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# INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE



The aim of this brochure, which is designed not for the expert but for the rank-and-file Cooperator, is to describe briefly some of the features of the International Cooperative Alliance, its aims and work. The ICA Regional Office and Education Centre, which have been set up in New Delhi to serve the Cooperative Movements in South-East Asia, are dealt with more fully. It is our hope that this brochure will help the Cooperators in South-East Asia to feel a part of the international fraternity which the Alliance symbolises.

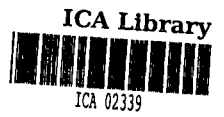


(S. K. Saxena)  
Regional Officer.

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11 UPPER GROSVENOR STREET  
LONDON W.1.  
ENGLAND  
CABLE : "INTERALLIA"

REGIONAL OFFICE & EDUCATION CENTRE  
FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA,  
P.O. BOX NO. 639  
NEW DELHI. (INDIA)  
CABLE : "INTERALLIA"

ICA Offices in New Delhi



# The International Cooperative Alliance

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The ICA is one of the oldest existing international voluntary bodies, and is a world-wide confederation of Co-operative Organisations of all types. Founded by the International Cooperative Congress held in London in 1895, it embraces more than 174,000,000 members of Co-operative Societies in 53 different countries. It is the only organisation entirely and exclusively dedicated to the promotion of Cooperation in all parts of the world.

Through the Alliance each of these members, without distinction of colour or creed, is linked with his fellow-Cooperators in the pursuit of Co-operative Aims.

## PURPOSE AND TASKS

The Purpose of the Alliance is “to propagate Co-operative Principles and methods and to promote friendly and economic relations among Co-operative Organisations of all types, both nationally and internationally”.

## EDUCATION :

Education is necessary if Co-operative ideas are to be rightly applied and successfully carried out in the economic and social spheres. The Alliance is constantly collecting and spreading information about every type of Co-operative enterprise. It enables Co-operative thinkers to reach an international audience. It provides a forum for discussion, where sound doctrines and practices can be winnowed from false and the best solutions found for Cooperators' common problems.

## SOLIDARITY :

Co-operative Movements cannot live in isolation behind their national frontiers. The Alliance keeps its members aware of one another's problems, struggles and set-backs so that each can learn from the experience of the rest.

Because of the interests they share in common, there is a strong feeling of solidarity among Cooperators everywhere. In the highly developed Movements of the West this solidarity finds expression in a lively exchange of experiences and knowledge. The ICA is constantly finding ways of extending this international exchange of Cooperative experiences to the newly-developing Movements of Africa, Asia and Latin America. A separate Sub-Committee on Technical Assistance is the organ of the ICA, especially concerned with this work. This has already resulted in many benefits to Cooperative Organisations in developing countries.

The importance of the ICA as an International Organisation for the promotion of social and economic progress is recognised by the United Nations, with whose Economic and Social Council the ICA enjoys the highest consultative status-Category A. The Alliance has been granted similar status by the ILO, FAO, UNESCO and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

#### ECONOMIC RELATIONS :

Cooperative Organisations of different countries can not only be friends, they can also be partners in trading and industrial undertakings. They can buy and sell one another's products and set up common services like banking and insurance. Through the Alliance they can explore these possibilities and mutually strengthen their position against their competitors.

#### MEMBERSHIP

Especially after the Second World War, Cooperative Movements outside Europe have joined the Alliance to an increasing extent. Now the majority of Movements affiliated to the Alliance are from Africa, Asia and Latin America. The ICA accepts as members Cooperative Societies of all types and their federations, provided they are genuine. They must observe in practice the famous Rochdale Principles, namely :—

1. Voluntary membership
2. Democratic control
3. Distribution of surplus to members in proportion to their participation in their society's transactions
4. Limited interest on capital

Since 1954 the ICA has accepted Cooperative Organisations under government supervision and control as Associate Members, as a transitional stage until they attain self-government and become eligible for full membership.



## LONG-TERM PROGRAMME OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

By 1960 it was considered that the ICA had gained sufficient experience to justify it in drawing up a long-term programme of technical assistance. This programme was outlined at the 21st International Cooperative Congress held at Lausanne, Switzerland, in October 1960.

The programme consists not of targets but of lines of action which the Alliance can pursue for as long a period as the Cooperative situation in the developing countries requires. These lines are as follows :

1. Continuation and completion of the exploration of the developing regions. This exploration has begun in South-East Asia, continued with Latin America and is to be extended to Africa, the Middle-East and Oceania.
2. Intensive research into Cooperative problems of all kinds according to the needs of the respective regions by qualified persons selected from the Region.
3. Promotion of education at all levels, not only by the ICA itself through seminars and courses, but also by assisting the establishment and development of National Cooperative Schools and Colleges, and particularly by promoting the publication of text-books in vernacular languages.
4. Collaboration with the United Nations and other Agencies in research, the organisation of courses, preparation of hand-books, production of films, selection and training of experts and sponsoring pilot projects.
5. Promotion and expansion of trade between Cooperative Organisations of the developing regions and those of the industrialised countries, together with assistance in creating secondary institutions for credit, banking and insurance.

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## The ICA in South-East Asia

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Proposals for establishing Regional Offices of the ICA in various parts of the world were included in the development plan adopted after the Second World War. The first to be realized was in South-East Asia. After an exploratory tour in the winter of 1955-56 by Dr. G. Keler of Sweden, a Conference was convened at Kuala Lumpur in January 1958 for the purpose of consulting the Organisations and Governments of the Region. Guided by their views and its own further studies, the Alliance decided to locate its Regional Office at New Delhi, India, where work began in November 1960.

In November 1960, the ICA and the National Cooperative Union of India organised a Regional Seminar on "Co-operative Leadership in South-East Asia" at New Delhi. The seminar aroused great interest and was attended by delegates from ten Asian countries. The importance attached to the Seminar, not only by Cooperative Organisations, but by the Authorities as well, was underlined by the fact that it was inaugurated by the late Prime Minister of India, Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru.

The Seminar at New Delhi also marked the beginning of the work of the ICA Regional Office and the ICA Education Centre for South-East Asia. Both have been established to ensure greater efficiency, coordination and continuity in the efforts of the ICA, through its Technical Assistance Sub-Committee, to promote the growth of strong voluntary Cooperative Movements in the countries of South-East Asia besides enabling these Movements to play a more important role in the counsels of the Alliance.

To ensure further coordination and efficiency in their working the Regional Office and the Education Centre were merged into one in the autumn of 1963.







## Regional Office and Education Centre

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The Regional Office is an extension of the ICA Secretariat in London. It is headed by the Regional Officer. The Regional Office has the task of developing the general activities of the Alliance in the Region, acting as a link between the ICA and its affiliated National Movements and representing it in its consultative relations with the regional establishments of the United Nations and other International Organisations.

The Regional Office includes the Education Centre which is financially supported by the Swedish Cooperative Movement. The main work of the Centre is to complement and supplement the work carried on by the Movements in South-East Asia. The Centre works in very close collaboration with the National Cooperative Movements and also maintains close and steady contacts with the Government Departments of Cooperation in the Region. The Centre is an indication of the very keen interest of Swedish Cooperators in International matters.

The Regional Officer is in overall charge of the ICA Offices. The Education Centre is headed by a Director. A small team of specialists in different fields of Cooperation is also attached to the Organisation.

### ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Advisory Council of the ICA was formed in 1961. It consists of eminent Cooperators drawn from all over the Region. The Council members help to shape and guide the policy of the ICA Offices.

The Council usually meets once a year to consider the programme for the year ahead. Suggestions and alterations in the programme are then discussed and subsequently approved by the ICA Technical Assistance Sub-Committee. The Advisory Council members are kept constantly informed about the activities of the Regional Office.

*Nine*

# Educational Activities

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In connection with its educational activities, the Centre organises seminars, courses, conferences and workshops of different types. The main educational activities are in the form of seminars. On an average five Regional and three to four National Seminars are conducted yearly. Since the beginning of 1960 the ICA Offices have organised more than 25 seminars which were attended by over 500 participants from different countries in the Region.

## REGIONAL SEMINARS

These are organised by the Centre in collaboration with the National Movement in the country where the seminar is held. These seminars cover subjects of vital Cooperative interest and are rotated around the countries of the Region. Invitations for regional seminars are extended to the National Unions and the Government Departments of Cooperation. Generally, four participants are invited from each country, and these participants are selected directly by the countries themselves.

Although initially the emphasis was on Agricultural Cooperation and Cooperative Education, reflecting the trend in the Region, seminars are now also held around subjects such as Cooperative Housing, Insurance, etc. In some cases, experts are invited from advanced Cooperative Movements to act as resource persons.

## NATIONAL COURSES

National courses are held at the express request of the National Cooperative Movements. The ICA suggests a suitable programme for the course, and sends one or more of its officers to lead the course. The National Union invites participants and takes care of all practical arrangements and course expenses, except those incurred by the personnel of the ICA. These are met by the ICA itself.

National Seminars have so far been held in India, Pakistan, Malaysia, Nepal and the Philippines.





## FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

After every seminar, a report is prepared embodying the conclusions of the discussions. The report is then distributed widely throughout the Region and also to interested Cooperators in the West. The participants to the seminars are generally people who hold important positions in their own Movements and are thus expected on their return to become the carriers of fruitful ideas.

## EXPERTS' CONFERENCES

These are organised around pertinent Cooperative problems. Participation is directly invited by the office from people who have specialised knowledge in the subject chosen and who have the detached perspective to subject the problems to a close analysis. Thus, university teachers, individual researchers and, of course, leading people from the Cooperative Movements participate in the conferences. The papers and the conclusions are sometimes published and form useful material for Cooperators.

## MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

In the Spring of 1964 the Centre organised one of its most important regional conferences on "The Role of Cooperation in Social and Economic Development" in Tokyo, Japan. The purpose of this top-level event was to create a forum for discussion between Ministers of Cooperation, Commissioners, Presidents and General Secretaries of National Cooperative Unions. Several leading Western Cooperators also participated. The Conference brought out a number of good suggestions including the idea of holding a Cooperative Trade Conference for South-East Asian Movements.

## ICA FELLOWSHIPS

In order to enable selected Cooperators from the Region to undertake advanced training in Cooperation, the ICA initiated, in 1962, its Fellowship Programme. Under this programme three Fellows, selected from different countries of the Region, spend six months at the ICA Offices in New Delhi. The Programme offered is a balanced combination of carefully supervised readings, field investigations and report writing. The Fellows also take an active part in those events of the ICA which are of particular interest to them.

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## Other Activities

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### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

A major function of the Regional Office is to render technical assistance which, in its broadest sense, includes the supply of expertise, finance and, in fact, any kind of help from one Movement to another. More concretely this function could be broken down into the following four aspects: identification of the areas of technical assistance either at the Centre's own initiative or through the receipt of requests from Cooperative Organisations; the conduct of preliminary inquiries and negotiations with the various agencies including the Government of the receiving country; processing of the project with ICA Headquarters which then takes up the matter with its member-organisations, who may have the required skill or finances; and finally, where necessary, arranging for the orientation of the expert to local problems and conditions.

### STUDY CIRCLE PROJECTS

As a direct result of the regional seminar on "The Techniques and Methods of Cooperative Member Education" held in Singapore in April 1963, the ICA decided to start experiments in the techniques of member-education by organising some study circles under the supervision of the Centre's Member Education Specialist. The results of these experiments will, at the appropriate stage, be circulated widely throughout the Region so as to indicate to the Movements the possibilities of applying successful techniques of member education.

### RESEARCH

The need for research programmes in some fields within the Cooperative sector has for a long time been strongly felt by the ICA. The following research projects have already been completed.



1. As a direct result of the jointly sponsored ICA/UNESCO Regional Seminar on “The Role of Cooperation in the Emancipation of Women” held in New Delhi in November 1962, the ICA sponsored a study to explore the possibilities of coordination between the Cooperative Movements and Women’s Organisations of the Region. This study, which was undertaken by a Pakistani Cooperator, came out with various suggestions to achieve closer collaboration between the two organisations.
2. Job descriptions of Cooperative personnel in South-East Asia.
3. A Review of research studies conducted by Universities and other institutions in the field of Cooperation in India.
4. Study of the Cooperative training institutions in the Region.

Currently the ICA Research Department has other interesting studies in hand, such as “Study of Cooperative Marketing in South-East Asian countries”, “The Structure of National Cooperative Unions” and a “Comparative Study of Cooperative Laws in South-East Asia”.

#### TRADE

Another important function of the ICA Offices is the promotion of Cooperative Trade among the Movements of the Region, and between them and the Western Movements. The ICA helps constantly in the exchange of trade data between its member-organisations.

With a view to provide these services on a regular and systematic footing, the ICA has compiled a Cooperative Import-Export Trade Directory in South-East Asia which lists commodities along with their specifications, which the Movements wish to export or import.

#### CONSULTATIVE SERVICES

In 1963, at the request of the Government of India, the former Director of the Education Centre acted as a Consultant to the Ministry of Cooperation on the various aspects of the Consumer Cooperative Education Programme.

The ICA also helped in the selection of South-East Asian participants to a nine month International Seminar organised by the Swedish Centre for Cooperative Development.

The ICA Office receives requests from the Movements in the Region for advice on specific problems, and here too it extends all possible guidance and assistance.



consumer affairs

BULLETIN

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE HUPPER CROSSVENOR STREET LONDON W1



Agricultural Cooperative

BULLETIN

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE HUPPER CROSSVENOR STREET LONDON W1

## Co-operative Trade Directory for South-East Asia

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE  
Regional Office & Education Centre for South-East Asia  
P.O. Box 101, New Delhi - 110002, India



cooperative news service

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE HUPPER CROSSVENOR STREET LONDON W1

*Letter From the ICA*

REGIONAL OFFICE AND EDUCATION CENTRE 4 CAMPUS ROAD NEW DELHI

Annotated Bibliography of Literature  
Produced by the Co-operative Movements  
in South-East Asia

International Co-operative Alliance  
Regional Office & Education Centre for South-East Asia  
P.O. Box 101, New Delhi - 110002, India

## REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION



## Co-operative Press in South-East Asia

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE  
Regional Office & Education Centre for South-East Asia  
P.O. Box 101, New Delhi - 110002, India

Research in Co-operation in India  
A Review

International Co-operative Alliance  
Regional Office & Education Centre for South-East Asia  
P.O. Box 101, New Delhi - 110002, India

COOPERATIVE LEADERSHIP IN SOUTH EAST ASIA

## COOPERATIVE LEADERSHIP IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU  
MAURITZ BONHOW  
M. R. BHIDE  
W. F. WATKINS  
P. S. WEERARATNE  
D. G. KARVE  
D. R. GADGI  
J. C. BRYAN  
L. C. JAIN  
A. G. ANJARI  
U. K. NIEL  
S. K. DEY



International Co-operative Alliance

## Publications

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The ICA acts as an agency for the collection and dissemination of news and information about Cooperative developments in every part of the world. The following journals are issued from the Head Office in London.

**THE REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION :**

is an illustrated bi-monthly, published in English, French and German. It is the official organ of the ICA and through it, National Organisations, individual Cooperators and others are kept informed of the activities of the Alliance as well as the latest developments, ideas and trends within the International Cooperative Movement. It also serves as a forum for the discussion of the Movement's policy and problems.

**THE COOPERATIVE NEWS SERVICE AND THE CONSUMER AFFAIRS BULLETIN :**

are issued monthly in English and bi-monthly in English and French respectively.

**THE AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE BULLETIN :**

is issued monthly in English, carries reports of developments in Agricultural Cooperation and related fields.

**FILM BULLETIN :**

is issued occasionally, gives details of new Cooperative films and others which are of interest to Cooperators. It also carries information and new techniques and methods of using films etc.

**REPORTS OF INTERNATIONAL CONGRESSES :**

are issued triennially, contain in one volume the Report of the Central Committee and any supplementary reports and memoranda, the special Congress papers and a full report on the proceedings including the text of resolutions. Published in English and French.

**CONGRESS IN BRIEF :**

gives a summary of proceedings and appears in English, French and German.

**AN ANNUAL STATISTICAL SUMMARY :**

showing the progress made by different branches of the Movement and the Alliance as a whole is issued every summer.

**DIRECTORY OF THE COOPERATIVE PRESS :**

contains particulars of the publishers, editors, frequency, subscription and circulation of the journals of the Movements.

**CATALOGUE OF COOPERATIVE FILMS :**

gives particulars of the subject, running time and gauge of silent and sound films used in Cooperative propaganda and education by the ICA affiliated organisations.

**INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION :**

reports of national organisations on their activities for stated periods. The five volumes cover 32 years of the Movement's history beginning from 1924.

**COOPERATION IN WORLD ECONOMY :**

by Thorsten Odhe, now in its second edition, surveys the wide field of Cooperation and describes its role in economic and social development today.

**COOPERATION FOR FISHERMEN :**

by Margaret Digby, produced in collaboration with the FAO, is a comprehensive survey and study of Fishermen's Cooperatives. Available in English, French and Spanish.

**PUBLICATIONS FROM THE NEW DELHI OFFICE :**

**COOPERATIVE LEADERSHIP IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA :**

This book contains valuable contributions made by eminent cooperators at the Seminar on Cooperative Leadership in South-East Asia, held at New Delhi in November 1960. Price 10 Sh.

**ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF LITERATURE PRODUCED BY COOP. MOVEMENTS IN THE REGION :**

This publication enumerates the literature produced by the Movements in the Region, both in English and Vernacular languages. Price 3 Sh. plus postage. Issued half-yearly.

#### COOPERATIVE PRESS IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA :

List of Cooperative journals in South-East Asia. Price 9 d. plus Postage

#### COOPERATIVE TRADE DIRECTORY FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA :

Contains information about Cooperative Organisations with the list of commodities they are interested in importing or exporting. Price. 1 Sh. 6 d. plus Postage.

#### LETTER FROM THE ICA :

This newsletter is issued periodically and it describes the activities of the Regional Office & Education Centre in the South-East Asian Region.

Booklets are issued from time to time dealing with problems faced by the Cooperative Movements in this part of the world.

Mimeographed material is collected giving information about the Cooperative activities in the Region as well as in the Western countries. This material is available on request from the ICA free of charge.

#### BOOK ON ACCOUNTING :

This is a simplified book on Cooperative accounting which should be of value to secretaries and other personnel working in Cooperatives. It is currently under preparation.

#### SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Review of International Cooperation	...	...	...	...	...	£ 1 per year
Cooperative News Service	...	...	...	...	...	10sh. per year
Consumer Affairs Bulletin	...	...	...	...	...	15sh. per year
Agricultural Cooperative Bulletin	...	...	...	...	...	10sh. per year
Digest of Cooperative Press	...	...	...	...	...	10sh. per year
Film Bulletin	...	...	...	...	...	2sh. 6d. per year
Reports of International Congresses	...	...	...	...	...	£ 1
Statistics of Affiliated Organisations, 1946-49	...	...	...	...	...	£ 1
Annual Comparative Statistical Statements	...	...	...	...	...	5sh.
International Directory of the Cooperative Press, 1954	...	...	...	...	...	4sh.

Supplement, 1957	...	...	...	...	...	...	5sh.
Catalogue of Cooperative Films			...	...	...	...	4sh.
Supplement, 1957	...	...	...	...	...	...	5sh.
International Cooperation, 1949-57	...	...	...	...	...	...	£ 1 15sh.
Cooperation in World Economy. Thorsten Odhe	...	...	...	...	...	...	4sh. 6d.

## LIBRARY

The ICA Offices in New Delhi maintain a Library which by the end of 1965 will have about 5,000 volumes on Co-operation and related subjects. The Library maintains close collaboration with other institutions in order to ensure coordination to mutual advantage. The Library also receives a large number of Cooperative journals from different countries of the world.

## COLLABORATION WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

In keeping with the policy of the Alliance, the ICA Offices in New Delhi maintain close collaboration with the United Nations agencies like UNESCO, FAO, ILO and ECAFE. The ICA receives invitations to attend meetings organised by the various international agencies and, in turn, extends invitations to them to attend its own seminars and conferences.

## LOOKING AHEAD

The ICA Regional Office and Education Centre have been able to set in motion a series of educational and research activities; they function as effective clearing house for the exchange of a variety of Cooperative experiences which are relevant to the needs of the Movements in the Region; they also provide an institutional frame-work for the smooth flow of technical assistance from one Cooperative Movement to another under the auspices of the Alliance. It must be stressed that these achievements have been made possible by the whole-hearted collaboration which the Alliance has received from the Movements in the Region. Under the guidance of its Advisory Council, the Regional Office and Education Centre, therefore, look forward to the future development of their activities with hope and optimism.



## ADDRESSES OF NATIONAL COOPERATIVE UNIONS IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA AFFILIATED TO THE ICA

- BURMA** The National Cooperative Council  
290-300 Lewis Street, 2nd floor  
Rangoon (Union of Burma)
- The Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives 11, 1-chome, Yurakucho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo
- The National Federation of Fishery Cooperative Associations  
Sankaido Building, Akasaka-ta Meikomachi Minato-ku, Tokyo
- CEYLON** The Cooperative Fedn. of Ceylon  
"Cooperative House"  
455 Galle Road, Colombo-3
- KOREA** The National Agricultural Cooperatives Federation 75, 1st Street Chung-Jong Ro, Sodaemun-ku, Seoul
- INDIA** The National Coop. Union of India  
72 Jorbagh, New Delhi-3
- All-Bombay Consumers' Coop. Societies' Federation Limited, Military Square Lane, Fort, Bombay-1
- The National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation Ltd.  
34 South Patel Nagar, New Delhi-12
- MALAYSIA** The Cooperative Union of Malaya  
8 Holland Road, Kuala Lumpur
- The Federation of Cooperative Housing Societies, 8 Holland Road, Kuala Lumpur
- The Singapore Cooperative Union Limited Post Box 366, Singapore
- JAPAN** The Japanese Consumers' Cooperative Union, Rokin-kaikan, 5, 2-chome Shiba-Tamura-cho, Minato-ku, Tokyo
- Sarawak Cooperative Central Bank Limited, Kuching, Sarawak

**PAKISTAN** The East Pakistan Cooperative Union  
9/D Motijheel Commercial Area  
Dacca-2

The Karachi Central Cooperative Bank  
14 Luxmi Building, Bunder Road,  
Karachi-2

The Karachi Cooperative Housing Soci-  
eties Union  
Shaheed-e-Millat Road, Karachi-5

The Karachi Fishermen's Cooperative  
Purchase and Sales Society Limited  
West Wharf Road, Karachi

The West Pakistan Cooperative Union  
31 Lower Mall, Lahore-1

The Karachi Central Cooperative Con-  
sumers Union  
Iqbal Market and Cold Storage,  
Soldier Bazar,  
Karachi

The Karachi Cooperative Union Ltd.  
4 Bandukwale Building,  
McLeod Road,  
Karachi

The Sind Provincial Cooperative Bank  
Ltd., Provincial Cooperative Bank  
Building, Serai Road, Post Box 4705,  
Karachi-2

**PHILIPPINES** Central Cooperative Exchange, Inc.  
Bangcal  
Meycauayan  
Bulacan

# STRUCTURE OF THE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE



174,000,000, MEMBERS

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**INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE**

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