICA will become correspondents of IBASec. They will specify the qualifications of their work and preferable areas of interest. This would enable the ICA Agricultural Secretary in London to call for their help in a more specific way.

In an informal meeting with a representative of the Cooperative League of the USA, it was agreed that they would cooperate in the same way as the organisations from the four countries mentioned above.

It has been proposed by the Agricultural Secretary that the objectives of the IBASec should be as follows :

1. Consultancy in management. business and economic projects.
2. Information and exchange of information on experience between cooperative movements.
3. Promotion of trade, and offer of services which bring about an improvement of trade business between cooperatives.

The most suitable form of organisation for IBASec seems to be a company limited by guarantee. Such a company provides in its memorandum that in the event of the company being wound up, the members contribute such a sum as is stated in the memorandum. This can be as little as £1 per member.

The advantage of a company not having a share capital, but being limited by guarantee is that the members can be of any nationality and there would be no exchange control problems as there would be if it was a company limited by shares, some of which were to be held by an overseas organisation. Two members are sufficient for the creation of the company and the number may be extended.

Any U.K. company is subject to corporation tax on its profits, but it would seem unlikely that the sort of company to be created would make profits. In fact, it could distribute its surpluses for the purposes for which it is established.

Present Position

According to the latest information received by the Regional Office from the ICA Head Office, the Service has not yet come into being, and the legal matters concerning the proposal are being looked into.

AGENDA ITEM NO. VI

ANY OTHER ITEM WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

May 24, 1971

Minutes of the Fifth Meeting of the ICA Agriculture Sub-Committee for South-East Asia held at the ICA Regional Office, New Delhi (India) on 15th & 16th February, 1971.

The Fifth Meeting of the ICA Agriculture Sub-Committee for South-East Asia was held at the ICA Regional Office and Education Centre, New Delhi on 15th and 16th February, 1971. Mr H. Yanagida, Chairman of the Sub-Committee, presided.

The following were present at the meeting :

Members

Mr H. Yanagida	Chairman
Mr Irwin Hunter	Member, Australia
Mr K.W. Devanayagam	Vice-Chairman
Mr V.N. Puri	Member, India
Mr N.A. Kularajah	Member, Malaysia
Mr Dong Hoo Joh	Member, Republic of Korea

Special Invitees

Dr M. Bonow, President, ICA, London
Dr S.K. Saxena, Director, ICA
Mr R.P.B. Davies, Secretary for Administration, ICA
Mr P. Lacour, Chairman, ICA Fishery Sub-Committee
Col. Surin Cholpraserd, Thailand
Mr H. Togawa, Managing Director, IDACA, Japan
Mr R. Nonaka, National Federation of Fishery Cooperative Associations, Japan

ICA

Mr P.E. Weeraman, Regional Director, ICA, New Delhi
Mr J.M. Rana, Director (Education), ICA, New Delhi
Mr M.V. Madane, Secretary, Agriculture Sub-Committee
Dr Dharm Vir, Joint Director, ICA, New Delhi
Mr Ragnar Arvidsson, Joint Director (Adm.), ICA, New Delhi
Mr Lionel Gunawardana, Dy. Director, ICA, New Delhi

The Members for the Philippines, Iran and Pakistan were absent.

In attendance

Mr A.H. Ganesan of the ICA Regional Office and Mr Y. Nakaoka of the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives, Japan, were in attendance.

2. At the commencement of the meeting, Sub-Committee passed a condolence and observed a minute's silence on the sudden and untimely death of Mr Hyo Chul Ahn, a former member of the Sub-Committee from the Republic of Korea. Speaking on the occasion, Mr P.E. Weeraman paid tribute to the late Mr Ahn for his excellent work as member of the Sub-Committee and his rich contribution to the cause of Cooperation.

Agenda Item No.1 (a)

3. The Regional Director welcomed the Chairman and Members of the Agriculture Sub-Committee who were present at the meeting. He also welcomed Mr Dong Hoo Joh, the new Member for Korea to the Agriculture Sub-Committee. He extended a special welcome to Dr M. Bonow, President, Dr S.K. Saxena, Director, and Mr R.P.B. Davies, Secretary for Administration of the ICA and to Mr P. Lacour, Chairman of the ICA Fisheries Sub-Committee, Mr H. Togawa, Managing Director of IDACA, Mr R. Nonaka of the Japanese National Federation of Fishery Cooperative Associations and Col. Surin Cholpraserd, Member for Thailand in the Advisory Council.

4. The Regional Director then thanked the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India and its Chairman, Mr V.N. Puri, for the warm hospitality extended to the Members of the Sub-Committee and also for bearing all the local costs in connection with this meeting.

Item No.1 (b)

5. Mr V.N. Puri, Chairman of NAFED, welcomed all members of the Sub-Committee and the Special Invitees and wished them a pleasant and fruitful stay in this country. Mr Puri thanked the ICA and the Swedish Cooperative Movement for their continued assistance to the Movements in the Region through the Regional Office and Education Centre and for their support to the activities of the Agriculture Sub-Committee. He extended a special welcome to Dr Bonow and to Dr Saxena and thanked them for their presence at the Sub-Committee meeting.

Item No.1 (c)

6. The Chairman then invited Dr Bonow to address the Members of the Sub-Committee. The following is the text of Dr Bonow's address.

"It is a very great honour and privilege for me to be present at the inauguration of work you have taken upon yourself now in this Agriculture Sub-Committee. I think that having regard to the fact that in this part of the world the agricultural economy plays such an exceedingly important role

for the national economies of all countries concerned, one can hardly over-estimate the importance of the activities which you have on your working programme, that is to say to promote in all practical and appropriate ways the expansion, further development and strengthening of the agricultural cooperative movement in this very vast Region of our World. When I talk about agriculture, of course, it is quite obvious that fishery should also be included in the picture. We all know that the F.A.O., the United Nations Organisation entrusted with the task to promote agricultural development all over the world, have on its programme agriculture including fishery and forestry and for that reason it is quite proper that, as has been decided by this Agricultural Committee, special Fishery Sub-Committee should be set up. If we can look at the world today we can say that on the eve of launching the Second Development Decade by the United Nations we are faced with exceedingly great problems which have to be solved in the near future, and when I talk about the near future, I think in terms of one or two Decades. We know, as far as the agricultural development is concerned which must form the very basis of our economy in large parts of the World, that the FAO has worked out a rather comprehensive programme - World Indicative Food Plan - and that the findings and the targets set up in this context play an important role within the framework of the general planning for the United Nations Second Development Decade.

6.2 I would further point to the very great problems which agriculture is facing in many parts of the World where there is unemployment and underemployment. This is not only a feature for the urban sector, but in view of the population development this problem will assume greater and greater dimensions in the rural sector as well. And the remedy must be an intensification of agricultural production, increased productivity and it must also mean that such agro-industries which need to be developed should be speeded up to a much greater extent than hitherto has been the case. This is important from the employment point of view. This is also exceedingly important from the nutritional point of view. We know that in vast regions of the world, there is a very great lack of protein - both animal protein and vegetable protein and this must be a large task if we look upon the problems from the nutritional aspect of the agricultural sector of the society including fishery and for that reason, Cooperative friends, I am very convinced that the work which is entrusted to this Committee to promote cooperative development by technical know-how, by exchange of experiences, by increased trade - both in the Region and outside the Region - is of paramount importance. I am very pleased to add as my last point in this little address to you that I am very happy that you have elected as your Chairman to guide during your important work, Mr Yanagida representing an exceedingly powerful, well-developed and very efficient agricultural cooperative central organisation, and with these few words, Mr Chairman, dear friends and colleagues,

I wish you the best success for your important deliberations. I have gone through your working documents and I know that you have a heavy agenda before you dealing with very important problems and for that reason I would like to confine my remarks to just a few words of address to you. I convey to you my sincere best wishes on behalf of the International Cooperative Alliance."

Item No.2

Introductory remarks by the Chairman

7. At the outset Mr Yanagida thanked Dr Bonow for his presence at the meeting and for his inspiring address. He also thanked Dr S.K. Saxena, Director of the ICA, Mr R.P.B. Davies, Secretary for Administration at the Head Office of the ICA and Mr P. Lacour, Chairman of the Fishery Sub-Committee of the ICA for their presence at the meeting. He welcomed to the meeting Mr R. Nonaka, Mr H. Togawa, Col. Surin Cholpraserd and officers of the ICA.

8. Mr Yanagida agreed with Dr Bonow's analysis concerning the important role the agricultural cooperatives have to play in the national economies in the South-East Asian Region. He added that in this context the deliberations in the Agriculture Sub-Committee assume larger significance than before within the framework of the ICA. Although, ICA membership consists of organisations representing varied interests such as consumers, fisheries, housing, industrial, insurance, etc. agricultural cooperative activity is at present receiving special attention in the deliberations at the various forums of the ICA. Mr Yanagida made a special reference to the Open Conference to be held in 1973 on the Role of Agricultural Cooperatives in Social and Economic Development and emphasised the need for proper representation and documentation at this conference on behalf of the cooperatives in the Region. There was, he added, great appreciation of the role of Agriculture Sub-Committee in the main Agricultural Committee and he hoped that the main Committee would continue to support the activities of this Sub-Committee in the future. Mr Yanagida made special mention of the Survey of Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Projects in the Region and stressed the importance of this survey in the context of the Cooperative Development Decade.

9. The Chairman expressed his great appreciation of the services rendered by Mr Shiro Futagami as Secretary of the Agriculture Sub-Committee. He then proposed that Mr M.V. Madane be accepted as the Secretary of the Sub-Committee and this was agreed to.

Item No. 3

10. The minutes of the Fourth Meeting of the Sub-Committee held in Seoul, Republic of Korea, on 4th and 5th May, 1970, which were circulated earlier, were confirmed.

Item No. 4

11. The following comments were made during the discussion on matters arising out of minutes of the Fourth Meeting of the Sub-Committee.

11.1 ICA should pursue further the question of development of multi-purpose cooperatives in the Region. There was not much information available at present on the experience of the various cooperative movements of the Region in the field of multi-purpose cooperatives. It was, therefore, suggested that the ICA should prepare an exhaustive paper on the subject for circulation among movements in the Region.

11.2 The need was stressed of sending additional information to the ICA by member movements concerning the Study on Financing of Cooperatives at International Level.

11.3 The Member movements were requested to remit their contributions to the ICA Regional Office at an early date.

11.4 In winding up the discussion on the subject the Chairman emphasised the need of developing a working relationship on sound lines between the Agriculture Committee and the Agriculture Sub-Committee for South-East Asia. He felt that a functional link between the two was more important than the formal relationship.

12. The Regional Director also explained that within the existing framework, it was possible for the Agriculture Sub-Committee to function as a Sub-Group of the Advisory Council. The Director of the ICA said that the objective in streamlining the working relationship between the two Committees was in fact to smoothen the process of communication and to speed-up the follow-up action. The practical approach in solving this problem should be that the Sub-Committee should be able to follow to act on its own initiative and to follow-up its decisions, without undue delay with the help of the ICA Regional Office and Education Centre.

Item No. 5Report on the last meeting of the Agriculture Committee of the ICA

13. Mr Yanagida gave a brief report on the discussions at the last meeting of the Agriculture Committee held in London. He informed the members of the Sub-Committee that the main subject of discussion at the meeting was the ICA Open Conference on the Role of Agricultural Cooperatives in Economic and Social Development. The topics to be discussed at this conference would include efficiency of cooperatives, mobilisation of human resources, collaboration with government and other national and international agencies. During the discussions at the London meeting Mr Yanagida had emphasised the need of proper representation and documentation at this Conference. They also discussed whether the reports to the Conference should be on the basis of the Regions, namely Asia, Africa and Latin America, Eastern and Western Europe or on the basis of groups of countries following different systems of economy or on the basis of their present economic development, namely Developed and Developing Countries. These reports ought to be preceded by an introductory report on the Role of Agricultural Cooperatives as a whole. In the end Mr Yanagida informed the Sub-Committee that it was decided at the above meeting to leave the decision on the methodology of preparing documentation to the ICA.

14. The Members of the Sub-Committee stressed the need of proper representation at this Conference on behalf of the South-East Asian Region. It was decided that the ICA should invite contributions from member movements in the Region and then compile a Regional paper for presentation to the World Conference. Members of the Sub-Committee expressed the hope that the Conference would arrive at a broad consensus on the role of governments in the field of agricultural cooperatives and the role which the cooperatives themselves should play in accelerating the process of agricultural development. The need was also emphasised for a Study of the question of the structural aspects of cooperatives in the different countries.

Item No. 6

15. The Committee was informed that the first part of the Survey of Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Projects in South-East Asia covering India and Indonesia had already been completed and that the Survey Team had also visited Australia as an Inter-Cooperative Trade Promotion Team. Some of the important findings of the Survey as well as its main recommendations were brought to the notice of the Sub-Committee when the report was tabled for consideration. The following

points were made during the discussion of the Survey report.

- 15.1 Members expressed their appreciation of the efforts made by the ICA in undertaking the Survey and thanked the members of the Team for completing the Survey in time for discussion at the Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee also expressed its deep gratitude to the movements in Australia, India and Indonesia for the excellent cooperation extended by them to the Members of the Team and for taking care of the local costs wherever possible.
- 15.2 Most of the observations and findings of the Team were according to the actual situation in the three countries. However, it was suggested that in due course the portion of the Report dealing with factual information may be checked with the member movements in order to ensure its accuracy.
- 15.3 The Survey recommendations have opened up a new area for agricultural development in the Region and the cooperative organisations in these countries should take immediate steps for following up the recommendations on their own as well as in collaboration with their respective governments. The survey certainly was a step forward in the right direction as it will assist the cooperatives in the Region in their efforts to achieve the objectives of the Cooperative Development Decade.
- 15.4 The present Survey was sponsored mainly to identify agricultural development projects with a view to bring about an intensive development of marketing in the Region with the ultimate objective of developing inter-cooperative trade. Inter-cooperative trade, however, was very difficult to develop within a short time and as such trade development should generally be treated as a long-term objective.
- 15.5 There was not much difficulty in finding a buyer for raw materials of feedstuff in the Region as Japan was already buying five million tons of raw materials every year. The most important problem was whether the cooperative organisations in the Region were aware of the requirements of the importing cooperatives and whether they would be in a position to produce the raw materials according to the specifications laid-down by the importers.
- 15.6 The other countries in the Region, yet to be surveyed, were looking forward to the visit of the Teams to be appointed for the second and third parts of the Survey.

Survey in other countries

16. It was decided to conduct the second part of the Survey during September-October, 1971 in Ceylon, Iran and the Republic of Korea. This Survey will be in respect of Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Projects in general i.e. pertaining to all the commodities in which the national cooperative organisations would be interested for developing marketing activity. The Team for the second part of the Survey should consist of three experts, one from the ICA, one from Australia and the one from a third country. If possible an expert from each of the three countries should be requested to join the Team to work as a national counterpart during the period of the Survey in each country. In view of the shortness of time at the disposal of the Team the Committee agreed with the suggestion that the report of the Second Survey need not be placed before its next meeting to be held in Australia. However, some of the important recommendations may be reported at this meeting.

17. The Third part of the Survey in respect of raw materials for feedstuff should be conducted during the early part of 1972 in Malaysia, Pakistan and the Philippines.

Need of Adequate Preparations

18. The Members of the Committee emphasised the need of adequate preparations before the visit of the Survey Team to the respective countries. It was, therefore, decided to adopt the following procedure in order to ensure timely and detailed preparations.

- 18.1 Members of the Agriculture Sub-Committee as well as the Advisory Council attending the meetings at New Delhi should be requested to initiate discussions in their respective countries concerning the Survey and to identify the areas in which marketing development is to be taken up on a cooperative basis. On the basis of this identification preliminary reports should be prepared by the respective movements.
- 18.2 At a suitable time the Joint Director, TA&T, should visit the three countries to be covered during the second Survey in order to guide the member movements in regard to the selection of commodities and areas in which marketing projects could be developed and in regard to the basic data that should be collected by the movements concerned. It was suggested that this will help the movements to finalise their thinking on the projects.
- 18.3 The member movements should be requested to submit the projects prepared by them to the ICA RO & EC by the end of July, 1971.

- 18.4 These Projects should be examined in the Regional Office and important information pertaining to these projects should be communicated to the experts selected for serving on the Team.
- 18.5 The Team should then visit the three countries for on-the-spot examination of the projects and for detailed discussions on these projects with the member organisations concerned.
- 18.6 The same procedure should be followed in conducting the third part of the Survey.

19. During the discussion of the subject the Chairman announced that the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives had decided to contribute ¥4 million as an additional grant to the ICA Development Fund for completing the Survey and for the follow-up action that may be initiated through the ICA. The Regional Director and the members of the Sub-Committee expressed their sincere thanks for and deep appreciation of the generous contribution made by the Japanese Agricultural Cooperative Movement for conducting the Survey.

Item No. 7

20. The present difficulties concerning the compilation of statistical information relating to agriculture and agricultural cooperatives in South-East Asia were discussed by members of the Sub-Committee. It was decided that the Regional Office should continue to pursue the matter further and collect as much information as possible on the subject. The Chairman requested the movements to send such information regularly to the Regional Office. The need was also stressed of the proper tabulation of the information before it is sent to the Regional Office as this will ensure the systematic compilation of the information.

Item No. 8

21. The various activities conducted by the Education Centre in the field of agricultural cooperation during 1970 were noted. The need of a detailed study of Multi-purpose cooperative societies was again stressed by the members of the Sub-Committee. It was also suggested that the paper on "Review of Agricultural Cooperative Marketing in the Region" prepared for the Top Level Conference by Mr Futagami be circulated among the members of the Sub-Committee and the movements in the Region.

22. The Sub-Committee was informed of the participation of an ICA representative in the National Food Congress held in India, Dr S.K. Saxena made brief mention of the discussions at the World Food Congress held last year. He informed the

Sub-Committee that the main emphasis in the follow-up action recommended by the Congress was on human resource development. Dr. Mauritz Bonow, President of the ICA also informed the Sub-Committee that mobilisation of human resources has been chosen as the first priority area for future action by the FAO in its action programmes on the priority areas selected for intensive development.

23. The Sub-Committee was informed that some of the resolutions tabled at the First Asian Conference on Credit and Cooperatives held in the Philippines were withdrawn as a result of the intervention of the ICA representative at this conference. One of the resolutions related to the establishment of an Education Centre for agricultural cooperatives in Asia and the other related to the establishment of an Asian Cooperative Development Bank in the Region. As action was being taken by the ICA on the above subjects the conference had decided to refer these matters to the ICA.

24. The Members of the Sub-Committee discussed the basic objectives and the relationship of this Conference to the cooperatives in the Region. It was felt that this Conference should be a government-to-government Conference in which delegates from the cooperative movements could be included in the country delegations. Such a pattern would enable the cooperatives to influence the thinking and planning done within the governments in the field of cooperative development. It was generally agreed that the involvement of government in major development activity was essential and that government-to-government conferences of this nature would facilitate such involvement. The Chairman of the Sub-Committee, who originally emphasised the need of member-movements of the Region taking up this attitude, was later supported by Dr. Bonow and members of the Sub-Committee. It was also felt that for a major project such as the Asian Cooperative Development Bank proposed to be established through the efforts of the Regional Office, it was necessary to secure government support with a view to ensure its success.

25. The Members of the Committee felt that in due course a dialogue will have to be developed between this Conference and the Informal Liaison Committee established after the Paris Credit Conference.

26. The Committee was informed that the United Nations General Assembly, the ECOSOC, and other specialised Agencies of the UNITED NATIONS, through special resolutions, had already expressed their full support to the ICA to play its role in the Second Development Decade. The Movements should now persuade their respective governments to provide assistance to cooperatives for implementing the objectives of the Cooperative Development Decade.

Item No.9

27. Information relating to the various projects now in the hands of the Regional Office was given to the Members. The members noted with satisfaction the action being taken by the Regional Office on the requests for technical assistance from member movements in the Region.

Item No.10

28. It was decided that the proposal for the establishment of a Cooperative Trade Exchange be discussed at the first meeting of the Working Group on Trade Promotion.

Item No.11

29. The Members of the Sub-Committee were informed of the efforts being made to get a feasibility study of the proposal to establish an Asian Cooperative Development Bank completed with assistance from movements in the Region. Information was given of the decision of the Central Cooperative Bank for Agriculture and Forestry in Japan to conduct a study of the technical feasibility of the proposal. It was decided that in addition to this study the ICA should continue to develop the proposal further and collect as much as additional information as possible on the subject. A suggestion was also made that a paper should be prepared giving further information on the scope and objectives of the proposed Bank. It was decided that all the movements in the Region should be requested to conduct feasibility studies from the point of view of their own countries concerning the proposal for the establishment of the Bank. These studies should be sent to the Regional Office for further examination, compilation and circulation among the movements in the Region. The Regional Office should request the member movements to conduct the study and should send to them the broad outline of such a study. It was emphasised that government support for the organisation of the Bank was important, as without such government support it was not possible for the cooperatives to undertake such an important project. As the proposed Bank would need a large capital and other funds with a view to undertaking development and finance activities, government support was inevitable. The Sub-Committee was unanimous in its opinion that such a Bank was needed for developmental activity in the Region because banks such as the Asian Development Bank or the World Bank were not financing cooperative projects; most of these projects are not being given priority by the governments in the Region when submitting their applications for assistance from these banks. The International Cooperative Bank at Basle (Switzerland) was also not in a position to finance developmental activities in this Region. As the aspirations of the cooperative movements in the Region were growing the bank would certainly play a very important part in developmental activity.

May 24, 1971

Minutes of the First Meeting of the Trade Promotion Group held on 16th February, 1971 at the ICA Regional Office and Education Centre, New Delhi

The first meeting of the Working Group for Trade Promotion of the ICA Sub-Committee for Agriculture and Trade was held on 16th February 1971 in the office of the ICA Regional Office & Education Centre, New Delhi.

The following were present :

1. Mr Irwin Hunter, Australia
2. Mr V.N. Puri, India
3. Mr K.W. Devanayagam, Ceylon
4. Mr H. Yanagida, Japan
5. Mr Dong Hoo Joh, Republic of Korea
6. Mr N.A. Kularajah, Malaysia

Special invitees

7. Mr H. Togawa, Managing Director, IDACA, Japan
8. Col. Surin Cholpraserd, Thailand
9. Mr R. Nonaka, Japan

ICA

10. Mr P.E. Weeraman, Regional Director
11. Mr M.V. Madane, Joint Director, T&T (Secretary)
12. Mr J.M. Rana, Director (Education)

In attendance

13. Mr A.H. Ganesan, Personal Assistant to the Regional Director
14. Mr Y. Nakacka of the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives of Japan.

The following business was transacted.

1. Election of Chairman

Mr Irwin Hunter of Australia was unanimously elected Chairman of the Group. Mr Hunter thanked the Members for electing him Chairman.

Col. Surin Cholpraserd of Thailand was unanimously coopted as a Member of the Trade Promotion Group.

Mr M.V. Madane was accepted as the Secretary of the Group.

2. Objectives and working procedure of the Group

The Group decided that its main task would be to discuss and find solutions to the problems of international trade with cooperatives in the Region and the promotion of inter-cooperative trade both on an intra-regional and an inter-regional basis.

3. Establishment of a Cooperative Trade Exchange in the Region

4. International Trade possibilities on the basis of recommendations made in the Report of the First part of the Survey of Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Projects in South-East Asia

The Chairman suggested that in view of the close connection between the two subjects, items 3 and 4 be considered simultaneously so that a meaningful discussion could be held.

The following comments were made :

- i. Agricultural development is very essential in the countries of the Region as most of the economies are dependent on agriculture. Within the agricultural sector, marketing, both within and outside the country, is of great importance. Marketing is a major problem even in developed countries like Australia.
- ii. The Survey of Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Projects undertaken by the ICA is an important step in this direction. The Movements should utilise the services of the ICA in such a manner that concerted efforts could be made to tackle the problems faced by the movements.
- iii. The establishment of a Trade Exchange in a centrally located place in the Region would be very useful to marketing organisations engaged in trade. But this involves problems of personnel and financial resources for such an Exchange. While the need of setting up such an Exchange was appreciated, it was felt that it should be preceded by large-scale development of international trade among the cooperatives in the Region. It was suggested that the findings of the second and third parts of the Survey, which would be undertaken by the ICA, be taken into consideration while discussing this proposal. It was suggested that the Regional Office should study the functioning of existing cooperative trading organisations of this nature and prepare a note for discussion at the next meeting. Special mention was made in this connection of the Overseas Farmers Cooperative Federation in U.K. and the N.A.F. in Copenhagen.

iv. Members of the Group expressed concern at the general attitude of developed cooperative movements, especially of the West, towards the purchasing of substantial quantities of goods from non-cooperative sources in the countries of the Region. The cooperatives in the Region do not have any idea of these purchases. Efforts should, therefore, be made by the member-organisations of the Region to develop their cooperatives so as to win the patronage of the developed movements instead of allowing it to go to the private sector. A point was also made that the Western movements should inform the Regional Office of their requirements from the Region so that the Regional Office could circulate this information to cooperative trading organisations in the region.

5. Any other matter with the permission of the Chair

The Chairman suggested that in order to focus attention on the importance of trade in the functioning of agricultural cooperatives the Agricultural Sub-Committee be renamed the "ICA Sub-Committee for Agriculture and Trade". This suggestion was welcomed by the Members and it was unanimously agreed to request the Sub-Committee to adopt the name suggested.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair the meeting terminated.

May 24, 1971

Minutes of the First Meeting of the ICA Fishery
Group held at 3.00 P.M. on Monday the 15th Feb, 1971

The first meeting of the Fishery Group of the ICA Sub-Committee for Agriculture and Trade was held at 3.00 p.m. on Monday, the 15th February, 1971 at the ICA Regional Office & Education Centre, New Delhi.

The following were present :

Members

1. Mr K.W. Devanayagam, Ceylon
2. Mr V.N. Puri, India
3. Mr H. Yanagida, Japan
4. Mr N.A. Kularajah, Malaysia
5. Col. Surin Cholpraserd, Thailand
6. Mr Dong Hoo Joh, Republic of Korea

Special Invitees

7. Mr P. Lacour, Chairman, ICA Fisheries Sub-Committee
8. Mr H. Togawa, Managing Director, IDACA, Tokyo, Japan
9. Mr R. Nonaka, Japanese National Federation of Fishery Cooperative Associations, Japan

ICA

10. Mr F.E. Weeraman, Regional Director
11. Mr J.M. Rana, Director (Education)
12. Mr M.V. Madane, Joint Director, TA&T
13. Mr Lionel Gunawardana, Deputy Director (P&PR)

In attendance

14. Mr A.H. Ganesana, Personal Assistant to the Regional Director
15. Mr Y. Nakaoka of the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives were in attendance.

2. Mr K.W. Devanayagam, Member for Ceylon, was elected Chairman of the Group. Mr Devanayagam thanked the Members for electing him Chairman and welcomed the members to the meeting. He also welcomed Mr Lacour and other special invitees to the meeting. Mr M.V. Madane of the ICA Regional Office was accepted as the Secretary of the Group.

3. At the outset, members discussed the broad objectives and the functioning of this Group. The discussion centred around the question whether the Group should function as a separate entity or whether the question of fisheries should be included on the Agenda of meetings of the ICA Sub-Committee for Agriculture and Trade. It was decided that in order to ensure proper discussion on the various technical and other aspects concerning fishery cooperatives it would be useful to have a separate Group. This was conceived as a separate forum for the development of fishery cooperatives, and when funds permitted it would be possible for this Group to meet independently of the Agriculture Sub-Committee. It was suggested that the Group should meet prior to the meeting of the Sub-Committee so that Group's recommendations could be considered at the meeting of the Sub-Committee which would follow.

4. The following matters were discussed at the meeting. Introductory remarks were made by Mr Lacour when each matter was taken up.

5. Regional Seminar on Fisheries, Bombay, India

The FAO had decided to organise this seminar in collaboration with the ICA and to take care of most of the expenses involved in holding the seminar. The Members of the Group welcomed the proposal and agreed to support the seminar if it was to be held by the FAO in collaboration with the ICA.

6. Cooperative Fish Canning Project, Ceylon

Mr Lacour briefed the meeting about the proposal to send a Fishery Expert from France to Ceylon to study the needs of cooperative fishery societies for their development. He said that the expert would visit Ceylon along with the Regional Director and would spend about one month in Ceylon studying the fisheries in Ceylon. The Members of the Group welcomed the proposal to send such an expert to Ceylon and thanked the French Movement for the assistance offered in this regard. It was suggested that as the Expert would be visiting a country in this Region, the possibility of his visiting some neighbouring countries to help their fishery cooperatives should be explored. Mr Lacour indicated that the Expert would be able to extend the period of his visit by about a week if any Movement were interested in consulting the expert. The Movements should coordinate this programme with the Regional Office. It was decided that a letter should be addressed to the movements in the Region about the expert's visit to find out whether they wished to use the services of the expert during this period.

7. IBASEC

Mr Lacour informed the Group of the proposal to establish International Business Advisory Service for Cooperatives (IBASEC). This will work as an Expert body for providing consultative services for the preparation of projects and for the development of trade. The Agency which will be a body corporate established under the UK Law was being organised with the support of individuals rather than of organisations. Mr Lacour stated that cooperatives would hold about 50% of the share capital of this agency. Mr Lacour requested movements of this Region to support this Agency and to suggest the names of persons who could be associated with this Agency. The members welcomed the suggestion and requested the Regional Office to collect additional information on the proposal and circulate it among the movements in the Region so as to enable them to consider the question of joining this agency. The Group expressed its appreciation of the efforts being made by Mr Lacour and others for the establishment of IBASEC. The cooperative movements in the Region were in need of a contact in Europe for trade development and it was hoped that IBASEC would provide this contact in future.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair and to Mr P. Lacour, the meeting was closed.
