

AGENDA NOTES

ICA Council for South-East Asia

13/12/77

NINETEENTH MEETING

Venue BALI, INDONESIA

Dates 9TH & 10TH DECEMBER, 1977

*International Cooperative Alliance,
Regional Office & Education Centre for S-E Asia,
43 Friends' Colony, New Delhi-110014, India.*

International Cooperative Alliance

19

AGENDA AND MINUTES

19th Meeting of the ICA Council for S-E. Asia

~~XX~~ BALI, INDONESIA

Dec. 9-10, 1977

ICA NEW DELHI

NINETEENTH MEETING OF THE ICA COUNCIL FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA
Bali, Indonesia 9th & 10th December 1977

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ANNEXE

- I. MINUTES OF THE 18TH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 : WELCOME

1. A Council Member for Indonesia will welcome the members of the Council on behalf of the Cooperative Movement of Indonesia.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 : INTRODUCTORY REMARKS BY
THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

2. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, ICA Regional Director for South-East Asia, will welcome the members of the Council.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 : ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

3. In accordance with the amended Rule 4 of the ICA Council for South-East Asia, the members of the Council are requested to elect a new Chairman from among the members from the host country, viz. Indonesia. The new Chairman's term of office will be till the next Council Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 : CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF
THE 18TH MEETING

4. The minutes of the last meeting, held at Tehran, Iran, have been circulated to all the members. The member for the Philippines, Mr. B.P. Faustino, had suggested certain corrections in the minutes which were circulated among the members. No other comments have been received. The minutes may be confirmed.

4.1 Action taken on the minutes is given in relevant agenda items of these Notes.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 : BACKGROUND PAPERS ON THE COOPERATIVE
MOVEMENT OF EACH COUNTRY

5. All the member-organisations in the Region have been requested to send in papers containing upto date information on their respective cooperative movements. Papers received before the meeting will be circulated.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 : ADMINISTRATION

Follow-up action on the Minutes

6.1 The chart shown below indicates the action taken by the ICA Regional Office on the various decisions taken by the Council at the 18th Meeting :

Page & Para Nos. of Minutes

Action taken

Para 31(b), page 21 : Member-organisations to be asked to furnish figures of contributions made to ROEC in kind.

A circular letter has been addressed to the member-organisations requesting them to furnish us a statement of the cost incurred by them in 1977 in respect of any project or programme worked in collaboration with the ROEC, New Delhi.

Para 45, page 40 : Japanese gift of films on Consumers Cooperatives to ROEC : The Council should place on record its thanks to the National Consumer Cooperative Federation for the gift of films.

A letter to this effect was sent.

Members' Contributions to the Funds of the ICA ROEC

6.2 The ROEC is glad to report that the following member-organisations have contributed the amounts mentioned against their names to the funds of the Regional Office for the financial year 1976-77 :

Member organisations	Remittance	Indian Rupees
National Cooperative Union of India		25,000/-
Sepah Consumers Cooperative, Tehran		5,490/-
Japanese Joint Committee on Coops	£1,933/-	29,258/-
National Agricultural Cooperative Federation, Republic of Korea		10,000/-
Singapore National Cooperative Union		3,250/-
National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka	£50/-	750/-
Cooperative League of Thailand		8,000/-
	Total	81,748/-

Contributions to the ICA ROEC in respect of work done for the Sub-Committee on Agriculture & Trade for S.E. Asia

6.3 For the year 1976-77, contributions have been received from the member-organisations in Australia, India, Iran, Japan, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand amounting to £355/-. Reminders have been sent to the member-organisations in the other countries.

Concessions by the Government of India

6.4 The foreign experts attached to the ICA ROEC continue to enjoy income-tax and import-duty concessions from the Government of India.

Staff Changes

6.5 Mr. Palita E. Weeraman, after serving the International Cooperative Alliance as Regional Director for South-East Asia for nine years, retired on the 31st July, 1977.

6.6 Mr. R.B. Rajaguru has been appointed as the new ICA Regional Director for South-East Asia in succession to Mr. P.E. Weeraman, who has retired. Mr. Rajaguru, a Sri Lankan, is the fourth person to hold the post since the establishment of the Regional Office in New Delhi.

Mr. Rajaguru was educated in Kandy and obtained a B.A. (Hons) Degree in Economics at the University of Sri Lanka. He then joined the Sri Lanka government service and served in several capacities like Assistant Food Controller and Deputy Commissioner in the Department of Citizenship Registration for non-nationals and joined the Department of Cooperative Development in 1957 as an Assistant Commissioner. He became Commissioner for Cooperative Development in 1973.

He has been the Principal of the School of Cooperation, Polgolla, Sri Lanka, for eight years, and has also been a Director of the People's Bank, which is the apex bank for the cooperative movement in Sri Lanka. Mr. Rajaguru was a Director of the Cooperative Wholesale Establishment, the Agricultural Training and Research Institute and of the Cooperative Management Services Centre. Prior to taking up his appointment with the ICA he was General Manager of the Insurance Corporation of Sri Lanka.

6.7 Mr. M.V. Madane, who was on an assignment with FAO in Afghanistan as Cooperative Adviser to the PACCA Project, has been given extension for one more year upto 31st August, 1978.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7EDUCATION CENTRESECTION - I : ACTION TAKEN ON THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

7.1 Programme of activities approved by the Council for the year July 1976 to June 1977 has been partly carried out as is reported in Section-II. Other activities will be carried out during the remaining part of the year. In this connection the following matters are referred to the Council for their information and decision.

Page & Para Nos. of Minutes

Action taken

Page 22, Para 34(a) : Course on "The Relationship between the Board of Directors and the Chief Executive in a Cooperative Organisation".

As suggested by the Council, the Cooperative Federation of Australia agreed to host the above course. This agreement was reached on 21.3.1977 and it was decided that the Course will be held in Perth from 22 to 30 August and that 15 participants would be invited from countries other than Japan and Iran. The funding of the Course was being done by the government of Australia and as these two countries were donors to Colombo Plan, it was not possible for the Australian government and the Cooperative Federation of Australia to pay costs for participants from these two countries. The Regional Office issued invitations to member organisations on 31st March 1977 to send their nominations. The last date for receiving the nominations was 30 June 1977.

The following guidelines were suggested to the member organisations for nominating participants:

- i. Nominated participants should preferably be not above 50 years of age.
- ii. Nominated participants should possess good knowledge of the English language.
- iii. The Course will be conducted at a high level. Hence the participants should be senior personnel with several years of cooperative experience.
- iv. Participants will be drawn from the following categories :-
General Managers/Chief Executives, Presidents or Senior Vice-Presidents of large cooperative business organisations preferably at the national level.

- v. It is essential to have an equal number of chief executives and Presidents or senior Vice-Presidents at the course for the purpose of an effective interaction among the participants. In view of this, it is indicated in the invitation letter the category of the participant to be selected from each country.
- vi. The nominated participants should be available to work in their respective cooperative organisations for at least three years after participation in the Course.

The ICA ROEC received only 7 nominations till 30 June 1977 - the last date for receipt of nominations. Among the nominations received, some did not conform to the qualifications prescribed. In view of this it was agreed by the ICA ROEC and the Cooperative Federation of Australia to postpone the Course. The Cooperative Federation of Australia has indicated to the ICA ROEC that they would be willing to hold the Course in April or June 1978 depending upon the discussions at the forthcoming Regional Council meeting in December 1977.

Page 30, Para 11 (Section III):
Member Education: Referring to the Indian problem of Member Education, Mr. Tiwari requested the ICA to assist the Indian Movement in formulating a Member-Education programme which is cheap as well as effective for the massive membership of the Indian Cooperatives.

Action will be initiated shortly to carry out the study in the field of Member Education as suggested by the Council.

Page 33, Para 12 (Section III):
Special Studies: Mr. Tiwari mentioned the problems arising in the wake of new economic programme... Mr. Tiwari requested the ICA to make a study of these problems and suggest ways by which the cooperatives could help the people in these three fields.

The matter has been taken up with the National Cooperative Union of India.

Page 34, Para 13 (Section III):
Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia.

The Committee has been constituted and the first meeting of the Committee will be held in Bali, Indonesia on 8th December 1977.

SECTION II : REVIEW OF EDUCATION ACTIVITIES
NOVEMBER 1976 TO SEPTEMBER 1977

7.2 The following educational activities were carried out by the Education Centre during the period November 1976 to September 1977 :

REGIONAL SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

Third Open Asian Conference

7.3 An Open Asian Conference on "Cooperative Credit and Financial Management" was held by the ICA Regional Office & Education Centre for South-East Asia in collaboration with the National Cooperative Union of India in Madras, India, from 15th to 18th November, 1976. 141 delegates from seven countries of South-East Asia attended the Conference. Study visits to important cooperatives in the State of Tamil Nadu were organised from 19th to 22nd November 1976.

The conference discussed Credit Planning and Financial Management for Agricultural Development and for Consumer and Industrial Cooperative Development; Organisational Structure and Rationalisation; and Manpower Planning, Training & Development.

First Meeting of SEASPECT

7.4 The first meeting of the South-East Asian Specialists Group on Cooperative Training (SEASPECT) was held in New Delhi from 7th to 12th February, 1977, in the ICA Regional Office and Education Centre for South-East Asia premises. Members of the group from India, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Nepal, the Philippines and Sri Lanka, attended the meeting. Project Director, CEMAS, London also participated in the meeting as a special invitee.

ILO/Turin Centre/ICA Course in Training Methodology & Techniques

7.5 The first part of the course in Training Methodology and Techniques for Cooperative Staff Training in Asia was held from 7th March to 29th April 1977, at Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Management (VMNICM), Poona. The course was jointly organised by the International Labour Office, Geneva, International Centre for Advanced Technical and Vocational Training, Turin, and International Cooperative Alliance, Regional

Office and Education Centre for South-East Asia, New Delhi. 25 participants from twelve countries attended the course. The countries represented were : Bangladesh, Burma, India, Indonesia, Iran, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

7.6 Study visits to various cooperative organisations in Maharashtra, Gujarat and Karnataka States of India were arranged.

7.7 Principal subjects studied by the participants during the training course included cooperative training in Asia, pedagogy and educational psychology, training methodology and techniques, training modules and packages, educational technology, training effectiveness control, innovations in cooperatives and organisation training.

7.8 The participants were given specific assignments to be carried out during the period of the course itself. The participants were also given assignments which they would complete within 12 months from the completion of the course. The teaching material produced by the participants will be a useful contribution to CEMAS.

7.9 The second part of the course was held in Turin from 1st May to 24th June 1977.

Regional Seminar on Management of Agricultural Cooperatives

7.10 The Regional Seminar on "Management of Agricultural Cooperatives with special reference to Multipurpose Cooperatives" was held in IDACA, Tokyo (Japan) from 1st to 21st September, 1977. Twenty participants from ten countries i.e. Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Iran, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand, attended the Seminar. The Seminar was held in collaboration with the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives of Japan and IDACA and was preceded by study visits in the Republic of Korea. The objectives of the Seminar were to review the working of Agricultural Cooperatives in South-East Asia, to identify managerial problems, to study management of Agricultural Cooperatives with special reference to Multipurpose Cooperatives in Japan, to discuss problems of Agricultural Cooperatives in countries of the Region and ways of solving them in the context of experience in Japan.

NATIONAL SEMINARS

7.11 A National Seminar on "Integrated Approach to Agricultural Cooperative Development in Nepal" was held by the Department of Cooperatives, His Majesty's Government of Nepal in collaboration with the International Cooperative Alliance, Regional Office & Education Centre for South-East Asia from 5th to 14th December 1976, at the Cooperative Training Centre, Kathmandu. 25 participants from the Department of Cooperatives, Land Reform Department, Sajha Society Ltd., Central Sajha Development Committee, and Agriculture Inputs Corporation participated in the Seminar.

7.12 Assistance was provided to the NCUI's National Centre for Cooperative Education, New Delhi in conducting National Workshop on Audio-visual Aids at the Basic Training Course for Cooperative Instructors from 6th to 8th December 1976. 14 participants from different states of India participated in the Workshop.

7.13 A National Training Programme for Managers of Consumer Cooperative Stores in Thailand was held from 21 to 25 February, 1977 in collaboration with the Cooperative League of Thailand. The objective of the Training Programme was "Increasing of Managerial Efficiency in Consumer Cooperatives". The training programme was attended by 25 managers, 9 assistant managers and 5 observers. The case study of the Phranakorn Cooperative Consumer Store made by Mr. M.K. Puri, Specialist in Consumer Cooperation was very useful in conducting the course.

7.14 A National Basic Course for Women Cooperators was organised by the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka in collaboration with the ICA ROEC, at the School of Cooperation, Polgolla, Sri Lanka from 3-9 March 1977. Presidents, Secretaries and Members of the Multipurpose Cooperative Societies were the participants. The total number of the participants was 38. The study carried out by ICA Resource Persons of present position and role of women in cooperatives in Sri Lanka as mentioned in Para 7.20 provided useful material for the course.

7.15 A National Basic Course for Women Cooperators was organised at the Cooperative College, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia from 14-19 March 1977 by ANGKASA in collaboration with ICA ROEC. The total number of participants was 43.

7.16 A National Seminar on Leadership and Management was held in Seoul, Republic of Korea from 20th May to 23rd May 1977. There were eighteen participants. The case study of Miyang Agricultural Cooperative Society in Korea made by Mr. L. Gunawardana, Specialist in Agricultural Cooperation, was used for conducting the course.

7.17 A National Orientation Course for the Librarians of Cooperative Organisations/Institutions and Training Colleges of India, was organised by the National Council for Cooperative Training with the assistance of the ICA ROEC from 13-25 June 1977 at the ICA ROEC premises. There were 20 participants from different states of India.

7.18 The Cooperative League of Thailand organised in collaboration with the ICA ROEC, a National Workshop on Audio-visual Aids for Cooperative Educators in Thailand from September 12 to 23, 1977. The participants included the trainers from the Cooperative Training Centre of the Cooperative Promotion Department, University teachers, and trainers of the Cooperative League of Thailand. The number of participants were 30 from all over Thailand.

7.19 Education Officer (AVA) conducted an audio-visual aids workshop for the field representatives of the IFFCO (Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Ltd.) from September 26-30, 1977. The field representatives are the employees of the IFFCO and they do agricultural extension work and promotional work for the IFFCO. The workshop was held at the V. M. National Institute of Cooperative Management, Poona. 20 participants attended the workshop.

PREPARATORY STUDIES:

7.20 A study of Present Position and Role of Women in Cooperatives in Sri Lanka was conducted from 15th November to 15th December 1976 by Mrs. Birgit Storgaard Madsen, Mrs. M. D'Cruz, Education Officer (Women & Youth) ICA ROEC, and Mrs. M. Perera, District Secretary in National

Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka. The study was carried out in order to increase women's involvement in cooperatives in Sri Lanka.

7.21 A case study on the Miyang Agricultural Cooperative Society in the Republic of Korea with special reference to Leadership and Management was carried out from 16th April to 19th May 1977. The report of the case study was used for conducting a national seminar as mentioned under 7.16

COOPERATIVE EDUCATION MATERIALS ADVISORY SERVICE (CEMAS)

7.22 Out of the educational material received, Indexcards for 140 material were prepared for use in CEMAS units in New Delhi, Moshi and London. Fresh requests have been made to member-organisations and cooperative institutions in the Region for procurement of more material.

7.23 Requests for assistance on education material were received from India, Nepal, Malaysia and the Philippines and were attended to.

7.24 Under the ICA Film Library Service, four films were loaned to Cooperative Colleges of Maharashtra, Nagpur and West Bengal. Ten additional films were added to the Library.

7.25 Comments on the manuals, handbooks and other educational material being developed by the CEMAS/London were made with the help of local expertise available.

7.26 Dr. D.Vir, Joint Director (Education), participated in the CEMAS Evaluation and Planning Workshop, held in London, in June 1977 and presented a report on CEMAS work in South-East Asia.

FIELD PROJECTS

Cooperative Education Field Project in Indonesia

7.27 Dr. D.Vir visited Indonesia from the 29th July to 15th August for making a preliminary study for assisting the Dewan Koperasi Indonesia in formulating a project proposal for the Cooperative Education Field Project. On the basis of the study, project proposal will be formulated before the end of December this year.

Project for Training of Cooperative Teachers in Sri Lanka

7.28 Dr. L. Skaaret, an expert made available by the Swedish Cooperative Centre, carried out a feasibility study. On the basis of the feasibility study, a draft project proposal prepared by the Director (Education) was discussed with the officers of the Head Office, the Swedish Cooperative Centre, Dr. L. Skaaret, the authorities of the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka and the Commissioner of Cooperative Development, Sri Lanka. A project proposal has now been formulated on the basis of these discussions. The objective of the project is to enhance the effectiveness of cooperative training activities being carried out or proposed to be carried out for the personnel and members of managing committees of the cooperative movement in Sri Lanka by undertaking programmes in the field of training of cooperative teachers, production of teaching material and other related areas. The project will disseminate results of its work among other movements of the Region and will provide an opportunity for training the selected teachers from other movements of the Region.

7.29 Among other things, the project will identify teaching techniques which would enhance the effectiveness of teaching in the cooperative training centres in Sri Lanka and would conduct training seminars for principals and teachers of these centres. The training seminars / workshops will be conducted on training methodology and techniques of teaching, research methodology, curriculum formulation and for production of relevant teaching material. Consultative services will also be provided to the training centres in the above areas. It is proposed to concentrate the activities of the project on the School of Cooperation, Polgolla which is a national training centre and 4 or 5 selected regional/district education centres with a view to bringing about qualitative changes.

Project for Consumer Education and Information in Sri Lanka

7.30 At the request of the Swedish Cooperative Centre, a project for Consumer Education and Information through Cooperatives will be started in Sri Lanka. The objective of the project is to educate the consumers, particularly the housewives, of Sri Lanka in consumer matters such as

nutrition, quality of various goods etc." and to create in them an awareness of the role that cooperatives can play in promoting and protecting consumer interests. Educational activities will give special attention to (a) nutrition and health (b) household economy and (c) general economics for consumers. The project will also carry out testing of consumer goods and will disseminate the results,

7.31 The project proposal has been discussed with the relevant authorities in Sri Lanka, officers of the Head Office, the Swedish Cooperative Centre and the Swedish Consumer Guild.

CONSULTATIVE AND ALLIED SERVICES

7.32 Dr. D.Vir, Specialist in Educational Methods and Mr. M.K. Puri, Specialist in Consumer Cooperation attended from 30th November to 2nd December 1976, a Seminar in Poona, India on "Retail Management" convened by the Consultancy and Promotional Cell of the National Cooperative Consumers' Federation of India to test the manual on Retail Management prepared by them.

7.33 Messrs Weeraman, Rana, Vir and Puri attended the Cooperative Leaders' Conference on 23rd and 24th December held by the NCUI at New Delhi.

7.34 Mr. Daman Prakash gave a talk at the National Leadership Training Course held by the National Federation of the Blind in New Delhi on the subject "The Role of Cooperatives in Rehabilitation of the Blind" on 29th December 1976.

7.35 Dr. Dharm Vir, Specialist in Educational Methods delivered talks on "Indore Project" and "Identification of Training Needs in the Primary Cooperatives" on 13 January and 22 January, 1977 respectively at the National Centre for Cooperative Education, New Delhi.

7.36 Mr. P.E. Weeraman, attended the Inter-governmental Expert Group Meeting on Integrated Rural Development convened by ESCAP in Tokyo, Japan from 1-7 February 1977.

7.37 Dr. Vir participated in the Symposium on "Cooperatives can play a pivotal role in the Implementation of the 20-Point Programme" held

by the National Council for Cooperative Training, New Delhi at the University of Udaipur, Rajasthan, on 18-2-1977.

7.38 Mr. M.K. Puri attended a Seminar on Management and Development of Cooperative Marketing, Supplies and Distribution at Hyderabad (India), held by the V.M.N.I.C.M., Poona.

7.39 Mr. P.E. Weeraman attended the International Symposium on the Changing Pattern of Cooperative Development held by the COPAC from 14-18 March 1977, at Wageningen, Netherlands.

7.40 Mr. P.E. Weeraman attended the 33rd Session of the UN ESCAP in Bangkok, Thailand from 18th to 23rd April, 1977.

7.41 Mr. J.M. Rana delivered a talk on the "International Cooperative Scene" at field officers courses held by IFFCO at the Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Management, Poona, in April and in September 1977.

7.42 Mr. J.M. Rana inaugurated a Diploma Course in Cooperation organised by the Cooperative College, Poona, Maharashtra State, in April 1977.

7.43 Mr. M.K. Puri attended a Seminar for Chairmen and Chief Executives of Consumer Cooperative Stores in India at Bangalore in April 1977.

7.44 Mr. P.E. Weeraman and Mr. M.K. Puri attended the Meeting in connection with the Project on Consumer Education through Cooperatives and assisted the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka in preparing a project for Consumer Education and Information through Cooperatives in Sri Lanka during April/May 1977. The project proposal has been submitted to the SCC.

7.45 Mr. Weeraman attended the Asian Labour Summit of the ICFTU held in Singapore from 5th to 7th May 1977.

7.46 Mr. Rana attended a meeting held in Stockholm in June, to discuss the Project proposal formulated by him on Teachers' Training project in Sri Lanka. The meeting was attended by Messrs Alf Carlsson, Malte Jonsson of the Swedish Cooperative Centre, Mr.T.N. Bottomley, Secretary for Education, ICA, London, Dr. L. Skaaret who carried out the feasibility study for the project and Mr. Rana.

SECTION III : PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES
FOR JULY 1978 TO JUNE 1979

REGIONAL SEMINARS

Regional Workshop on Cooperative Press and Publicity in Japan

Venue : Tokyo, Japan
 Duration : 21 days in September 1978
 Participants: 25

7.47 The ICA Regional Office holds every year one seminar/workshop in Tokyo, Japan, in collaboration with the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives and IDACA. The Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives has proposed that the Seminar be held on the subject of Cooperative Press and Publicity. One week's study visits will be arranged in Korea prior to the seminar.

7.48 It is proposed that the above activity in Japan be conducted in the form of a Workshop which would impart skills to the press and publicity officers of the member-organisations in the field of journalism and production of publicity material. The participants may be divided in small groups and each group may be given a project to prepare publicity material in the form of slides with synchronized tape-recording to project the activities of selected societies in Japan. Such skills would then help the participants to prepare similar material about their own cooperative movement and their own organisations. In addition to this, the Workshop should be directed to imparting skills to the participants to improve the journals and publicity material being produced by them.

Regional Seminar for Managerial Personnel of Fishery Cooperatives in the Region preceded by study visits in the Republic of Korea.

Venue : Tokyo, Japan
 Duration : 3 weeks October-December 1978
 Participants: 25

7.49 The Fisheries Group of the ICA Sub-Committee on Agriculture and Trade had suggested that a Seminar on the above subject be held. We have

discussed this question with the National Federation of Fishery Cooperatives Association of Japan and the National Federation of Fishery Cooperatives in the Republic of Korea. Both have generally agreed to the proposal. Tentatively it is agreed with the above two organisations that the seminar be held during October-December 1978 in Japan preceded by one-week's study visits in Korea. The Japanese Federation has indicated that they would confirm their agreement by the end of December 1977.

Top Level Cooperative Leaders Conference

7.50 As suggested by the 18th Council Meeting held in Teheran last year, the Top Level Cooperative Leaders Conference may be held during the current year. It is suggested that the Top Level Cooperative Leaders Conference be held in October - November 1979, immediately after the Regional Council meeting, to enable the Council Members also to take part in the Conference. The Top Level Cooperative Leaders Conference should be a preparatory meeting for the ICA Congress to be held in 1980.

7.51 The participants to the Conference should include non-official leaders of the cooperative movement as well as Ministers/Commissioners of Cooperative Development from the Region.

7.52 The overall theme of the conference may be "How to Enhance Cooperatives' capability" under which the following specific subjects may be discussed :

- i. Structural reorganisation,
- ii. Capital Formation,
- iii. Human Resources Development,
- iv. Relationship with Government, and
- v. Contribution of Cooperatives to the improvement of the conditions of the poor.

7.53 The Conference may be of 5 days duration followed by 2 days study visits.

7.54 It is proposed that collaboration of the AARRO may be secured for holding the above conference.

Follow-up Programme for Cooperative Teachers

Venue : Philippines
 Duration : 3-4 weeks in February 1979
 Expected participants : 15

7.55 Each of the teachers of Cooperative Training Centres who had taken part in the ILO/Turin Centre/ICA Course in Training Methodology and Techniques had agreed to produce a couple of teaching materials and test them in their class-rooms. As suggested by the collaborating organisations namely, ILO and Turin Centre as well as the participants, it is proposed to hold a follow-up programme to review the teaching material produced by the participants and to provide them some refresher training.

7.56 Only those participants who have prepared the teaching material as agreed by them and whose material comes up to a reasonable standard would be invited to the follow-up programme.

FIELD PROJECTS

7.57 Cooperative Education Field Projects in Indonesia

7.58 Project for Training of Cooperative Teachers in Sri Lanka

7.59 Project for Consumer Education and Information in Sri Lanka

It is expected that the above three projects will become operational during the current year.

NATIONAL SEMINARS

7.60 The ICA ROEC will have the possibility to assist member movements in holding national seminars as indicated below:

- | | |
|--|-----|
| i. In the field of Consumer Cooperation | = 2 |
| ii. In the field of Agricultural Cooperation | = 2 |
| iii. Training of Women Cooperators | = 2 |
| iv. Education Methods | = 2 |
| v. Involvement of Youth in Cooperatives | = 1 |
| vi. Housing Cooperatives | = 1 |

The ICA ROEC would assist the member movements in holding national seminars on the basis of their requests.

WOMEN & COOPERATIVES

7.61 In addition to holding two basic courses for women cooperators, the ICA ROEC would also actively assist the cooperative movement in one country in carrying out a survey on the role of women and the extent of their participation in the cooperative movement.

7.62 It is proposed to carry out studies of a couple of cooperative organisations where women are actively involved and make the results of such studies available, to womens' cooperative organisations in the Region as well as to member organisations. The studies may be of help to other cooperative organisations in enhancing women's participation in their activities.

YOUTH AND COOPERATION

7.63 It is of vital importance to involve youth in the cooperative movement as in most countries of the region young people constitute a substantial segment of the population and as the induction of the youth power could greatly energise the cooperative movement. The Council may like to discuss this question and the contribution that the ICA ROEC can make in this regard.

AGENDA ITEM NO.8 : TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRADE SECTIONPART I8.1 Action taken on the Minutes of the last meeting

Page No.	Para No. of the Minutes	Decision of the Council	Action taken
35	14	"Calls upon the ICA Regional Office to prepare a document for submission to its Head Office representing the views of the movements of the Region for assisting the latter in its task of formulating a practicable cooperative strategy to counter the world-wide expansion of the multinationals."	Member-movements in the Region have been addressed by the Regional Office to elicit their views on the impact of multinational corporations on the activities of cooperatives in each country and to suggest measures as may be taken at the national, regional and international levels for formulating an effective cooperative strategy to counter the threat posed by multinational corporations.
36	37	"Mr. Hunter asked the ICA ROEC to re-submit the application (for assistance to the NACF project for a fruit and vegetable processing plant) and he would take it up with the Government of Australia."	A copy of the project proposal along with its Marketing Feasibility Study were re-submitted to Mr. Hunter in January, 1977. Mr. W.W. Rawlinson of the Cooperative Federation of Australia informed the Regional Office in January 1977 that the Government of Australia had regretted their inability to provide assistance for the project.

PART IITECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

8.2 The following is a brief review of the technical assistance projects handled by the Regional Office.

Assistance to Sri Lanka Cooperative Fisheries

8.3 The ICA Cooperative Development Committee had in 1976 sanctioned a grant of £5,000 (£3,000 from the Cooperative Development Fund and £2,000 from the French Fisheries Movement) to the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka (NACOSIL) for the purchase of a microbus equipped with audio-visual equipment for carrying out publicity and education programmes among the fishermen.

8.3.1 An order for supply of a Volkswagen microbus was placed on the manufacturers in West Germany in June 1977. The vehicle which was expected to be shipped from West Germany by the end of August 1977 should be on its way to Colombo.

8.3.2 Against the balance amount of the grant, ICA Head Office has approved the supply of some audio-visual equipment to the National Cooperative Council. The shipment of audio-visual equipment from Singapore has been delayed for want of an import permit. The NACOSIL has applied to their Government for grant of the requisite import permit. The equipment will be shipped by ICTO from Singapore as soon as the NACOSIL is able to get the import permit.

Request for assistance to purchase audio-visual equipment and a printing press from the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka

8.4 The National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka had submitted a proposal for assistance to buy audio-visual equipment and a printing press for 26 cooperative education centres. The cost of this proposal was estimated at about £34,000.

8.4.1 Recently a survey has been undertaken in Sri Lanka to ascertain the educational needs of the cooperative movement in the country. The Regional Office had asked for a copy of this Survey Report to appraise the project proposal. This Report was still awaited from the Council.

It is, however, learnt that the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka has directly referred this project for seeking financial assistance to the Cooperative League of the USA and the Canadian High Commissioner in Sri Lanka.

Swedish Assistance to Bangladesh

8.5 The Swedish Cooperative Movement had made a gift of Sw.Kr.80,000 to the Rangunia Thana Central Cooperative Association (RTCCA) in 1974 for the purchase of cement. In view of the practical difficulties in arranging shipment of the small quantity of cement involved, the RTCCA requested the Swedish Cooperative Centre (SCC), at whose disposal the gift money had been placed, for permission to utilise the gift money for implementing an action-oriented project for village development. The SCC gave its concurrence in August 1976 and requested the Regional Office to scrutinize the project proposal.

8.5.1 Despite many reminders from the Regional Office no project proposal was received from the RTCCA. The matter was considered by the SCC Board at their meeting held in April 1977 and they decided that the grant amount should be utilized for training of women cooperators in Bangladesh. Accordingly the Regional Office suggested to the Bangladesh Jatiya Samabaya Union (BJSU) in May 1977 that a Workshop on "Women's Involvement in Cooperative Activities" for a group of women cooperators of Bangladesh, especially in the fields of cottage industries and consumer activities might be useful for the Movement in Bangladesh. The BJSU were invited to make alternative suggestions for the utilisation of the grant, if they so desired.

8.5.2 No reply has so far been received from the Bangladesh Jatiya Samabaya Union (BJSU).

Fisheries Project in Zambales Province (Philippines)

8.6 The proposal was discussed by a representative of the ICA Head Office with the representatives of the Cooperative Union of Canada at the ICA Congress held at Paris in October 1976. The representatives of Cooperative Union of Canada informally discussed the matter with the officials of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). It is learnt that CIDA has regretted its inability to provide the requisite

assistance to the project, as they have now removed Philippines from the list of countries from which they consider requests for assistance. The President of the Cooperative Federation of Zambales was accordingly informed.

8.6.1 The possibility of securing assistance for the project under the FAO Technical Cooperation Programme is being explored by the ICA Head Office.

Request for supply of Audio-Visual Equipment to the Olongapo Savings Cooperative (Philippines)

8.7 The Regional Office had recommended a grant of US \$3,000 to the Olongapo Savings Cooperative for the purchase of audio-visual equipment. The matter was considered by the Cooperative Development Committee of the ICA and they have regretted their inability to entertain this request.

8.7.1 The ICA Head Office has, however, advised that the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) may be interested in funding this project. The society was accordingly advised to contact the Family Planning Association in the Philippines in this regard.

PROMOTION OF COOPERATIVE TRADE

Cooperative Trade Development

8.8 During the period under review, the Regional Office continued to perform the clearing house functions for the promotion of cooperative trade. Information on matters relating to trade was supplied to various cooperative organisations from all parts of the world. Trade enquiries received at the Regional Office were referred to ICTO for necessary follow-up action.

Trade Information Bulletin

8.9 The Regional Office continued to issue the monthly trade news bulletin -- the ICA Trade News. The journal completed the eighth year of its publication in June 1977.

Collaboration with the International Cooperative Trading Organisation, Singapore

8.10 The International Cooperative Trading Organisation (Pte.) Ltd., (ICTO) was organised in June 1974 as a private limited company, with its

headquarters at Singapore. The cooperative movements from eight countries in the Region viz. Australia, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand are already in the membership of the company and cooperative organisations from other countries in the region are also expected to join shortly.

8.11 The objectives of ICTO have been defined as to engage in and encourage the development and promotion of trade between cooperative organisations all over the world and to render such facilities as may be considered necessary for the sale and purchase of products of cooperative organisations in South-East Asia. It is expected that ICTO will help not only those cooperative organisations which are already engaged in foreign trade but it will also guide and assist other cooperative trading organisations in the Region to enter the field of foreign trade. Thus, the main tasks before the newly organised company are:

- i) to help cooperative trading organisations which are already engaged in foreign trade business to enhance their business and improve the quality of their performance;
- ii) to promote the entry of cooperative trading organisations into foreign trade business;
- iii) to act as trade exchange for cooperative organisations; and
- iv) to provide market intelligence and other useful information to cooperative trading organisations in the Region particularly in respect of products as are of interest to them.

8.12 The ICTO commenced its business in July 1975. It has transacted some business during the last two years but the pace of development has been rather slow. It does take time before a new business organisation is able to establish itself. ICTO is still passing through its infancy and is studying the problems and requirements of cooperative organisations in the field of foreign trade. It has been able to make very little headway in promoting inter-cooperative trade both on an intra-regional and international basis.

8.13 In one of his recent communications, the Chairman of ICTO has observed that the success of ICTO's operations depend on a number of

imponderables and according to him, ICTO is facing the following main problems:

- a) Shareholder organisations are generally not utilising or even endeavouring to utilise the services of ICTO.
- b) Shareholder organisations have not supplied ICTO with up-to-date information on products and commodities which they wish to buy and sell.
- c) Representatives of shareholders are not equipped with accurate information on products and capacity to satisfy demands. Samples forwarded are often not up to standard and quotations are not competitive.
- d) Communications and response to trade enquiries are generally unsatisfactory.
- e) Some shareholders have not even appointed liaison officers, whilst liaison officers appointed by shareholder organisations and the special international marketing representative appointed are ineffective.
- f) Genuine attempts to assist ICTO are lacking on the part of its shareholders.

The attention of members of the Council is drawn to the above observations made by the Chairman of ICTO, and they are invited to give their suggestions for developing business activities of ICTO and how to attract the cooperative trading organisations in the region to utilise the services of ICTO in the conduct of their foreign trade activities.

8.14 The ICA has through its various organs and auxiliaries given wide publicity to the establishment and objectives of ICTO. Many high hopes and great expectations have been placed on ICTO. The ICA is very keen to ensure that this international cooperative trading institution which is the first of its kind in the Region should develop rapidly and soon emerge as a major promoter of cooperative international trade.

ILO/SIDA Workshop on Strengthening of Inter-Cooperative Trade Relations

8.15 The ILO submitted to the Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA) a revised and enlarged proposal for organising a Workshop on Strengthening of Inter-Cooperative Trade Relations. The enlarged proposal includes provision of consultative services to cooperative trading organisations in matters relating to foreign trade business.

8.15.1 The ICA Regional Office has suggested that the proposed consultancy cell should be installed in the office of the International Cooperative Trading Organisation (ICTO) at Singapore. It is felt that this arrangement will help to promote ICTO's image and status as an international cooperative trading organisation, and also ensure the continuation of the consultative services even after the termination of the project. The establishment of the consultancy cell in ICTO's office may even improve the quality and usefulness of the consultancy services in as much as these would get oriented to real needs and problems of the cooperative trading organisations in the Region.

8.16 In case the proposal of the Regional Office to institute the consultancy cell in ICTO is accepted by ILO/SIDA, ICTO will have to provide office accommodation and employ a counterpart to work with the International Trade Expert for a period of two years. We hope that the Board of Directors of ICTO will welcome this proposal.

8.17 As the revised project is still under consideration of SIDA, it is not possible to indicate the precise dates for the workshop. It is, however, expected that the proposed Workshop may be held sometimes in the second half of 1978.

Joint Ventures with Collaboration
of Two or More Movements -----

8.18 The Shamelin Consumer Cooperative Ltd., Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia), has expressed a desire to seek collaboration of a suitable cooperative business organisation in India for setting up a rice-bran oil mill in Malaysia. The Malaysian cooperative would like to have from the Indian movement both the technical know-how and plant and machinery for the proposed project.

8.19 The Regional Office has referred the matter to the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED), New Delhi. The NAFED has sought information on a few points so as to assess the economic and technical feasibility of the project. They are in correspondence with the Shamelin Consumer Cooperative Ltd., Kuala Lumpur on the subject.

8.20 The All India Federation of Cooperative Spinning Mills provides technical guidance to textile cooperatives in India in the matter of selection and purchase of machinery, its installation and maintenance, selection of technical personnel, increasing the operational efficiency, standardisation of accounting and costing methods and practices. The Federation also has informed the ICA Regional Office that they would be glad to offer technical assistance for the establishment of small but viable units of powerloom industry integrated with spinning and processing activities in the cooperative sector. If any member country in the region is interested to avail of the services offered by the All India Federation of Cooperative Spinning Mills they may contact the ICA Regional Office.

Collaboration Between the ICA and the FAO

8.21 It is learnt from FAO that they have received two projects from our member-organisations, one from Sri Lanka and the other from the Philippines. Both the projects are under the Money and Medals Programme. The Regional Office has no information whether any other member-organisation in the Region has submitted any other project direct to FAO.

Co-financing contracts between the Commission of the European Communities & Non-Governmental Organisations for Development Schemes

8.22 No proposal has so far been received from any cooperative organisation in the Region for assistance under the above scheme.

Promotion of Industrial Cooperatives -
Collection of Information

8.23 The International Committee of Workers' Cooperative Productive and Artisanal Societies, which is an Auxiliary Committee of the ICA, is interested in collecting background information on industrial cooperatives in South-East Asia. The Committee collaborates with the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) in the promotion of industrial cooperatives in developing countries. The ICA hopes that it will be possible to work more closely with UNIDO in the future as they seem to recognise that much of the expertise and skills required for the development of industrial cooperatives are to be found with the ICA

member-organisations, particularly those which are members of the above Auxiliary Committee.

8.24 At the request of the above Committee, the Regional Office wrote in June 1977 to its member-organisations in the Region to furnish (a) general information about all types of industrial cooperative societies in each country and (b) more detailed information in respect of such of the industrial cooperative societies which are producing goods as are being exported or have potential for export outside the national boundaries.

No information have so far been received from any member country. The Council Members are requested to advise the concerned authority in their country to supply the requisite information as early as possible.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9 : PUBLICATIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS AND LIBRARY SECTION.

9.1 PUBLICATIONS

The following publications were issued during the period under review (November 1976 to October 1977):

(i) Readings in Cooperative Management

This publication, edited by Dr. A.U. Shaikh, former Director of the Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Management, Pune, India, comprises papers read at different seminars and conferences held on the subject of Cooperative Management by the ICA.

(ii) Open Asian Conference on "Cooperative Credit and Financial Management" - report and papers

This publication is an outcome of the Open Asian Conference on "Cooperative Credit and Financial Management" held in Madras, India, in November 1976 by the ICA Regional Office in collaboration with the National Cooperative Union of India. The Conference discussed the subject under the following main heads:

1. Cooperative Credit Planning for Agricultural Cooperative Development;
2. Cooperative Credit Planning for Consumer and Industrial Cooperative Development (with special reference to the urban cooperative thrift and credit institutions);
3. Organisational Structure and Rationalisation;
4. Manpower Planning, Training and Development; and
5. Financial Management.

The Publication comprises the Group reports adopted by the Conference, the working papers presented and the speeches made at the inaugural session of the Conference.

(iii) Regional Seminar on "Cooperative Insurance and Promotion of Savings -- report and papers

A Regional Seminar on "Cooperative Insurance and Promotion of Savings" was held by the ICA Regional Office in collaboration with the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives, Institute for the Development of Agricultural Cooperation in Asia, National Mutual Insurance Federation of Agricultural Cooperatives and the Central Cooperative Bank for Agriculture and Forestry in Tokyo, Japan, from 1st to 21st September 1976. The above publication includes the report of the Seminar, a case study on "Shimonaseki Multipurpose Cooperative Society" and selected working papers presented at the Seminar.

(iv) Theory and Practice of Accounting in Cooperative Fishery Societies

The Fisheries Group of the Sub-Committee for Agriculture and Trade for S-E Asia recommended at its meeting held in Manila, in 1975, that a publication which can serve as a manual to primary fishery cooperatives should be brought out by the Regional Office. Accordingly the Regional Office has got this publication prepared by an expert. The book deals with the theory and practice of book-keeping in fishery cooperative societies and it is hoped that it will be useful to the fishery societies in the region.

(v) Integrated Approach to Agricultural Cooperative Development in Nepal - report of National seminar :

This is the report of the national seminar held on the subject in Kathmandu, Nepal, from December 5-15, 1976 by the Department of Cooperation, HMG, Nepal with the assistance of the ICA Regional Office and Education Centre for S-E Asia.

(vi) Farming Guidance in the Cooperative Movement in Japan by S. Miyakawa :

This is the revised and enlarged edition of the earlier booklet by Mr. Miyakawa published in 1967. It deals with the farming guidance activities carried out by the Japanese agricultural cooperatives.

(vii) Directory of Cooperative Press in South-East Asia (mimeo)

The above is the revised edition of the earlier press directory produced in 1969 and contains information on publications and journals published by cooperative organisations in the countries of the Region served by the ICA RO & EC.

(viii) Statistical information on Agricultural Cooperatives in South-East Asia :

ICA Regional Office brought out a book (mimeographed) in 1970 giving statistical information on agriculture and agricultural cooperatives in the Region. Information has now been collected to bring out a revised edition of this book. The publication is now under preparation.

(ix) Speech No. 16 : 80th Anniversary of the ICA by F.A. Ahmed

The above speech, delivered at the time of the 80th Anniversary of the ICA held in New Delhi, in November 1975, by late Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, President of India, was reprinted during this period.

(x) Speech No. 17 : 18th Meeting of the ICA Council for S-E Asia

The above booklet, published under the speeches series, contains speeches made at the inaugural function of the 18th meeting of the ICA Council for S-E Asia held in Teheran, Iran, in November 1976.

9.2 PUBLICITY

The ICA Regional Bulletin was issued quarterly. The feature "Spotlight" was continued, giving accounts of the following :

- i. Primary Agricultural Credit Societies in Kerala - Success in deposit mobilisation - October 1976 issue
- ii. Nadakobe Consumers Cooperative - The largest in Asia (January 1977 issue)
- iii. Sepah Consumers Cooperative, Teheran (April 77 issue)
- iv. Phranakorn Consumer Store (July 77 issue)

(a) Collection of Cooperative News

The collection of cooperative news from the region was continued during the period under review. The news is used in the Regional Bulletins as well as supplied to our head office for use in its journals.

(b) Press Releases

The practice of issuing press releases after the conclusion of seminars, conferences and other important events was continued during this period. These were sent to cooperative journals in the region for publication.

9.3 THE LIBRARY

There are 12,816 volumes including bound periodicals and nearly 5,000 booklets in the library now. The library subscribes to many journals and also receives many on a complimentary basis. Altogether 200 journals are received by the library. It acts as a clearing house of information on books and documentation. The library has been extensively used by cooperators, cooperative organisations, students and scholars.

9.4 DOCUMENTATION SERVICES

The following have been issued.

1. Documentation Bulletin for South-East Asia, Volume XI, No.1, June 1976 (January-March), No.2, September 1976 (April-June) & No.3, December 1976 (July-September) issues.
2. Special Bibliographies compiled:
 - 2.1 A Select Bibliography on the Cooperative Movement of Nepal.
 - 2.2 State and Cooperation - A Select Bibliography.
 - 2.3 A Select Bibliography on Cooperative Insurance.
3. Also supplied lists of books on cooperation and allied subjects on request.

The following are under preparation.

- 1.1 Documentation Bulletin for South-East Asia, Volume XI, No. 4, March 1977 (October-December).
- 1.2 Documentation Bulletin for South-East Asia, Volume XII, No. 1, June 1977 (January-March).
2. Annotated Bibliography for South-East Asia, 1976 combined issue (January-December).
3. A Bibliography on Cooperatives and Poor.
4. Cumulative list of library books since 1962-75.

9.5 SUPPLY AND EXCHANGE OF LITERATURE

The library undertakes the exchange of material with other libraries. It supplies on request free mimeographed material on cooperative subjects e.g. background papers presented at the various ICA Seminars and Conferences. It also acts as a clearing house of cooperative literature in English published by member movements. The Librarian provides on request background papers on the socio-economic conditions of the countries in the Region.

9.6 CONSULTATIVE SERVICES

The library maintains close relations with the cooperative libraries of the Region and extends consultative services as and when required by them.

Under this service the Librarian and Documentation Officer assisted the National Council for Cooperative Training in conducting an Orientation Course for the Librarians of Cooperative Training Colleges and apex level Organisations of India. The course was held at the ICA Regional Office premises, from 13th to 25th June 1977. The course was attended by 20 participants.

Publications Programme for 1977 - 78

9.7 The following publications would be brought out during the year 1977-78 :

(i) Indian Cooperative Rules Vis-a-Vis Cooperative Principles -
Earlier the ICA RO & EC has published a book entitled "Indian Cooperative Laws vis-a-vis Cooperative Principles" which was an outcome of a study made by a team of three persons who have specialist knowledge on cooperation and cooperative legislation. It was thought that to complete this study similar studies of the rules, model bye laws and administration orders and circulars are necessary. The Team has now completed these studies and their report will be published under the above title.

(ii) Role of Cooperatives in Increasing Food Production -

On the recommendation of the ICA Council a study on "The Role of Cooperatives in Increasing Food Production in the Region", was conducted by the ICA RO & EC in Thailand in collaboration with the Cooperative League of Thailand. The study was carried out by an Expert from India. The report of the study will be published.

(iii) Readings in Cooperative Marketing -

It is proposed to bring out a publication on Agricultural Cooperative Marketing. The publication will comprise of papers that will be presented in Seminars that are scheduled on this subject as well as special papers written for the publication.

(iv) ICA in S-E Asia

The informative booklet outlining the activities of the ICA RO & EC will be revised and published during this year.

(v) "Cooperative Series"

Publications dealing with topical aspects of the movement will be published under this series.

(vi) Speeches on Cooperation

Important speeches on matters of cooperative importance and interest will be issued in this series.

(vii) Publicity

As usual the ICA Regional Bulletin will be issued quarterly during this year. Other publicity material will also be produced.

Proposal for the year 1978-799.8 Orientation Course for Librarians

The ICA in addition to the assistance given to the National Council for Cooperative Training, India, in conducting an Orientation Course for Cooperative Librarians in India has also been assisting various cooperative libraries in the Region by suggesting books for procurement and also helping in procurement. In some cases the library also has been assisting in planning and organisation of the libraries. The Librarian of National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka was trained for 2 months in the ICA library.

We consider that it will be useful if the librarians of the cooperative libraries in the Region are offered an opportunity of attending an orientation course in library and documentation work. As there are only one or two libraries in a country it would not be possible to organise national courses similar to the one held for librarians of India. Therefore, a Regional Course or several sub-regional courses may be organised.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10 : DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ICA
SUB-COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND TRADE
FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA

10. The ICA Sub-Committee on Agriculture and Trade for South-East Asia is scheduled to meet on 8th December 1977 in Bali. A resume of the decisions taken by the Sub-Committee will be given to the Council at the time of the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11 : RELATIONS WITH MEMBER-ORGANISATIONS
IN THE REGION

11.1 As in the past, the Regional Office & Education Centre was in constant touch with the member-organisations in the Region through correspondence, personal visits, etc.

11.2 The Regional Director, the Director (Education), the Joint Director (Education) and the Specialist in Consumer Cooperation attended the Cooperative Leaders' Conference on 23rd and 24th December 1976 held by the NCUI at New Delhi.

11.3 The Regional Director paid visits to Malaysia, Singapore, Korea, Japan and Thailand to acquaint himself with the latest developments in the Cooperative Movement there.

11.4 The Indian Cooperative Movement continues to consult our Specialists in Educational Methods and in Consumer Cooperation.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12 : RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

12. Cordial and fruitful relations continued to exist between the ICA ROEC and UN Specialised Agencies as well as the non-governmental international organisations as in the past. More specifically, the following instances may be mentioned:-

12.1 UN/ESCAP : The Regional Director attended the Inter-governmental Expert Group Meeting on Integrated Rural Development convened by UN/ESCAP at Tokyo, Japan, from 1-7 February, 1977.

12.2 The Regional Director attended the 33rd Session of the UN/ESCAP at Bangkok, Thailand, from 18th to 23rd April, 1977.

12.3 The Regional Director attended the Meeting of Directors of National Trade Development and Promotion Agencies held by UN/ESCAP at Bangkok from 7-12 September 1977 along with the Joint Director (TAT).

12.4 The Specialist in Cooperative Housing attended the Regional Conference on Human Settlements held by UN/ESCAP at Bangkok from 9-14 May, 1977.

12.5 The Specialist in Cooperative Housing attended the meeting of ESCAP Committee for Industry, Housing and Technology from 31st August to 6th September, 1977 held at Bangkok.

12.6 COPAC : The Regional Director attended the International Symposium on the Changing Pattern of Cooperative Development convened by COPAC from 14-18 March, 1977.

12.7 ICFTU : The Regional Director attended the Asian Labour Summit of the ICFTU held in Singapore from 5-7 May, 1977.

12.8 FAO : The Specialist in Agricultural Cooperation attended the Asian Regional Agricultural Credit Association First General Assembly held by the FAO in New Delhi from 10-14 October, 1977.

12.9 The Specialist in Agricultural Cooperation attended the Fifth Session of the Indian Ocean Fishery Commission held by the FAO at Cochin, India, from 19-26 October, 1977.

12.10 ILO : The Director (Education) attended as an Observer the Workshop of Education and Motivation of Rural Workers for Family Welfare Planning held at Bangkok from 1st to 5th November, 1977.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 13 : VENUE AND DATES OF THE NEXT MEETING

13. At the last meeting of the Council held at Tehran, Iran, the Member for Thailand proposed that the 20th meeting of the Council be held in Chiangmai, Thailand, in 1978. The Council members may like to indicate their views on the subject.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 14 : ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

AGENDA ITEM NO. 15 : VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR

International Cooperative Alliance
"Bonow House"
43, Friends Colony, New Delhi-14.

EIGHTEENTH MEETING OF THE ICA COUNCIL FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA
HELD IN TEHRAN, IRAN, ON 6TH, 7TH & 8TH NOVEMBER 1976

Inauguration of the 18th Meeting of the ICA Council
for South-East Asia and the 11th Meeting of the
Sub-Committee on Agriculture and Trade for South-East Asia

1. The inauguration ceremony of the Eighteenth Meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia and the Eleventh Meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee on Agriculture and Trade for South-East Asia was held in the Auditorium of the Ministry of Agriculture, Cooperation and Rural Affairs, Tehran, on the 6th November 1976. The ceremonial meeting began at 10 a.m. with Mr. Jalil Sassani, Member for Iran in the ICA Council for South-East Asia, in the Chair. Besides the members of the ICA Council for South-East Asia and the ICA Sub-Committee on Agriculture and Trade for South-East Asia, there were about 100 Special Invitees. The distinguished guests included His Excellency Mr. A. Hoveyda, Prime Minister of Iran, His Excellency Mr. Mansur Rohani, Minister of Agriculture, Cooperation and Rural Affairs of Iran, Mr. Roger Kerinec, President of the International Cooperative Alliance, and Dr. S.K. Saxena, Director of the International Cooperative Alliance.

2. The Chairman welcomed the guests and invited the Prime Minister of Iran to inaugurate the meetings. The Prime Minister, Mr. Hoveyda, delivered his Inaugural Address. He was followed by Mr. Rohani, Minister of Agriculture, Cooperation and Rural Affairs. Mr. Roger Kerinec spoke thereafter. Mr. P.E. Weeraman proposed a vote of thanks. The inauguration ceremony ended at 11 a.m. The texts of the speeches mentioned above are given in the Annexes hereto.

Minutes of the Eighteenth Meeting of the ICA Council for
South-East Asia continued on 7th & 8th November 1976

3. The Eighteenth Meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia was continued at the Ministry of Agriculture, Cooperation and Rural Affairs, Tehran, Iran, on the 7th and 8th November 1976.

4. The following persons were present:

Members of the Council

1. Mr. Irwin Hunter, Member for Australia (agriculture)
2. Mr. R.G. Tiwari, M.P., Member for India (non-agriculture)
3. Mr. Tapeswar Singh, Member for India (agriculture)
4. Mr. Eddiwan, Member for Indonesia (non-agriculture)
5. Mr. Djoko Basuki, Member for Indonesia (agriculture)
6. Mr. J. Sassani, Member for Iran (non-agriculture)
7. Mr. A. Mogghaddas, Member for Iran (Alternate) (agriculture)
8. Mr. S. Taguchi, Member for Japan (Alternate) (agriculture)
9. Dato N.A. Kularajah, Member for Malaysia (non-agriculture)
10. Mr. Supah Noh, Member for Malaysia (agriculture)
11. Mr. B.P. Faustino, Member for the Philippines (agriculture)
12. Mr. Monico G. Yadao, Member for the Philippines (non-agriculture)
13. Mr. Mak Kam Heng, Member for Singapore (non-agriculture)
14. Mr. M. Kulasegaram, Member for Singapore (agriculture)
15. Mr. M.R.B. Daswatte, Member for Sri Lanka (non-agriculture)
16. Mr. L.M.V. de Silva, Member for Sri Lanka (agriculture)
17. Mr. Pradit Machima, Member for Thailand (Alternate) (non-agriculture)
18. Mr. Bochana Sankariksha, Member for Thailand (Alternate) (agriculture)

Secretary: Mr. P.E. Weeraman, ICA Regional Director for South-East Asia

Observers: Mr. R. Kerinec, President, ICA
 Dr. S.K. Saxena, Director, ICA
 Dr. N. Newiger, Head of the Human Resources Division, FAO, Rome.
 Mr. H. Togawa, Managing Director, IDAGA, Tokyo, Japan.
 Mr. R. Shahrabaki Khan, Sepah Consumers' Cooperative, Tehran, Iran.

Other ICA Regional Office staff:

1. Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education)
2. Mr. Lionel Gunawardana, Joint Director (Publications & Public Relations) and Specialist in Agricultural Cooperation
3. Mr. M.K. Puri, Specialist in Consumer Cooperation & Joint Director (Technical Assistance & Trade).

5. The following Councillors were absent:

1. Mr. Robert J. Woolnough, Member for Australia
2. Mr. Ahmedur Rahman Chowdhury, Member for Bangladesh
3. Mr. Abdus Samad, Member for Bangladesh
4. Mr. M. Kobayashi, Member for Japan
5. Mr. Tal Chun Hong, Member for the Republic of Korea
6. Mr. Poo-yung Lee, Member for the Republic of Korea
7. Mr. Khan Amir Abdullah Khan, Member for Pakistan
8. Mr. Chaudhri Muhammad Saeed-Ul Hassan, Member for Pakistan

Agenda Item No. 1 : Welcome

6. Mr. N.A. Kularajah, the out-going Chairman, presiding over the meeting until the election of the new Chairman, thanked Mr. Sassani and his band of devoted workers for the wonderful arrangements made for the meeting and the gracious hospitality extended to the members of the Council. He invited Mr. Sassani to deliver his welcome address.
7. Mr. Sassani thanked all the members for coming to Tehran to attend the meeting and hoped that their stay in Tehran would be pleasant.
8. Mr. Kularajah then invited Mr. R. Kerinec, President of the ICA, to address the meeting.
9. Mr. Kerinec said that it was his first visit to Iran and it was the first opportunity he had of participating in the meetings of the ICA ROEO. He was very happy to be in Tehran and wanted the members of the Council to know that he was there to learn from them and to get acquainted with them rather than to tell them what they should do. The ICA was a great family and needed more and more communication. Communication between and among the members of this great family was a problem. This meeting was an opportunity for him to meet the leaders of cooperative movements in this part of the world. He would not have the opportunity to visit each country of this region to meet the leaders. Of course he had the opportunity of meeting many of the cooperative leaders of the world, as President of the Alliance, at the ICA Congress held in Paris recently. The French Movement could be considered as the first beneficiary of having the ICA Congress. The Congress was very useful to the French Cooperative Movement. The Congress afforded a chance to him as well as to other cooperators of establishing closer links with all types of cooperatives in the world. The Congress gave all the cooperative movements represented in the Alliance a chance to outline constructive policy in a very fine atmosphere. It was now time for implementing that policy. "The Congress has brought about better understanding. The work of the Alliance is beginning to be more widely understood. The Alliance has always a fine team of workers and leaders /had but it is limited. The team which works in New Delhi is also a fine team and it is well-known. We must thank our Swedish friends for their donations and assistance to the New Delhi office.
10. "The operations of multi-nationals pose a big challenge to the cooperatives. This region has taken some initiative in meeting this challenge. The first Open World Conference on Fishery Cooperatives was a step in that direction. There was an assessment of the work of the Regional Office and Education Centre and the conclusions of this assessment were very positive. I congratulate the Regional Office once again for the fine work they have done. One of the recommendations of the Assessment Report is the holding of pre-seminars and follow-up seminars.

The task of the Regional Office has been clearly defined.

"The questions you face are the following:

- i) Education and training in management efficiency,
- ii) Training Methods and Field Education, example Indore Field Project in India,
- iii) Improving food production and food distribution,
- iv) The need of financial assistance from the developed countries on the basis of a new policy; this assistance should as far as possible be directed to national needs in highly specialised fields."

11. The President said that he had come to the meeting to learn from the members and not to make a speech and that he was very happy to be with them and thanked the Iran host for the kind invitation. He said he was very impressed by the meeting of the Sub-Committee on Agriculture and Trade the previous day and that he was convinced that such technical meetings were very useful. Every national movement would benefit from such meetings.

12. The pro-tem Chairman thanked Mr. Kerinec for the nice and kind words and said that the members of the Council were very happy and proud that the President of the ICA was with them in this meeting. He invited the President on behalf of all the members to visit each country and added that such a visit would give the national movements additional prestige if made every now and then. The pro-tem Chairman then called upon Mr. Weeraman to make his introductory remarks.

Agenda Item No. 2 : Introductory Remarks by the Regional Director

13. Mr. Weeraman said that the members of the staff of the ICA ROEC were greatly encouraged by the remarks of the President, Mr. Kerinec, showing full appreciation of what the people in the ICA ROEC were trying to do. On behalf of the Council he thanked Dr. Newiger for attending the meeting and extended to him a hearty welcome. Needless to say that all the members of the Council were very glad that both the President and the Director of the Alliance were present at the meeting. He mentioned that some members were attending a meeting of the Council for the first time. The new members were:

- Mr. S. Taguchi, acting on behalf of Mr. K. Yoshida, Member for Japan
- Mr. Supah Noh, Member for Malaysia
- Mr. Sardar Farooq Ahmed Ali, Member for Pakistan in the Sub-Committee on Agriculture and Trade
- Mr. M. R. B. Daswatte, Member for Sri Lanka
- Mr. Bochana Sankariksha, Member for Thailand

14. He informed the members of the Council that the outgoing Chairman, Mr. Kularajah had been awarded a very high honour - an honour which would be comparable to a Knighthood in England - the title of Datuk. The Council was proud of the honour which Chairman Dato Kularajah had received from his government and said that this honour was bestowed on him for his eminent services to the cooperative movements of Malaysia and South-East Asia.

15. Mr. Weeraman then explained the change in the Rules regarding the Chairmanship of the Council. The Council had a nominated Chairman originally. After the first ten years, the Executive Committee of the ICA had agreed that the Council should have an elected Chairman. A most competent person was elected to be the Chairman of the Council in the person of Mr. Kularajah in 1970 for a period up to 1972. The rules of the Council were amended and the tenure of the Chairman was fixed for 4 years from one Congress to the next Congress. This was after the Warsaw Congress. The rules had been changed again and now the Chairman was to be elected from among the Councillors representing the country in which the Council was holding its meeting. This, Mr. Weeraman believed, was a wise decision. This time, according to the Rules, the Council was required to elect a Chairman from among the local Councillors (Iran). He would accordingly request the pro-tem Chairman to call upon the council members to elect a Chairman from among the members for Iran. This newly elected chairman would function as Chairman till the next meeting of the Council.

Agenda Item No. 3 : Election of Chairman

16. The Chairman then requested some one to propose the name of a member from Iran to be the next Chairman. Mr. Faustino from the Philippines proposed the name of Mr. Sassani. This was seconded by several members of the Council. Mr. Sassani was unanimously elected Chairman of the Council. Mr. Kularajah the out-going Chairman requested Mr. Sassani to take the chair and also take over the responsibilities of the Chairman from him. Mr. Sassani thanked all for electing him Chairman. He requested Mr. Moghaddas, the other member from Iran, to act in his place as Chairman as he had to attend a meeting with the Minister. Mr. Moghaddas acted as Chairman and conducted the meeting.

Agenda Item No. 4 : Confirmation of Minutes

17. The Chairman said that the minutes of the last meeting had been circulated already and that no comments had been received. He proposed that the minutes be taken as read and confirmed. The minutes were confirmed.

Agenda Item No. 5 : Background papers on the Cooperative Movement of each country

18. The Chairman requested each member to make a brief statement regarding the cooperative movement in his country.

19. Australia : Mr. Hunter made a statement regarding the cooperative movement in Australia. The main point made by Mr. Hunter was the threat posed by the Multi-nationals to cooperatives in his country. The operations of Multi-nationals were creating a big problem for cooperatives in their working.

Dr. Saxena invited the attention of the Council to the U.N. proposal to draw up an International Code of Ethics for the operations of Multi-national corporations; He informed the meeting that the U.N. had invited all non-governmental organisations including the ICA to submit papers on this subject. Therefore he said the ICA would welcome any suggestions which the member from Australia or in fact any member from any other country might make. The ICA proposed to prepare a single document as soon as possible and send it to the U.N.

Prof. Yadao from the Philippines suggested that a Committee of 3 or 5 should be constituted to make its recommendations. Mr. Rana said that he was expected to discuss in the Sub-Committee meeting the previous day the papers that were submitted to the Standing Committee on Cooperation of the IFAP. The theme of the papers was "Strategy for the Agricultural Cooperative Movement to counter Multi-national corporations." Two excellent papers were presented at this conference from our Region. One was a paper by Mr. Yoshida of Japan and the other was a paper by IFFCO of India. A resolution was passed at that open conference and Mr. Rana would present that resolution in the afternoon to this meeting. Mr. Kularajah suggested that a Committee be appointed with Mr. Rana as Secretary, and with Mr. Hunter from Australia, Mr. Kularajah from Malaysia, Mr. Tiwari from India and Prof. Yadao from the Philippines as members to draft a resolution on this subject. This committee was to meet in the evening at 4 p.m.

20. India : Mr. R.G. Tiwari made a statement regarding the Cooperative Movement in India. He said he did not want to give many details as a paper had been presented and circulated by Mr. G.K. Sharma, Member for India on the Sub-Committee for Agriculture & Trade. He would only draw the attention of the members to the problems the Indian Cooperative Movement was facing, viz:-
1. Insufficiency of cooperative credit to reach the small and marginal farmers and agricultural labourers in many areas of the country.
 2. Regional imbalances in the level of cooperative development, particularly in the sphere of agricultural credit.

3. Non-viability of cooperatives due to lack of finances and to growing overdues.
4. Lack of the necessary infra-structure.
5. Emergence of Public Sector organisations, and
6. The need to check inflation.

21. Indonesia: Mr. Eddiwan stated some important aspects of the Cooperative Movement in Indonesia. He said that the cooperative movement had made good progress in the last few years especially in the rural areas. The effort was to make farmers self-reliant.

The number of cooperators had increased to about 3 million in one year. Because of the services given by cooperatives to farmers, the business activities of cooperatives were increasing. The problem of cooperatives in Indonesia was one of communication between some 13,000 islands. To overcome this problem a cooperative shipping company had been established to bring agricultural produce from these islands to the main collecting centres.

All financial assistance and aid to cooperatives from outside the country had to be channelled through the Government. Indonesian cooperatives had received assistance from outside through the good offices of Dr. Newiger of the FAO. The cooperatives had also received technical aid from several countries and international agencies such as the Netherlands, New Zealand, FAO, ADB, West Germany, France and the U.S.A. Indonesia was going to get assistance from the Cooperative League of the U.S.A. for the electrification of villages along the lines of the Philippines.

22. Iran : Mr. Moghaddas made a statement on behalf the Iranian Cooperative Movement. "To save the time of the meeting, I would just read two parts of the paper circulated by Mr. Sassani regarding the progress made by the Cooperative Movement in Iran. Since last year when the 14-point programme of the Shahanshah of Iran was announced, the face of cooperatives changed in Iran. People from all walks of life realised their responsibilities and duties. People accepted the concept of Cooperation in their everyday life and started applying the Principles of Cooperation in their day-to-day life. Cooperatives were started not only in business fields but also in educational institutions from the primary school level to the university level. The message of cooperation is being spread through mass media such as newspapers, magazines, radio and the T.V. The 14-point programme announced by the Shahanshah is intended to stop profiteering, give economic and social justice to the people and to give people eternal strength to be confident in all they do.

The problems facing the cooperative movement and the future programme are mentioned in the paper circulated."

23. Japan : Mr. S. Taguchi of Japan made a statement regarding the Cooperative Movement of Japan.

Mr. Tiwari said that in 1973 or so the Japanese cooperative movement had drawn up a programme for ensuring better living conditions for Japanese farmers to which Mr. Taguchi replied that these activities were still being carried out. Better living conditions were not judged from the subsidies given to the farmers by cooperatives or government, but were judged from the increase in the incomes of farmers. The price of rice which is the main crop, was fixed by government after consultation with the agricultural cooperative movement. The cooperatives always negotiate the price of rice with the government and try to secure a better deal for the farmers. While negotiating the price, they also take the cost of production into consideration.

Mr. Weeraman asked what the pattern was of ensuring better living conditions for farmer members. Was it providing better housing and other facilities; Mr. Taguchi stated that better living conditions meant providing modern kitchen facilities, mobile clinics, health check-up in rural areas, and ambulances for medical assistance.

24. Malaysia : Mr. Supah Noh gave a brief account of the cooperative movement in Malaysia. He said that the background paper on Malaysia had been distributed to every member of the Council and therefore he would make only a brief report, instead of reading the paper and highlight some points and supplement certain points.

There was the usual progress. Recently the government had thrown a pebble into the still waters of the cooperatives by disintegrating the cooperative movement and attaching certain types of cooperatives to certain ministries of government or authorities of government. Farmers' cooperatives and other agro-based cooperatives had been attached to one ministry and fishery cooperatives had been given to another ministry. Farmers' Associations were governed by the Farmers Associations Act. It was time that these farmers associations were merged into cooperatives. In the fishery sector also there had been some government programme but the programme had not met with any success.

There had also been some changes in the cropping pattern after the establishment of the Farmers Organisations Authority. This authority was trying to convert domestic farmers into commercial farmers by providing them with all types of agricultural inputs, such as machinery and fertilizers. But the management of these associations had not been very satisfactory because the promoters and organisers of these organisations did not have the necessary background of cooperatives. Similar was the story of fishery cooperatives. These were some of the problems of the rural cooperatives in Malaysia.

In the urban cooperative sector there were certain problems. Some big urban societies had diversified and had entered into industrial or processing enterprises. Up to now the traditional urban cooperatives

were enjoying certain facilities and privileges from the government. These societies were generally of wage and salary earners. They enjoyed facilities such as the deduction of society dues from salaries if the societies submitted their statements of dues to government. This privilege had been recently withdrawn by the government.

ANGKASA was an organisation of agricultural cooperatives and fishery cooperatives. It was at present engaged in bringing about a solution to the problem of cash flow into cooperatives and was having a dialogue with the government. ANGKASA would establish a wing called the Service Bureau to collate all overdues and submit a consolidated statement to government. This work would commence in January of next year (1977).

The other problem was the amendment of Cooperative legislation. There was a move to modify the Cooperative Act. The amendment was to make boards of directors vacate their positions every six years. This amendment would affect many societies. In the 1948 Cooperative Act, the Cooperative Principles were not included, the legislation only laid down what a cooperative should do and should not do. In the proposed amendment, the Cooperative Principles had been incorporated in accordance with the Cooperative Principles stated by the ICA.

There was also a serious backlog in the cooperative training and education programme of the country. Cooperative training was given only by the Cooperative College. There was no cooperative education programme. Cooperative training without cooperative education is not very good. There should be member education. "Malaysia seeks the assistance of this Council in implementing an effective cooperative education and training programme in the country. A programme of cooperative education for cooperative leaders, members and high government officials is very necessary. Malaysia does not have any problem in the field of cooperative training and management. What is urgently required is a programme of member education similar to the one in the Philippines on the lines of the Samahang Nayon."

Dr. Saxena wanted some more information regarding the question of automatic deduction of members' dues from their salaries and wages because this system is the strength of the credit movement. Dr. Saxena also wanted to know if there was some kind of a Master Plan by the Government. Mr. Supah Noh replied that there was no such Master Plan of Government for Cooperatives except in the case of some banks where the Registrar of Cooperatives was trying to launch a programme for the formation of district industrial cooperatives. Under this programme, small non-viable societies at the district level would be merged into a big multipurpose cooperative society. The Registrar was even trying to introduce a bit of compulsion. On ANGKASA protesting to the Registrar about this, the Registrar had modified his decision.

Mr. Kularajah informed the meeting that the government did not consult the cooperative movement regarding a **Master Plan**.

Mr. Tiwari said that the problem of restrictive laws and the problem of viable cooperatives were universal problems. For the membership of cooperatives consists of non-viable individuals. It was difficult to foresee a situation where an association of non-viable members could be a viable cooperative. The viability of individuals and the viability of cooperatives are interlinked. Mr. Tiwari emphasized that cooperatives should play a more dynamic role in improving the economic conditions of the farmer-members by offering the following services:

1. Credit assistance and a package of extension services during the various stages of agricultural operations prior to harvesting. The cooperatives should therefore develop their extension services on a massive scale.
2. Education of the farmer-members to adopt a multi-crop pattern of agriculture to increase their incomes.
3. Securing for their members incentive prices for their agricultural produce or a rational pricing policy.
4. Setting up **agro-industries** and providing modern implements to their members.

Mr. Supah Noh said that the cooperatives need not provide extension services as governments are providing these services. But cooperatives should take up where government agencies end.

Mr. Kularajah explained how restrictive laws of government hamper the development of cooperatives. Cooperatives are also taxed in Malaysia if their funds exceed M\$ 500,000/-. By this law larger cooperatives are affected. It means **that** large cooperatives should not make large profits but give more benefits to their members. The victims of this law are financial institutions. Members are exempt from taxes on monies received from cooperatives. If members wanted more information on this, Malaysia would supply it.

Dr. Saxena said that the problem of cooperatives being liable to income tax was discussed extensively by the Cooperative Union of Canada and he said that he would send a copy of the paper on the subject. He further said that some of these problems and questions will be discussed at the Experts Consultation the ICA is holding towards the middle of next year. The theme of the Experts Consultation is "Cooperatives and the Rural Poor."

Mr. Hunter agreed that larger cooperatives should not keep large profits but should distribute such profits to their members. There are different categories of cooperatives. There are times when cooperatives need to make high returns for implementing their long-term plans to withstand international market forces. Australia was now striving to have a uniform law. Soon developing countries in South-East Asia will find that the international market is going to set the price trend.

Mr. Kularajah mentioned that a cooperative which is less than 5 years old does not have to pay taxes in Malaysia.

Mr. Rana said that in countries like India and the U.S.A. a private enterprise which sets apart a certain amount for development purposes is exempt from tax in respect of that amount.

Mr. Kularajah said that 25 per cent of the profits is exempt from income tax for development purposes in Malaysia. Patronage dividend was exempt from tax.

Mr. Weeraman observed that from Mr. Supah Noh's statement it was clear that governments are now trying to split up the cooperative movement. In India too cooperative credit has been separated from the rest of the cooperative movement. In Malaysia too, fishery cooperatives are under the Department of Fisheries, Agriculture Cooperatives are under the Farmers' Organisations Authority and other cooperatives are under another Ministry.

Mr. Tiwari said that in India the 6 year term has been changed to 10 years.

Dr. Saxena said that the discussion on this subject was very interesting and suggested that the Secretary should table this topic for further discussion at the next meeting.

Mr. Weeraman complained (with due deference to FAO) that FAO was promoting Farmers Organisations and ILO was promoting cooperatives. Among the U.N. agencies there must be some agreement about cooperatives. This point must be noted by all the members. Dr. Newiger of the FAO stated that FAO was supposed to promote all types of peoples' organisations suggested by member governments. The FAO was not interested in the form of peoples' organisations but their content and objectives. The FAO is not setting new ideas which attracted the governments. Tanzania is an example. There are very dynamic developments in so many countries indicating that the cooperative form is not necessarily convenient to those institutions which work under the term "cooperative". It is not the form that matters but the concept.

Dr. Saxena said that the higher officials of the various U.N. agencies could do a great deal today in shaping governments' views and opinions about cooperatives.

25. Pakistan: Mr. Sardar Farooq Ahmed Ali gave an account of the cooperative movement in Pakistan. At present there were about 30,000 cooperatives with a membership of 3.3 million. They were developing stores, housing, transport, industrial and women's cooperatives. The Punjab State Cooperative Bank has been nationalised. It is the apex bank. Its object is to facilitate the working of cooperatives. It is a scheduled bank. This step by government has given a great set-back to the cooperative movement. It is no longer financing cooperatives. Government was approached and a request was made to de-nationalise the bank. A small committee has been set up to supervise the bank's operations, and to examine the question of de-nationalisation.

There is a central law for cooperative banks. The Government of Pakistan is preparing a scheme for setting up a Federal Bank for Cooperatives to meet the credit needs of cooperatives. The structure of cooperative banks in the country is being re-organised. The Federal Bank for Cooperatives will be established under the Banking Companies Act. Cooperators in Pakistan have pleaded with the government not to set up the bank under the Banking Companies Act but to do it under the Cooperative Societies Act so that this institution would be cooperative in character.

Consumer Cooperatives have been set up. The Government has given them loans. There are 16 cooperative stores in Lahore and other cities. Government wants more cooperative stores opened.

26. Philippines: Prof. Yadao gave a brief account of the cooperative movement in the Philippines. There are farmers associations known as Samahong Nayon. A fund of 51 million pesos has been created. Rural banks have been established to help farmers and a central marketing organisation has been set up. The reason for government establishing Samahong Nayon was the failure of farmers' cooperatives in the past.

Another aspect is the organisation of the farmers' Area Marketing Societies. Funds were given from Samahong Nayon to finance the rural banks. In urban centres Consumer Cooperatives have been organised. The Area Marketing Societies are cooperatives of Producers and Consumers. The net profits of these cooperatives are distributed to the producers and the consumers. The area

marketing cooperatives in turn represent the Samahong Nayan. Funds were given by the Samahong Nayan to set up the Insurance System of the Philippines. The Canadian Government has given financial aid. The World Bank has also agreed to give financial aid to a group of Villages.

There is now only one Cooperative Law (decree) in the Philippines. Formerly there were different laws for different types of cooperatives. There is a new decree however for a rural Cooperative Electrification Bureau under the National Electrification Administration, and another decree for the supervision of marketing cooperatives. There is an organisation known as the Filipino Cooperative Wholesale Society for international trade.

Some of the problems faced by the Filipino Cooperative Movement are:-

1. Training people and retaining trained people in the movement.
2. Membership Education. It is not advisable to leave member education to the cooperatives alone; a cooperative education programme has also been included in the school curriculum. From the High School stage upto the university level the subject of Cooperation should be made compulsory. But the problem in the Philippines is lack of teaching material. If the ICA could take steps for the production of teaching material it would benefit many National movements.

Mr. Faustino made a few remarks. He also stressed the need for teaching material. He felt that there should be legislation for compulsory Cooperative Education in all schools and colleges. But the problem here is the lack of sufficient and suitable cooperative teaching material. Another related problem, assuming there was enough teaching material, was that of finding so many teachers or Instructors for teaching thousands of members. He hoped that the ICA could do something about it. He informed the meeting that a Cooperative Marketing System of the Philippines has been established which would be a member of ICTO. There were supermarkets whose membership consisted of half producers and half consumers. He wondered how this kind of a structure would work and requested the ICA to guide the Philippine Movement. The Filipino experience in this respect has so far been good and this experiment would continue in the Philippines. The first supermarket is doing very well, even exceeding their own expectations.

On the question of living conditions of farmers, the Land Bank of the Philippines is designing a scheme for establishing a Crop Insurance Scheme for different groups of Crops such as Rice and Corn. Mr. Faustino was the Head of this organisation as a non-government man. The FAO has held a number of conferences and seminars on Crop Insurance in the developing countries and Mr. Faustino asked for the documentation of these seminars and conferences.

Mr. Faustino said that a package of services to the farmers is needed if the farmers were to adopt multi-cropping methods. Other incentives such as price rationalisation for increased production would also be needed. The government in his country is giving serious attention to this question.

Mr. Gunawardana commenting on the Samahong Nayon in the Philippines being called pre-cooperatives said that "Pre Cooperatives" are organisations which have **only some characteristics** of Cooperatives and do not follow all the Principles of Cooperation. But the Samahong Nayons do follow the Cooperative Principles. However, they are not doing any business, besides collecting savings. They are members of the Area Marketing Cooperatives. The Boards of Directors of Samahong Nayon are elected. So Samahong Nayon are in fact cooperatives.

Mr. Faustino informed the meeting that there was a Board to assist the Cooperatives in management and training. This Board assists Cooperatives which are not able to get efficient managers from the open market. The government has set up a Fund for giving a management subsidy to assist the Cooperatives. The Cooperatives are given a hundred percent management subsidy in the 1st year, 75% in the 2nd year, 50% in the 3rd year and 25% in the 4th year. The entire salary is paid by the Society thereafter. The government sends its own managers only if the cooperatives ask for them.

In answer to Mr. Faustino's request for the supply of teaching material, Mr. Rana, Director (Education) explained the ICA's possible role in this respect. He said that a wing has been established in the ICA known as "Cooperative Education Materials Advisory Service (CEMAS)". There was a project Director in the London Office for this service. The work has started and units have been set up. There is one unit in New Delhi and another unit in Moshi, Tanzania. Through CEMAS the ICA would be able to provide information and also to supply relevant teaching material for use by the National Movements.

The function of CEMAS is to produce proto-type teaching material which could be adapted to local conditions. ICA would provide this material on specific requests from members. On an experimental basis a Cooperative Film Library has been opened for staff training in India. With the help of member-organisations and the Government of India the ICA ROEC expects to lend films to the Training Centres of its member-organisations. Efforts will be made to distribute these films through the UNESCO.

Mr. Supah Noh from Malaysia asked for literature on Samahong Nayan. Mr. Faustino agreed to supply this. Mr. Supah Noh, while appreciating the efforts of the Philippines to develop leadership and retain it in the movement, said that the subject of Cooperation has been included in the school curriculum in Malaysia. He also understood that Sri Lanka also had done this. The Cooperative Movement of Malaysia has created a reserve fund for this purpose. But the problem was that there were no teaching personnel. Mr. Faustino felt that the effort should be to mobilise funds from the local people for any development of the programme for education.

Dr. Saxena stated that the material produced by CEMAS was not directly relevant to the local situation. It was just a proto-type material. Feed-back is of extreme importance for developing this material. In one particular case the material produced by the CEMAS was field-tested in Ghana. Mr. Yadao informed the meeting that there was an on-going programme in the Philippines being carried out by the World Bank for the production of text books for schools and said that the proto-type material produced by CEMAS could be adapted to suit local conditions.

Mr. Korinec informed the meeting that France was the first to introduce School Cooperatives. There was now a move to set up an International Committee on School cooperatives in the ICA.

At this stage Mr. Weeraman informed the meeting that the Cooperative Insurance System of the Philippines had become a new member of the ICA. Mr. Faustino said that the Filipino Cooperative Marketing System was also going to apply for membership.

27. Singapore: Summing-up the development of the Cooperative Movement in Singapore, Mr. Mak Kam Heng said that their cooperative movement was the smallest in the region with a membership of only 92,000. There were 77 societies with a capital of S\$ 33.4 million. The movement was largely a thrift and credit movement. The government had never shown any interest in the Cooperative Movement. It has now started giving serious attention to cooperatives after the Trade Union Movement began to show interest in them. Five major steps have

been taken by the government in the recent past to strengthen the cooperative movement viz:

- (1) Government redrafted the Cooperative Societies Act with the assistance of the German expert Doctor Munkner. The Trade Union Movement was given a copy of this draft legislation for its comments. The Trade Union rejected the Bill and asked that a new committee be set up to draft a new Act. The Singapore National Cooperative Union submitted its comments on the bill, rejecting the bill on the ground that the Bill had not adopted the Model Law drafted by Dr. Munkner.
- (2) The Government proposes to set up a cooperative training centre with the assistance of UNDP to provide in-service training and to conduct a cooperative education and membership campaign. The assistance of two countries, namely, USA and Sweden, will be sought for setting up this training centre.
- (3) A Central Cooperative Development Fund is to be created by the government for depositing five percent of the net profit of every society. This Fund would be managed by a Board of Trustees drawn from the ministry and the apex organisations. The Act has not been passed yet.
- (4) There is to be an apex organisation to strengthen the cooperative movement. A Working Committee has been set up to draft a Constitution based on the bye-laws of the Singapore National Cooperative Union. The Trade Union Group will be brought into this Union.
- (5) The Registrar of Cooperative Societies called a Convention of all cooperative organisations last year. Out of 77 Societies, 43 attended this Convention. The Trade Union was also represented at this Convention. It was decided at this Convention to dissolve the Working Committee and form a new Committee to redraft the Cooperative Law. The Act has not come into force even after the elapse of one year. The feeling was that it was very difficult to unify the three groups viz. Singapore National Cooperative Union, Cooperative Societies outside the Union and the Trade Union Cooperatives. The Cooperative Movement and the Trade Union Movement are two separate movements

and there should be full collaboration between the two if the Cooperative Movement is to get the support of the government.

Dr. Saxena mentioned that he was somewhat concerned about the relationship between the Trade Unions and the Cooperatives. He was also concerned about the way the Cooperatives were used by Trade Unions to promote their own interests. He did not understand why the Trade Unions were reluctant to promote cooperatives.

In his own mind he was quite confused about the situation in Singapore. He mentioned that a similar situation was developing in a few other countries. He felt that it was time to have a dialogue with the Trade Unions. Mr. Kerinec agreed with Dr. Saxena that the Cooperative Movement should have a dialogue both with the Trade Union Movement and the government. It was a very delicate and important question. In France the situation was a little better. The Agricultural Cooperative Movement in France was a large employer. What they did in France was to invite all the leaders of the Trade Unions to discuss their mutual problems. There were five kinds of Trade Unions in France. The Trade Union Movement agreed that the Cooperative Movement should remain independent of the trade unions.

Mr. Supáh Noh said that Malaysia did not have this problem at the grass-roots level. The cooperatives at this level were able to provide Funds or Services with the assistance of the government. It was not necessary that they should allign themselves with the Trade Union.

Dr. Saxena stated that there was a historical background to this situation. A series of studies have been published by the U.N. ~~Five or six films have also been made on this subject.~~ The ICA was not consulted for it was brought into the discussion only at the final stage. It was mentioned at the ECOSOC meeting that the Cooperative Movement should take a perspective look to see whether its form and structure are such that it could cater to the needs of the poor. 75% of the developing countries really belong to this category. This discussion is going on now. The two points now under discussion are (i) Does the Cooperative Movement need some change, and (ii) whether voluntary organisations can cater to the needs of the poor.

Mr. Weeraman said that the Trade Unions had no access to the rural sector and they were therefore trying to reach the rural people through the Cooperatives.

Mr. Mak stated that the Trade Unions were insisting on having nominated members in their cooperatives. This was against the principle of democratic control.

28. Sri Lanka: Mr. L.M.V.de Silva presenting his background paper stated that his country paper had already been circulated by Mr. Daswatte and he proposed to deal with another aspect of the Cooperative Movement viz., Cooperative Principles vis-a-vis land development and requested that the copies of his paper should be distributed. He then read his paper.

Dr. Saxena wanted to know what the term "Cooperative Janawasa" meant and what was the element of voluntariness in this type of organisation. Was it that a person could own land only if he became a member of this "Janawasa."

Mr. Rana felt that this was a somewhat problematic situation because a member might ask to get out of the cooperative once he got the ownership of the land.

29. Thailand: Mr. Machima gave an account of the Cooperative Movement in Thailand. There was not much change in the situation from what it was during the last year. Of course the country went through some political changes. The number of cooperatives have been reduced on account of amalgamation. Small cooperatives have been merged with big cooperatives. Consumer cooperatives increased from 106 to 117, thrift and credit societies from 142 to 153. Service cooperatives like those for housing, taxi service, and rural electrification increased from 14 to 15, and fishery cooperatives from 2 to 5. At present there were around 995 societies with a membership of 900,000.

The largest sector of the cooperative movement was the agricultural sector. There were 550 agricultural cooperatives with a membership of 400,000. This accounted for 10 per cent of the total number of farmers. Some big changes had taken place in the performance of agricultural cooperatives last year.

- (1) The societies performed all necessary services such as the provision of credit, the marketing of produce, and the distribution of farm supplies,
- (2) Processing cooperatives were established such as those for running rice mills,
- (3) 30 warehouses were established for the storage of rice and maize.

As regards consumer cooperatives these were successful only in big cities and towns. In Bangkok alone the membership of consumer cooperatives was 50,000. The other societies had a membership of 60,000. One of the stores in Bangkok had a total sale of 163 million bahts. This store was being studied by the ICA and a report would be published in two months.

In the field of cooperative education, the Cooperative League of Thailand was collaborating with the following:-

1. Research work done by the ICA, the Cooperative League of the USA and the University of Thailand.
2. A team of cooperative leaders from the USA who were studying the cooperative movement in Thailand. These studies were being examined by the government.

In the sphere of cooperative training, with the help of the government and the university, the CLT was trying to educate primary school, college and university students.

A national seminar was held in the last week of October and ~~the~~ first week of November on the subject of Population Education and Cooperative Development. The emphasis was on family planning. The seminar was held under the joint auspices of the CLT, ILO and the U.N.

In the field of Cooperative Legislation, there was nothing much to report except that the government gives a lot of freedom to the cooperative movement in the matter of its development. There were no restrictive laws.

In international cooperative trade, Thai cooperatives exported about 130,000 tons of corn to Japan and imported about 150,000 tons of fertilizer from Japan.

By way of technical assistance, a Dairy Project was established with the assistance of West Germany. The CLT was interested in getting assistance either from the FAO or from the ICA for its training programme.

The problems faced by the Thai Cooperative Movement are:-

1. Lack of managerial personnel for consumer and rural cooperatives, especially the rice mills.
2. More training centres are required for training personnel of rice mills and dairy projects and cassewa processing.
3. Want of financial resources. Though the cooperatives have a bank, the bank appears to be against the agricultural cooperatives. It prefers to grant loans to individual farmers. However, the Reserve Bank of Thailand is trying to help the cooperatives by asking the commercial banks to give credit to agricultural cooperatives.

4. Need of education for members and office bearers and of training for employees of cooperatives. The problem is accentuated by the high rate of illiteracy which is about 78 per cent.
5. Lack of coordination among the different departments of government dealing with cooperatives.
6. There was a dearth of experts on consumer cooperatives.

The future programme of development drawn up for the coming 4-5 years was as follows:-

1. Growth schemes for rural development including provision of credit to other types of cooperatives like consumer, housing, thrift and credit.
2. Proposal to change cooperative law enabling persons under 20 years of age to become members.
3. To change the constitution of the CLT to enable it to function as a business organisation and receive subscriptions from each cooperative society.
4. Submission of a Cooperative Development Plan to the Government.
5. To persuade government and university to include cooperative education in the curriculum.
6. To persuade government to involve itself more and more in the development of cooperatives to improve the lot of the rural poor.

Mr. Kularajah asked Mr. Machima whether the amalgamation and integration of societies was done on a compulsory basis. Mr. Machima stated that it was compulsory.

Dr. Saxena asked whether the Dairy Project started in Thailand with the assistance of DANIDA was a cooperative project. Mr. Machima said that the Dairy Project was not a cooperative project. He also said that they were going to set up another dairy with the assistance of New Zealand.

Mr. Kularajah mentioned that at present the ICA ROEC had an experienced Cooperative Housing expert with them and that he should be asked to help national movements to develop their housing programmes. Mr. Rana said that the housing expert, Mr. Johnsson, will be visiting selected countries to make studies and submit proposals.

Agenda Item No. 6 : Administration30. (a) Bonow House

Mr. Weeraman reported to the meeting the follow-up action taken on the minutes of the last meeting. He informed the meeting that the ICA Regional Office building in New Delhi had been named "Bonow House".

31. (b) Member Contributions

Mr. Weeraman informed the meeting that contributions to the funds of the ICA ROEC for the year 1975-76 had been received from Australia, India, Iran, Japan, Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand and contributions were expected from Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan and the Philippines.

Dr. Saxena mentioned that he was discussing this question with the SCC in Stockholm and said that so far only contributions made in cash by the member movements are being shown and contributions made by them in kind have not been shown. In his opinion the contributions made by member movements in kind should also be shown.

Mr. Weeraman informed the meeting that about 40 per cent of the costs of technical meetings are met by the member organisations. Dr. Saxena wondered whether some figures of such contributions in kind could be furnished by the member organisations. All the members of the Council agreed to furnish these figures. Mr. Kularajah said that it would be easier to give figures for the period January to December instead of July to June. It was decided that the member-organisations should be asked to furnish these figures. Even figures on a six monthly basis would be helpful and could be easily adjusted to the July-June budget year.

32. (c) Sub-Committee Contributions

Mr. Weeraman reported that contributions in respect of the work done by the ROEC for the ICA Sub-Committee on Agriculture and Trade for South-East Asia (£50/-) had been received from ICA members in Australia, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

33. (d) Staff Changes

Mr. Weeraman reported that Dr. Dharm Vir had rejoined the ICA ROEC in January 1976 after the completion of his ILO assignment in Sri Lanka; Mr. M.K. Puri had joined the ICA ROEC as Specialist

in Consumer Cooperation and Joint Director (Technical Assistance and Trade) in January 1976; and Mr. Sten Johnsson, an experienced Cooperative Housing Expert of Sweden (HSB) had joined the ICA ROEC in May 1976. Mr. M.V. Madane's term with the FAO had been extended and the ICA had released him for one more year i.e. up to November 1977. Mr. Weeraman added that it was good for the ICA to release its officers for such assignments in that they get an opportunity of working at the grass roots level and gaining field experience.

Agenda Item No. 7 : Education Centre

34. Action taken on the minutes of the last meeting : Mr. Rana, Director(Education) reporting to the meeting stated that there were no specific points for report except the following:-

(a) Regional Seminar on "the Relationship between the Board of Directors and the Manager" recommended by the Council at the last meeting could not be held because Australia and Malaysia, the proposed venues for this seminar, regretted their inability to host this seminar. ANGKASA in Malaysia who was also approached said that they were not in a position to hold the seminar at that point of time but said that they might be able to reconsider holding it at the end of the current year. Mr. Rana hoped that Mr. Kularajah and Mr. Supah Noh could indicate the position now. Mr. Supah Noh informed the meeting that ANGKASA was not in a position to hold the seminar. Mr. Weeraman said that he still felt that Australia was the ideal venue for the seminar. Mr. Hunter disagreed with Mr. Weeraman and explained that the situation in Australia was quite different and inapplicable to the situations in the developing countries. However, he agreed to explore and reconsider the proposal and suggested that the Council submit the Terms of Reference and the Theme of the seminar so that he could discuss this with his Board of Directors. If the Board agreed, the seminar could be held in 1977.

Mr. Kularajah said that in the cooperative management conference held in Manila last year, the point emerged that the elected Board of Directors were interfering in the day-to-day management of the Cooperatives. Particularly in financial management they were all laymen and tried to deal with what they did not know. The year 1975 has been a very bad year for Malaysia. He still thought that Australia was a better venue for this seminar. Mr. Hunter pointed out to the meeting that the seminar would obviously be at a fairly high level, and therefore the participants coming to this seminar should be able to absorb the training. He however, said that he was not in position to commit himself to anything at this stage. For the

last two years the responsibilities of Directors of all organisations, Cooperative and Non-Cooperative, had been heavy. They had been asked to shoulder responsibilities of a high order. The Board of Directors wanted to help in selling and buying. There was always some communication gap between the elected board of directors and the man in charge of large societies. For taking proper and timely decisions the feed-back of information by the managers to the boards of directors was essential. Mr. Hunter said that assuming the seminar was held in Australia he would expect the participants to be General Managers or Chief Executives and Directors. Mr. Weeraman suggested that there should be a Resource Person from Japan. Mr. Hunter did not agree with this.

He thought that all the Resource Persons should be from Australia. He further said that if the Council gave him the Terms of Reference he would communicate the decision of his Board in two and half months time.

(b) Women and Cooperatives : Mr. Rana reported that the Council had suggested in the previous meeting that the member organisations should constitute National Committees of Women Cooperators for developing educational programmes for women in cooperatives. The Council had also recommended that an International Committee of Women Cooperators be constituted. India and Malaysia had already constituted National Committees of Women. Dr. Saxena hoped that some work programmes for women would be formulated.

Mr. Kularajah said that he had received reports from Malaysian participants that the International Seminar for women organised by the Swedish Cooperative Centre in Stockholm was a great success. He requested the Council to record its appreciation of SCC's efforts in this connection and suggested that a letter be addressed to the SCC informing them of the Council's appreciation.

(c) Teacher Training Programme in Turin : Mr. Rana reported that on their return from the ICA Congress held in Paris, Mr. Weeraman and he visited Turin and discussed this programme with the ILO International Centre for Advanced Technical and Vocational Training. It was decided at this meeting that Part I of this course would be in Poona in India and Part II would be held in Turin (Italy). The financial burden would be shared by the ICA ROEC and the ILO. The travel expenses would be borne by the ILO. The Course would take in 25 participants. A memorandum setting out the objectives of the course, and the qualifications required of the participants along with letters of invitations had already been sent out. The qualifications of participants for this course are that they should be working as teachers in National or Regional Cooperative Colleges teaching Cooperative Management and Cooperative business practices. These

teachers should have 5 years of teaching experience. The ICA ROEC desires that the capacity of this course should be fully utilised. The selection of participants would be made jointly by the ICA and the ILO. It is expected that persons of high calibre would be selected for this course and member organisations have been requested to select high level teachers for this course. Teachers include Principals. The quota of participants for each country is two. However member organisations have been requested to send additional nominations for consideration in the event of there being vacancies.

Dr. Saxena said that in the long perspective of collaboration between the ICA and the ILO, it was extremely important that this course should be a success. Mr. Rana said that the ILO had agreed to keep their member-governments and Area Offices informed of this training programme.

Section II : Review of Education Activities December 1975–November 1976

35. Mr. Rana reported on the activities of the Education Centre carried out since the last meeting of the Council (7.12.75).

(1) An Orientation Seminar for Asian Women Cooperators was held at the ICA ROEC from 29th March to 2nd April 1976.

(2) A Regional Seminar on Cooperative Insurance and Promotion of Savings was held in collaboration with the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives of Japan, the Institute for the Development of Agricultural Cooperation in Asia (IDACA), the Cooperative Insurance Federation and the Central Cooperative Bank for Agriculture and Forestry of Japan in Tokyo from 1st to 21st September 1976.

(3) A National Seminar on Cooperative Farming was held by the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka with assistance of the ICA ROEC from 16-30th June 1976 at Colombo.

(4) ICA/NCUI Cooperative Education Field Project, Indore District, India

As agreed between the ICA and the NCUI the project in Indore District had been transferred to the NCUI on 1st July 1976 and the NCUI had assumed full responsibility for running the project. The success of the project had prompted the NCUI to start 15 similar projects in 10 cooperatively less developed States of India.

Mr. Weeraman informed the Council that the FAO was thinking of sending a Fact-Finding Mission to India to study the Indore Project with a view to assisting its replication in other parts of India.

(5) Cooperative Education Materials Advisory Service (CEMAS):

Mr. Rana informed that he had already given information about this service in the morning when the country background paper of Philippines was discussed.

(6) Cooperative Education Field Project

Mr. Rana said that the ICA ROEC had made a proposal to start a Cooperative Education Field Project on the lines of the Indore Project, in Indonesia in collaboration with the Dewan Koperasi Indonesia. Mr. Rana requested Mr. Eddiwan to give the latest information on this matter to the Council. Mr. Eddiwan stated that they had already written to the ICA on this subject saying that they were not in a position to start this project in the beginning of 1977 and that they would write to the ICA again. Mr. Rana said that the ICA would send some one to Indonesia to carry out a feasibility study of this proposal. In fact the Council had recommended that the ICA should start two such projects but on account of financial constraints, the ICA had agreed to start only one such project.

(7) Consultative and Allied Services

Mr. Rana mentioned that the ICA had rendered two kinds of services under this heading. One was the ICA personnel acting as Resource Persons delivering talks and lectures at training programmes in some countries of the Region, and the other service was the participation of the ICA personnel in technical meetings organised by U.N. organisations and other international organisations. Mr. Kularajah appreciated the good work done by the ICA.

Section III : Programme of Activities for July 1977 to June 1978

36. Mr. Rana presented the programme of activities the ICA ROEC proposed to carry out during the year July 1977 to June 1978 for the approval of the Council.

1. Regional Seminar in Japan : This was the normal activity which was carried out every year in September in collaboration with the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives and the IDACA of Japan. The subject of the next seminar had been discussed with the Central Union and Mr. Togawa of IDACA and their decision was awaited.

Mr. Taguchi said that the Central Union and the IDACA had suggested that the subject of the seminar should be "Management of Agricultural Cooperatives" with special reference to multi-purpose cooperatives. The Council approved of the subject.

Mr. Aziz of Malaysia said that the study of fishery cooperatives also should be included in the regional seminar to be held in Japan. Mr. Rana said that he would take this up with the Japanese member movement.

2. Regional Seminar on the "Development of Cooperative Housing in S.E. Asia"

Mr. Rana said that the ICA usually held two regional seminars in a year and accordingly proposed that the second regional seminar should be on the subject. "Development of Cooperative Housing in S.E. Asia". He added that the last seminar on this subject was held in 1970 - six years ago, in Malaysia. The need of cooperative housing had continued to remain urgent. The ICA now had a Cooperative Housing Expert with them.

The Council agreed with the proposal and suggested that the dates for this seminar could be either in the month of November or December 1977.

Mr. Pradit Machima agreed that the Cooperative League of Thailand would host the seminar in Bangkok, Thailand, and stated that he would inform the ICA of the dates convenient to the League for holding the seminar.

3. Open Asian Conference OR Top Level Cooperative Leaders Conference

Mr. Rana explained that he had placed two alternative proposals before the Council for consideration. One was the Open Asian Conference. The ICA has been holding these Open Asian Conferences since 1975. The proposed Asian Conference was the 3rd in the series. These conferences are held on a self-financing basis. The other proposal was a Top Level Cooperative Leaders Conference. The last top level conference was held in Japan 3 years ago (1973). It was worthwhile to hold such top level conferences periodically, say every four years, to discuss important matters of topical interest. The ICA could hold only one of these meetings in the coming year.

Mr. Kularajah said that the ICA should continue to hold Open Asian Conferences on a self-financing basis and that if the Dewan Koperasi Indonesia agreed the conference could be held either before or after the Council meeting.

Mr. Eddiwan stated that they were not against Open Asian Conferences, but they would like to know the subject of the conference. Indonesia agreed in principle to hold this conference. Mr. Kularajah suggested that the subject of the conference could be "Cooperative Management with special reference to Member Communication, Staff Relations and Manpower Development". The subject was approved by the Council and accepted by Mr. Eddiwan.

Regarding the Top Level Cooperative Leaders Conference, Mr. Kularajah stated that the last top level conference held in Japan was a great success and that the ICA should hold such conferences. Mr. Weeraman added that a Top Level Conference was a useful exercise once in four years. It was agreed that a Top Level Cooperative Leaders Conference should be held in 1978 as a preparatory meeting for the ICA Congress to be held in 1980.

4. Case Studies in Leadership and Management

Mr. Rana said that in accordance with the decision of the Council at its last meeting, three case studies had been proposed, out of which two studies had already been carried out and the reports of these studies were under preparation. These were:-

1. Sepah Consumers Cooperative of Iran, carried out by Dr. Dharm Vir.
2. Phrankorn Cooperative Consumer Store, Bangkok, Thailand, carried out by Mr. M.K. Puri.

The third study would be made by Mr. Lionel Gunawardana in the Republic of Korea before the end of June 1977.

The Council approved of making three similar in-depth case studies in the coming year.

Dr. Saxena suggested that if the case studies carried out revealed a negative picture, the studies should not be published. The time allotted for the case studies appeared to be too short to Dr. Saxena. But Mr. Weeraman felt that it might be difficult to spare the ICA specialists and experts for longer periods. Prof. Yadao felt that the publication of studies which are adverse is not sound, for then nothing could be learnt from such studies. Dr. Saxena suggested that in such cases, the report of such a study should be treated as a highly classified document and its distribution made only to a limited circle. In such studies a strategy should be adopted. Mr. Rana mentioned about the difficulties of getting suitable national counterparts for conducting the case studies. The selection was very difficult. Prof. Yadao suggested that the services of universities should be utilised for recruiting counterparts. Mr. Kularajah disagreed with this suggestion. He was of the opinion that studies carried out by

university teachers tended to be more academical than practical as they did not have any field experience. Prof. Yadao said that there were some university teachers who had teaching as well as working experience and they could be utilised for such studies. Mr. Hunter agreed with Prof. Yadao. He cited the example of Harvard University. Dr. Saxena explained that this situation existed because of the British tradition in India and Malaysia and the American tradition in the Philippines. Mr. Weeraman felt that the ICA was short of people whilst there were so many case studies to be made.

Dr. Newiger of the FAO stated that the FAO had some experience in this field and they had framed a policy in matters like this. The policy of the FAO was that (1) whatever study or research was to be carried out would be entrusted to the local institutions such as a university. Their experience had been that local institutions were more appropriate bodies to conduct such studies. The FAO only prepared the framework or the outline of the study or research on the basis of which the local institutions would carry out the study adjusting the outline to suit local conditions.

5. Demonstration Project in the Field of Teacher Training

Mr. Rana said that the ICA member-organisation in Sri Lanka had agreed to have this project in their country. A Swedish expert, Dr. L. Skaaret, had carried out a feasibility study. The report was now with the ICA. The ICA would study this report and then take suitable action.

6. Meeting of the South-East Asian Specialists Group on Cooperative Training (SEASPECT)

Mr. Rana informed the Council that the date of the next meeting of this Group had to be changed in view of the second part of the Teachers Training Programme in Turin. This meeting would now be held in February 1977. Nominations had been received from six countries.

The NCUI had suggested some modification to the Constitution of SEASPECT viz. that persons in administrative charge of training should also be included in the Group. When the Constitution was approved, it was envisaged that this group would be a highly technical group. The work of this group would be directly relevant to the teaching work done in National Training Centres, such as production of teaching material, identification of gaps and needs of production material, teaching techniques,

curricula, etc. Mr. Faustino said that as the work of the SEASPECT was of a highly technical nature, the work should be entrusted to technical people only. The group now proposed should be kept as it is. Mr. Taguchi informed the Council that the Principal of the Central Cooperative College, who was also one of the Directors of CUAC, was unable to attend the meetings of SEASPECT because of some difficulties. Mr. Rana suggested that the Principal could nominate one of his senior staff members to attend this meeting. He said that this meeting would be held in February 1977 for two weeks. Mr. Tiwari said that the NCUI had made its points clear. The opinion expressed by it was reasonable. However he would not press the matter.

7. Dr. Newiger's Remarks

At this point in the discussions, Dr. Newiger of the FAO intervened and asked permission to say a few words as he had to leave the meeting. He thanked the ICA and the members of the Council for inviting him to attend this meeting. He considered this meeting as a very important one in which he learnt a good deal about the ICA activities in this region. The discussions were very stimulating and purposive. He hoped that with this meeting a very fruitful and meaningful collaboration between the FAO and the ICA had begun. He extended special words of thanks to the President, Mr. Kerinec, and the Director, Dr. Saxena, of the ICA and Mr. Weeraman the Regional Director for making this collaboration possible. Dr. Newiger expressed his grateful thanks to the Iranian hosts for their fine hospitality.

8. Women and Cooperatives

After some discussion the Council decided that the proposed ~~Asian~~ Council of Women Cooperators be formed after National Committees of Women Cooperators had been formed in all the countries of this Region. Mr. Tiwari suggested that instead of constituting a separate council of women cooperators, some women cooperators could be invited to sit in the ICA Council for South-East Asia. Mr. Tiwari even wanted some women cooperators to be represented on the Executive Committee of the ICA. Dr. Saxena said that it was for the national bodies to elect women to this body. Mr. Kularajah agreed with Mr. Tiwari's suggestion. Mr. Rana informed the Council that Sri Lanka was carrying out a survey on the "Role of Women and the extent of their participation in the Cooperative Movement". If any other member-movement wished to make a similar survey and needed the ICA's assistance, the ICA would provide this during the next year but this assistance could be made available to only one country, during 1977-78.

/with the
assistance
of the ICA.

Mr. Rana also informed the Council that during the current year the ICA would assist member-movements in conducting national basic courses in Cooperation for women cooperators.

9. National Seminars

Mr. Rana informed the Council that once in-depth case studies have been made and reports on them have been issued, short National Seminars would be held in those countries on the subject of leadership and management as a follow-up action on the case studies.

10. Consultative Services

The subject areas in which the ICA had specialists were (i) Education Methods, (ii) Agricultural Cooperation, (iii) Consumer Cooperation, (iv) Housing Cooperation, and (v) Cooperative Law.

Mr. Rana informed the Council that the ICA ROEC would be able to assist member-movements in holding National Seminars and provide consultative services on request in those subject areas.

11. Member-Education

Referring to the Indian problem of Member-Education, Mr. Tiwari requested the ICA to assist the Indian Movement in formulating a Member-Education programme which is cheap as well as effective for the massive membership of the Indian Cooperatives. The existing education programmes were totally inadequate for the 60 million membership of the Indian Cooperative Movement. He requested the Council to have a study made of this problem of the Indian Movement with a view to finding out ways and means by which the member education programme could be effectively carried out in as short a period as possible.

Mr. Kularajah agreed with the views expressed by Mr. Tiwari and said that the question of member education was a very very important one and he would like to remind the members of the Council that the ICA was first established to carry out member education programmes mainly and that they did a good job of it. but 16 years had now passed and there had been many changes in the region both in the methods and the practices of Cooperation. It was therefore time for the ICA to have a second look at the member-education programme in the various countries of this region. He suggested that the ICA should carry out a study of the member-education programmes currently undertaken by its member-movements and record its findings. He was aware that this

was an immense task covering the 60 million membership in India and another 40 million in the rest of the region. He felt that rationalisation of member-education programmes in the region was needed. The ICA should report whether the present methods were right, or whether some new methods could be introduced. He wanted the ICA ROEC to make positive recommendations on a member-education programme for the next 5 years. He added that this was not intended to be a criticism of what had been done by the ROEC so far. The suggestion was made to see if something new could be introduced. Except in Australia and Japan, the member education programmes had not been as effective as one would have liked. Something ought to be done about it. The specialists in the ROEC with the assistance of specialists in the ICA Headquarters along with the specialists in the local movements in the region, and perhaps more technical experts from Japan could join hands and make a study by which the member movements in this region would greatly benefit. Mr. Kularajah said that this was his fervent plea.

Mr. Weeraman said that the first thing was to make an assessment of the member education programme of each country and see what should be done.

Mr. Togawa said that the member education programme in Japan had particular relevance to the national movement only, whereas cooperative training or staff training was applicable to other countries also. The member education programme in Japan was shaped by the historical conditions of Japan which were quite different from that of other countries and therefore their programme had no relevance to the conditions prevailing in other countries. In his opinion there could not be a proto-type member education programme suitable for all countries and all situations. Each national movement should design its own programme according to its needs.

Mr. Tiwari explained that when he asked for assistance in designing a suitable member education programme for India, he wanted the ICA to suggest the methodology and techniques which would help in carrying out the programme as quickly as possible and as cheaply as possible.

Mr. Togawa said that the member education programmes of each country must conform to its historical and socio-economic conditions in order to be effective.

Mr. Kularajah requested that Mr. Weeraman should make an assessment of the existing member education methods in the Region.

Mr. Hunter supplementing Mr. Kularajah's remarks said that a research study should be carried out by the ICA in order to identify the needs and/or priorities of the type of education necessary for each country and this could be done by the member

countries having regard to the historical and political background of each country. It was essential that priorities be established first. Mr. Faustino made a suggestion that each National Movement should indicate the overall educational design and purpose and how ICA could step in and make an assessment. Mr. Weeraman explained that when he said "Assessment" he included the fixing of priorities and steps for improving the situation. Dr. Saxena summed-up the discussion by saying that the consensus of the Council was that the ICA should prepare its own overall framework and send it to all member organisations as a first step. He felt that taking stock of member education programmes of 14 countries was a very big task. It involved a lot of material in local languages and diversities of all kinds. The first step was therefore for the Regional Office to develop a framework of enquiry and check with member-organisations. This overall enquiry was likely to be extremely expensive. The framework should contain the priorities that the ICA considers proper and the ICA should send it out for the reactions of the member-organisations.

Mr. Kularajah thought that the exercise was not that expensive as the ROEC knew the background. Mr. Weeraman said that the ICA should not fix the priorities before the study was made. Mr. Rana thought that the results of such a study would depend upon the support of the member organisations and their willingness to participate in this enquiry. The ROEC could, as suggested by Dr. Saxena, work out guidelines and priorities on the basis of which the member movements could make an in-depth study. The ICA could make a study of two or three countries on a selective basis and suggest certain priorities which could be regarded as useful guidelines for member education work. These could then be adapted and fitted to local situations as underlined by Mr. Togawa. Mr. Kularajah said that the ICA had held over 100 seminars and at all these seminars papers had been presented giving information about country situations. It only needed some one from the ROEC to study these papers. Dr. Saxena wanted to know if Mr. Kularajah's suggestion was that the ICA ROEC should study and analyse the existing material available and make its recommendations on the basis of this. Mr. Faustino then suggested that this available information could be up-dated by making visits to those countries.

Mr. Rana stated that he was very happy and felt encouraged by the interest and response of the Council in regard to the member education programme. Dr. Vir and he had felt discouraged by the existing member education programmes. Until 1973 or 1974 the ICA had organised a large number of seminars both regional and national on the subject of member education and had also conducted Fellowship Programmes of 3 or 6 months and at least one person from each country had participated in this programme. The response to this programme had not been so good.

Mr. Kerinec thought that the man in charge of member education work should convince the managers and leaders of cooperatives that it was a good investment to support all programmes which are aimed at improving member education methods. Mr. Togawa commending the work of the ICA in this field said that new ways and means must be found to increase and evoke the interest of the people in Cooperation. To do this, the measures and methods adopted should suit the social conditions of the country. Basically, this was the responsibility of the national movement, but at the same time the ICA should help the national movements in this task. Mr. Aziz suggested that the ICA could collect the mass of information contained in the papers presented at the various international, regional and national seminars held in that country. Even the reports of annual general meetings of cooperatives could give a great deal of information.

Mr. Weeraman agreed that the ICA could use all the information available, whatever was available or published in the English language. But the problem was that quite a lot of information was in local languages. The communication between the ICA and its member organisations was very bad. If each movement appointed a man to give the ICA the needed information and an assessment of the situation in his country that would help. Dr. Saxena said that if there was 20 per cent response from member organisations it was considered reasonable. Mr. Kerinec suggested that the man appointed to give information and communicate with the ICA should have some authority or power.

Mr. Weeraman agreed that the ICA should do something in a year or so. He requested the members to send their assessment in the next three months and the ICA would make a study and give its own assessment within a year. Mr. Rana suggested that a high level or senior officer should be put in charge of the member education programme in each movement. Mr. Weeraman thought that the assessment should also be made at a high level.

12. Special Studies

Mr. Tiwari mentioned the problems arising in the wake of the new economic programme started by the Prime Minister of India. The problems were three-fold.

1. Distribution of agricultural land to landless people. The number of such landless people ran into millions. They did not have money to pay the share capital to join cooperatives in order to get assistance from cooperatives.
2. Sites for the construction of houses. The number of such people also ran into several hundred thousands.

3. Legislation in some States of India abolishing private money-lending. This had created hardships to poor people inasmuch as there was no alternative agency to provide credit to poor people for **buying consumer needs.**

Mr. Tiwari requested the ICA to make a study of these problems and suggest ways by which the cooperatives could help the people in these three fields.

13. Committee on Consumer Cooperation for S.E. Asia

Mr. Rana informed the meeting that the First Asian Conference on Consumer Cooperation held in Malaysia in 1974 had recommended the constitution of a Working Committee on Consumer Cooperation for the Region. The ICA took time about this as it did not have on its staff an expert on Consumer Cooperation. After Mr. Puri joined the ICA ROEC office, the work was taken up as suggested by the Conference. The ROEC had prepared a draft Constitution for the Committee. It was given on pp. 24-27 of the agenda notes. Mr. Rana suggested that the Council should go through the draft constitution clause by clause.

Mr. Weeraman intervened and said that before the Council took up the draft constitution, he wanted to suggest that instead of naming the body as ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for S.E. Asia, it should be named as ICA Sub-Committee on Consumer Cooperation as the ICA has already a main Committee on Consumer Cooperation in London. Mr. Kerinec agreed with Mr. Weeraman's suggestion and said that the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation was formed only a few years ago and its secretariat is in Paris. They had made many mistakes in the beginning and the ICA ROEC could learn from these mistakes. It was the right moment to form this Sub-Committee. "The ICA, London could give you a lot of material and exchange a lot of experience. The quorum should be at least five persons. Three is not enough." Dr. Saxena said that the ICA could become truly international if it extended the work of its auxiliary committees. He informed the Council that if the Council approved the Constitution now, he would then place it before the Executive Committee of the ICA in March and get its approval.

Mr. Kularajah moved a motion that the Constitution with amendments suggested by the Council be accepted by the Council. He also moved that Mr. M.K. Puri should be the Secretary of this Sub-Committee. The motion was seconded by Mr. Eddiwan and was carried.

14. Multi-national Corporations and their effect on Cooperatives

Mr. Rana invited the attention of the Council to its decision taken the previous day regarding the constitution of a Sub-Committee with him as Secretary to draft a Resolution on the question of the operations of Multi-national Corporations and their effect on cooperatives. Dr. Saxena said that the objective of this exercise was two-fold: (i) to increase the competitiveness of cooperatives; (ii) to create a cooperative lobby in the governments. When the ICA informs the member-movements they must take up the question with their governments and pressurise their governments. Mr. Hunter said that the points made by Dr. Saxena be added to the resolution. Mr. Faustino seconded. The following resolution was adopted:-

RESOLUTION:

The 18th Meeting of the Regional Council for S.E. Asia held in Tehran, Iran, on the 7th and 8th November 1976 notes the resolution adopted by the Open Conference held in Paris on the 23 September 1976 by the ICA Agricultural Committee and the IFAP Standing Committee on Agricultural Cooperation and the submission made by the Council Member for Australia regarding the threat posed by the Multi-national Corporations to the progress of cooperatives;

URGES the cooperative movements in the Region to study the impact of multinational corporations on the activities of the cooperatives and on their farmer and consumer members and to take fast and energetic action to increase the competitiveness of cooperatives by rationalising their structures horizontally and vertically, by completely integrating agricultural production and marketing and by improving management efficiency through appropriate manpower training and development programmes and any other means;

RECOMMENDS to the cooperative movements of the Region to create cooperative lobbies in their respective countries with a view to persuading their governments to take necessary measures to limit the economic power of the multi-nationals;

CALLS upon the cooperative movements of the Region to devise joint programmes on a regional basis and to give their full support to the speedy development of ICTO;

CALLS UPON the ICA Regional Office to prepare a document for submission to its Head Office representing the views of the movements of the Region for assisting the latter in its task of formulating a practicable cooperative strategy to counter the world-wide expansion of the multi-nationals.

Agenda Item No. 8 : Technical Assistance & Promotion of Trade

1. Technical Assistance

37. Mr. M.K. Puri reported that some projects had been placed before the Council for securing assistance from developed countries. Mr. Hunter had suggested that the ICA ROEC could process the projects and send it to him along with feasibility study reports for securing assistance. The report was sent to the Cooperative Federation of Australia and the CFA took up the matter with the Australian Development Agency in April 1976. The CFA informed the ICA ROEC that it was not possible to find assistance. The NACF project for a Fruit and Vegetable Processing Plant was also submitted to the Australian Federation for exploring the possibility of securing financial assistance from the Australian Development Assistance Programme. In April 1976, the Federation informed the ICA ROEC that it was not possible for them to find funds at that point of time. Later the ICA received a communication from the Federation that it might be possible for them to consider the NACF project. The ICA wrote to them. Mr. Puri requested Mr. Hunter to inform the Council of the latest position. Mr. Hunter informed that the Government has shown willingness to assist the project but wanted more information. Mr. Puri said that the Feasibility Study prepared by a person from the USA was sent to the Federation but the Federation again informed that it had failed to find the needed assistance. Mr. Hunter asked the ICA ROEC to re-submit the application and he would take it up with the Government of Australia.

2. Asian Cooperative Development Bank

38. Mr. Puri informed the Council that at the last meeting of the Council it was decided that an Asian Cooperative Development Bank be established instead of the Asian Cooperative Bank as it was found that it was not possible to do both trading and providing development finance. A Committee was set up to take action to establish the ACDB. The Committee consisted of Mr. J. Sassani (Chairman), Mr. Basuki and Mr. Ismail and one person from the Japanese movement and this Committee had submitted a memorandum on the establishment of this bank. The earlier decision was to start the bank with an

equity capital of one million US dollars. But it was not possible to have a bank with one million dollars as equity. The further generation of capital, the rate of interest on lending and borrowing etc., were questions which needed study. Therefore a preliminary investigation was necessary. Accordingly Mr. Puri had undertaken the study and had prepared a preliminary investigation report. After the study he had come to the conclusion that it was not possible to establish the bank with an equity of one million. At least an equity capital of US dollars 3 million would be necessary. The other question would be the generation of further capital for lending. It would be difficult to mobilise 3 million dollars as capital. If the Bank was to raise capital by borrowing, then it would need some kind of support or guarantee. Equity capital raised from member organisations in the Region would not be an adequate guarantee for mobilising funds from the international money market. Even established banks which had already built up a reputation and rating had found it difficult to raise capital by borrowing. The experience of ADB was that it would be difficult to borrow from the international money market on the basis of equity capital from our own members. A good deal of our capital would have to come from the governments of affluent countries. If the bank is to generate further capital, it would be necessary to have as members cooperative movements which enjoy international reputation or have international standing.

39. Another point for consideration was that for the first five years even the ADB could not enter the international money market for raising capital. It was necessary for them to first establish their reputation through efficient and successful performance and competent management. Therefore the proposed Bank would have to depend on its own resources at least for the first 5-7 years. So we need equity capital of not only 3 million but also need money for administrative costs. This would be possible only if we have the support of cooperative institutions from affluent countries. Currencies of some countries in this region are not convertible except Japan, Australia and Singapore.

40. Then there was the question of rate of interest. The international money market was very tight. The rate of interest on loans ranged from 9 per cent. The ADB borrowed at 8.75 per cent and the Canadian Bank issued bonds for six years at 9 per cent. There has been a further increase in the rate of interest in the international market of affluent countries. It is $9\frac{1}{2}$ to 10 per cent. Therefore our lending rate cannot be less than 13 per cent. Our own administrative costs would be 1 per cent. The ADB's operating costs come to about 2.9 per cent. Our lending has to be through member organisations as we would not be able to supervise loans given by the Bank direct. The national movements would also ask for 2 per cent for their risk. All this would mean that the rate of interest to the borrower would work out to 13 per cent. He had doubts whether this rate of interest would be acceptable. We must get some soft loans from international financial institutions like the IDA, World Bank or

other international sources. On commercial loans it would not be possible for the proposed ACDB to advance loans for development purposes.

41. Another problem was the government taxation policy in each country. The bank's profits would be taxable. Other problems likely to be faced by the proposed bank had been mentioned in the note attached to the agenda notes as appendix "A". The membership of ADB is limited to governments only and confined only to the governments in the region. The governments in the 14 countries of this region where the ICA has membership are also members of the ADB where they enjoy certain privileges, amenities and concessions. There is also an Asian Development Fund created by the ADB to which affluent countries have promised contributions. Out of this fund, the ADB is granting concessional loans on which only one per cent interest is charged and the loans are repayable in 40 years with a grace period of another 10 years. This is possible because they have access to the soft loans. Therefore this proposal is not economically feasible, and will have to be shelved. We may move this proposal in the international forum to ascertain the views of affluent countries whether they can help this bank. He suggested that we discuss the proposal with the Bank in Basel and with the Secretary of the Banking Committee in our Head Office in London.

42. Mr. Kularajah proposed that in the circumstances the proposal should be dropped for six years, say until 1982. The proposal could be re-opened after 1981. Dr. Saxena agreed with this view. He said that the ICA had spent a lot of time and money on this proposal. It was advisable to put this proposal in cold storage. The point made out by Mr. Puri about the high rate of interest of 13 per cent is not valid. This rate was not really high. The ICA had a Liaison Committee on Cooperative Thrift and Credit. The ICA had held a conference in 1974 on Cooperative Thrift and Credit. There was a proposal now to have a programme on cooperative credit unions for development at the international level. This programme is being supported in terms of a feasibility study by the Canadian CIDA. Two experts, Mr. St. Seigens, formerly of FAO, and one more person with a Banking background from Canada will spend about 4 to 6 months in making a full enquiry formulating a suggestion for a mechanism for transfer of funds from affluent countries. The ICA, London, will keep the Regional Office informed on this development.

3. Pending Proposals for Assistance

43. Mr. Puri then reported that there were four old pending projects for assistance. They were (i) The Fruits and Vegetable Processing Project of the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation of the Republic of Korea; (ii) The Fishery Project of Zambalese Province in the Philippines. The ICA was trying to get assistance from the

International Development Authority of Canada through the Cooperative Union of Canada. The ICA head office in London had agreed to discuss this project with the Canadian Cooperative Union; (iii) The Swedish gift to the Bangladesh Handicraft Cooperative Federation. At the request of the SCC the ICA ROEC had sent this money to Bangladesh on 18th June 1976. The amount involved was Sw.Kr. 3,000/- for the purchase of spindles and looms for a woollen rug project in the Rajshahi District in Bangladesh; (iv) Gift of Irrigation Equipment and Incubators to the Rangunia Thana Central Cooperative Association in Bangladesh. The equipment had already reached Bangladesh.

4. Fresh Proposals for Assistance

44. Mr. Puri mentioned that there were four fresh proposals for technical assistance. They were:

- i. A Fertilizer Plant for the benefit of the Cooperative Movement in Pakistan which was not withdrawn by Pakistan.
- ii. A request from the Bhor Dairy in India for 10 tons of skim milk powder, from the German Consumers Cooperative Congress. Mr. Hunter said that it was advisable to make use of the funds available from Germany for purchase of machinery and should not be used for purchase of milk powder. He also thought that the balance amount made available by Germany as assistance to Bhor Dairy should be used for purchase of any machinery and that the purchase of milk powder for Bhor Dairy should be entrusted to ICTO or to Australia.
- iii. There was a proposal from the Philippines Cooperative Credit Union at Olangapo in the Philippines. About 16,000 entertainers or hostesses in this place had formed a cooperative. The cooperative movement in the Philippines had supported the request of this cooperative for financial assistance in the form of audio-visual equipment. The proposal was under the consideration of the ICA ROEC.

Mr. Faustino furnished further information regarding this cooperative. A cooperative had been registered with 15,000 members with a share capital of Pesos 50,000/-. The assistance this cooperative needed was in the field of education material. The organiser of this unique cooperative was a blind man called Mr. Maniken. A study was also being undertaken in which the ILO was also interested. The government had also asked for assistance.

Members from Sri Lanka and India stated that the organisation of such cooperatives had a great social content and significance as their purpose was to rehabilitate an exploited class of society. The effort of the cooperative movement in the Philippines was noteworthy and deserved appreciation.

- iv. A request from the Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka for assistance to buy audio-visual equipment and for a Printing Press for the 26 Education Centres. The proposal was under examination. The cost of this proposal was about £84,000/-. There were two possible donors for this proposal, the Canadian Development Authority and the Cooperative League of the USA. Before recommending assistance by these two organisations, the ICA ROEC had asked for a copy of the Survey Report on the Educational Needs of the Sri Lanka Cooperative Education Centres for examination. This report was awaited.

Dr. Saxena mentioned that the UNESCO and the World Bank were also willing to assist education programmes and the ICA ROEC should examine this source of assistance also.

5. Japanese Gift of Films on Consumer Cooperatives to ICA ROEC

45. Mr. Puri reported that the Nada-Kobe Consumer Cooperative Society at Kobe, Japan, had made a gift of two films (16mm) on the subject of "Cooperation and Cooperative Brands Rearing", and "Living in Cooperation". Mr. Puri further said that he had the chance of seeing one of the films during his recent visit to Japan. The films were very useful and he proposed that the Council should place on record its thanks to the National Consumer Federation of Japan for this gift.

6. ICTO

46. Mr. Puri said that the subject had already been discussed at length earlier and therefore there was no need of further discussion on this subject.

7. ILO Workshop on Strengthening of Inter-cooperative Trade Relations

47. Mr. Puri mentioned that there was a joint ILO/SIDA Project to hold a Workshop in the South-East Asian Region for the establishment and improvement of direct trade relations between the cooperatives in the developed countries and those of the developing countries. After this Workshop, three Experts will be appointed to work in the Region. The

ICA ROEC has asked the ILO to hold this Workshop in Singapore where it has already set up ICTO so that ICTO could also be involved in the Workshop. The ICA proposal had been accepted by the ILO and the ILO had agreed to shift the venue of the Workshop from Bangkok to Singapore. The ICA Head Office had advised the ROEC to explore possibilities of securing the collaboration of the International Trade Division of ESCAP. The ESCAP had already conducted a similar seminar in East Africa. It was also possible to find funds from ESCAP for holding a similar activity. ICA ROEC could also hold this as a separate activity.

48. Mr. Puri further reported that he had a meeting with the ESCAP people in Bangkok in September. The problem was of finding funds for this activity. The ILO was trying to get funds from Sweden for this activity. The International Trade Division of ESCAP had agreed to provide Resource Persons. The ILO said that it was not possible for it to finance this activity out of its regular budget. If Swedish financial help was not forthcoming, then the ILO would try to hold this Workshop out of its own budget. The Workshop was proposed to be held in the second half of February 1977 in Singapore. ICTO had suggested that the Workshop should be held in April or later. Mr. Kerinec suggested that the Chairman or General Manager of the INTERCOOP should be invited to attend this Workshop. Dr. Saxena said that he would keep in touch with the Regional Office regarding this matter. Mr. Puri said that the final selection of the participants of this Workshop would be made by ILO in consultation with the ICA in order to get the right type of participants.

49. Mr. Puri made another point. It was necessary to acquaint the ESCAP Experts with the nature of the problems of the cooperatives. He therefore suggested that country papers should be sent in advance to ESCAP and the ESCAP should prepare guidelines. Member movements should send their country papers to ESCAP direct.

50. Dr. Saxena said that the formulation of the programme and selection of the participants should be made by the ICA. Mr. Hunter informed the Council that the ICTO would be willing to adjust its time for the Workshop if that was necessary.

8. Study of the Role the Cooperative Movement could play in the task of Increasing Food Production in the countries served by the ICA ROEC

51. Mr. Puri said that as this matter had already been discussed in the Sub-Committee, it was not necessary to discuss it here again.

9. Joint Ventures with the Collaboration of two or more movements

52. Mr. Puri stated that the latest position regarding collaboration between two or more movements for joint ventures had been given in the agenda notes. He invited the members of the Council to

reconsider the position and make fresh recommendations. He said that he was of the opinion that the initiative for starting joint ventures should come from developed movements like Japan and Australia. The Indian Movement could also set up joint ventures in the field of sugar and fertilizer industry. Cooperative joint ventures need not be confined to countries within this region but could even be undertaken outside the region. He said that Sweden was willing to enter into joint ventures and the member movements in this region should take some initiative themselves and not wait for the initiative to come from outside.

53. Dr. Saxena said that there were a lot of problems involved in this. The Regional Office should examine this more closely and come up with suggestions.

10. Involvement of ICA and its Member-Organisations in the execution of UNDP assisted projects

54. Mr. Puri informed the Council that the assistance programme of the UNDP was similar to that of the FAO. Guidelines had been prepared by the UNDP in which four points had been underlined as very important :

- i) Decentralisation;
- ii) Economy;
- iii) Capability; and
- iv) Self-reliance

Mr. Puri said that the guidelines prepared by the UNDP had been appended to the Agenda Notes as appendix "B". The guidelines contained information on the formulation, execution and monitoring of the projects for assistance and the identification of the needs of projects. This assistance programme of the UNDP offered a lot of scope for cooperatives. Dr. Saxena informed the Council that the UNDP was experiencing liquidity problems. The ICA had asked its representative in the UN to send out a one-leaf note on ICA to each of the UNDP country representatives.

11. Collaboration between the ICA and the FAO

55. Already discussed vide minutes of the ICA Sub-Committee on Agriculture and Trade.

12. Co-financing Contracts between the Commission of the European Communities and Non-governmental Organisations for Development Schemes

56. Up to now the Commission of the European Communities had been assisting only projects received through the governments of the developing countries. They had now made a change in this policy. They

are now prepared to consider for assistance, projects sponsored by non-governmental organisations. They would meet 50% of the cost of such projects. But only projects which had the approval or endorsement of the government of the recipient country and projects which conform to the priorities of the recipient country would be qualified for assistance. Financial assistance to such projects would be limited to US\$ 100,000/- and the total cost of a project should not exceed US\$ 200,000/-.

57 Mr. Weeraman informed the Council that there were many proposals of assistance to developing countries by the UN agencies which could be taken advantage of by the cooperatives. He requested the members to send their requests for assistance to the ICA. The ICA was ready to help member organisations in the formulation of project outlines. Some worthwhile projects must be sent to the U.N. agencies for the assistance which is now made available by these agencies as a result of a change or shift in their policies.

58. Dr. Saxena added that if these projects could be sent to the ICA by the beginning of the year, it would give ICA enough time to approach the appropriate U.N. agencies for assistance. Mr. Kerinec also informed the meeting that the ICA had very good connections with the man in charge of the CEC (Commission of the European Community) and the ICA should send some information on the kind and type of assistance the CEC would be ready to give to each member-organisation in the Region.

13. Collaboration between the ICA and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC)

59. Mr. Puri informed the Council that the IDRC was a public corporation established under an Act of Parliament of the Canadian Government. This corporation had 4-5 regional offices at different places in different countries. There was one Regional Office at Singapore. The ICA ROEC had received information from the ICA Regional Office in Moshi, Tanzania, that they had been able to get some kind of collaboration from the IDRC Regional Office in Nairobi. They are prepared to consider assistance for research in social sciences. It should be possible for us to have collaboration with them for financing some of our research projects and for holding seminars and conferences to solve some of our problems. This question was being examined in the Regional Office.

Agenda Item No. 9 : Publications and Public Relations and Library Section

60. 1. Mr. Gunawardana informed the Council that the publications brought out by the ICA ROEC the previous year had been listed in the Agenda Notes. What is not mentioned in the Agenda Notes is the publication on the Open Conference on Cooperative Management.

61. Mr. Gunawardana reported to the Council that the ICA ROEC was now operating on a Revolving Fund for its publication activities. All these years, the money had come from Sweden for publications. The ICA ROEC was now getting money from Sweden for only its publicity work.

62. Regarding publicity work, the ICA ROEC was still having difficulties in collecting news from the member movements. Mr. Gunawardana requested the Council Members to give a little more cooperation in the matter of collection of news for the ICA Regional Bulletin.

2. Library

63. Mr. Gunawardana reported the documentation work being carried out by the library of the ICA ROEC. The librarian of the Sri Lanka Cooperative Council was being trained at the ICA ROEC library in New Delhi. The ICA ROEC had offered a scholarship for 2 months to the librarian to undergo training in library science and documentation work in the ICA library. The ICA ROEC's own librarian had also received advanced training in library work.

64. Finally, Mr. Gunawardana said that in the previous meeting of the Council the question was raised regarding getting news and information about the socio-economic conditions of cooperatives. He said that the ICA ROEC had now a wealth of information and material in the library. This information was freely given to interested parties. If members sought specific information, the ICA ROEC could supply this information and material.

Agenda Item No. 10 : Decisions and Recommendations of the ICA Sub-Committee on Agriculture and Trade for S.E. Asia

65. Mr. Weeraman said that there was nothing to add to what was decided at the Sub-Committee Meeting on November 6th. As all the Councillors were present at that meeting, there was no need to give a resume of the decisions taken there.

Agenda Item No. 11 : Relations with Member-organisations in the Region

66. The information given in the agenda notes was noted by the Council.

Agenda Item No. 12 : Relations with International Organisations

67. The information given in the agenda notes was noted by the Council.

Agenda Item No. 13 : Venue and Dates of the Next Meeting

68. Mr. Weeraman read the letter received from the Dewan Koperasi Indonesia inviting the ICA ROEC to hold its next Council meeting in Indonesia. Mr. Eddiwan suggested that the meeting be fixed for some time in December 1977. The Council noted this information with appreciation and thanked the Member for Indonesia for the invitation.

69. Mr. Pradit Machima, Member from Thailand, proposed that the 20th meeting of the Council be held in Chiangmai, Thailand, in 1978.

Agenda Item No. 14 : Any other matter with the permission of the Chair

70. Mr. Eddiwan from Indonesia suggested that the name of the Council be changed to "ICA Council for Australasia" as Iran and Australia were not strictly in South-East Asia. Dr. Saxena said that this question had been discussed in the Executive Committee of the ICA and the decision was that the name should be kept as it is.

Agenda Item No. 15 : Meeting of the Board of Advisers of IDACA

71. Mr. Weeraman explained that the Meeting of the Board of Advisers would not form part of the Council agenda as was the case last year as he had received a letter from the Managing Director of IDACA, Mr. Togawa, that the meeting should be held separately. Mr. Weeraman therefore suggested that the practice of holding the IDACA Board Meeting separately be reverted to. The Council agreed with this proposal and it was decided that the IDACA Board meeting be held separately.

Agenda Item No. 16 : Vote of thanks to the Chair

72. Mr. Kularajah proposed a vote of thanks to the Chair.

New Delhi
18 January 1977


P.E. WEERAMAN
ICA Regional Director for S.E. Asia &
Secretary, ICA Council for S.E. Asia

Annexe

Speech made by H.E. Mr. A. Hoveyda, the Prime Minister
of Iran at the ICA Council Meeting at Tehran

I would like to congratulate all the participants in this gathering on the opening of the annual session of the Council of South Eastern Asian countries, hosted by the Iranian Government here in Tehran. Fortunately, the convening of this Council in Iran coincides with the auspicious occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Pahlavi Dynasty.

The Golden Anniversary of the Pahlavi Dynasty, in the Age-Old History of our nation, is reminiscent of half a century of hard work for the development of Iran and the revival of its timeless grandeur and cultural splendour.

One of the great social manifestations of this prosperous era is the emergence and expansion of the cooperative movement in this country. Cooperation in the western countries started some hundred and fifty years ago, but in our country it is hardly fifty years old. However thanks to a long tradition of religious teachings and moral instructions, collective work has long existed in this country, especially among rural people, and some remarkable characteristics of this cooperation can still be seen in many aspects of life in this country.

It is very fortunate that along with the development of the cooperative movement in the world, multi-faceted efforts are being made in our country to promote cooperation, particularly in recent years. The way has been paved for the development and promotion of cooperative organisations in our country.

We are all aware of the significant role played by cooperatives in enhancing living standards and the welfare of different classes of people and we well know that in the present age the cooperatives are the most effective instrument for the realization of economic and social aspirations and for securing the material and spiritual needs of humanity. In effect, in this period of history when extensive efforts are undertaken in various corners of the globe to maintain peace, tranquility and security in the world, we should need this basic principle that it is with the help of the principles of cooperation that materialization of joint objectives, firmer solidarity and mutual help can be achieved.

Our great leader, the Shahanshah Aryamehr, has repeatedly said that never before has the solution of economic and social problems been so dependent on self-help, willingness to cooperate among people, co-existence and the idea of cooperation at national and international level. Therefore, cooperatives constitute the basis for the successful application of a democratic economy. They provide the vital basis for peace and social justice throughout the world. The wider the public participation is in this great world movement, the greater will be its prospects of strength and success. Basic changes in various economic and social fields in our country have underlined the need for the promotion of a nationally oriented system of cooperation in the fast changing Iran of today.

More than ever before, this need and the positive results of cooperatives can be felt and seen in Iran and fortunately, in the light of the Shah-people revolution, and thanks to the blessing of cooperatives and imaginative collective cooperation among the people, it has been made possible for Iranians to enjoy greater security and welfare than at any other time in the nation's history.

It is obvious that with the better awareness of the significance of cooperation and its qualitative and quantitative development in modern Iran, the aims and aspirations of our revolution could be realised better and more fruitfully. The holding of such a meeting fortunately gives us a good opportunity to assess the past activities of cooperatives and to promote more and more the principles of cooperation, to encourage and foster the spirit of cooperation, self-help and collective work among the people.

In order to materialize this goal and promote a wide-based national system of cooperation, the people should become familiarized more and more with the concept of cooperation through extensive educational planning in order to show them the significance of cooperation and to make them dependent on cooperative ideals to set the scene for a healthy economy so that different classes of people in the society could enjoy a comfortable life characterized by social solidarity and equitable distribution of wealth, based on economic and social democracy.

It is hoped that the International Alliance of cooperatives as well as its affiliated advisory council of South Eastern Asian countries would succeed in the successful implementation of its plans. I wish success to all the participants in this session in their valuable task of achieving the higher goals lying ahead.

Speech made by H.E. Mr. Mansur Rohani, Minister of Agriculture,
Cooperation and Rural Affairs at the ICA Council Meeting
at Tehran

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen :

I would like to congratulate and welcome you to the 18th Council of International Cooperative Alliance for South-East Asia, the 11th Meeting of ICA Sub-Committee on Agriculture and Trade and the 14th Meeting of the IDACA Board of Advisors and wish you all the best in achieving the great Cooperative Objectives.

Cooperative concepts and collective work are deeply rooted in the Iranian society, particularly in the rural areas and dates back to a long distant as a major component of agricultural production. However, cooperation in its modern sense and in written laws and regulations can be considered as one of the great achievements of our social Revolution initiated some fifteen years ago. It is a great pleasure that the 18th Council of ICA is held in a country where great strides have been taken toward development and expansion of cooperative movement.

As an illustration I wish to refer to the total number of rural cooperative societies, nearly 3,000, with an approximate capital of 100,000,000 U.S. dollars which covers two and half millions rural families in 45,000 villages. These societies have in the past 15 years granted 1.5 billion dollars as low-interest rate loans to the farmer members and have supplied roughly 200,000 tons of improved seeds and one million metric tons of fertilizers. The latest statistics indicate that these cooperatives have purchased half a million tons of farm products, produced by the members, exclusively in this year.

The first Article of Shah-People Revolution, initiated by His Imperial Majesty the Shahanshah Aryamehr was devoted to the Land Reform Programme. His Imperial Majesty in one of his speeches declared the need for the formation of rural cooperative societies, which has led to a very wide coverage for the cooperative network, an expansion which seemed quite far-reaching in 15 years ago.

Approval of Cooperative legislation, changing of the then Agricultural Bank to Agricultural Cooperative Bank - partly owned by the farmers - establishment of Central Organisation for Rural Cooperatives, as the agent responsible for the training and promotion of cooperatives, formation of the organization of the Urban and Rural Consumers Cooperatives, creation of more than one thousand Consumer Cooperatives, 700 credit cooperatives, and 540 housing cooperatives are just samples of the multi-faceted efforts made to promote cooperative movement in Iran. Development of cooperative concepts and ideas in every walk of life is one of the major objectives of the government.

Explanation of the achievements in the past decade will go beyond the patience of the meeting and I hope you will spare enough time to visit some of them.

Needless to say that my August Sovereign has repeatedly declared the cooperative movement as the key to the successful application of a democratic economy which will provide the basis for peace and social justice in the country and also the world.

The convening of the council presents a unique opportunity to evaluate the achievements, objectives and to exchange experiences of successful achievements in other countries.

Wishing you a most pleasant stay in Iran, and best success for the Council.

Speech made by Mr. Roger Kerinec, President,
International Cooperative Alliance, at the
ICA Council Meeting at Tehran.

Mr. President,
Your Excellency Mr. Prime Minister,
Your Excellency Mr. Minister of Agriculture,
Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen :

As President of the International Cooperative Alliance, I wish to say that as Cooperators we are greatly honoured by your presence, and appreciate very much your gesture, which underlines the interest your Government is taking in the work of the Cooperative Movement.

Like everyone else, I am aware of the fact that as from 1963 - the year of the White Revolution - Iran has been involved in an accelerated process of development, and that it is within the frame of such a policy that the Government of this country has decided to promote cooperative activities in different fields; not only agriculture (with various types of cooperatives - credit, supply, collective farming, marketing) but also in distribution, housing, fisheries and so on. We know that your movement under the leadership of Mr. Sassani is one of the best in this Region.

It is now fifteen years since Iran began to show one of the most spectacular growth-rates in the world, a growth which it plans to maintain for many years ahead. But it is really a great challenge for any development effort - and cooperative development at that - when it has to be achieved in the context of a tremendous past history and with the prospect of such a fascinating future.

I imagine that this challenge will entail the solution of many very difficult problems. If I may be allowed to give my point of view, the fact that you are going to live in an affluent society with a population which is not yet quite used to it could be one of the reasons why you will have to plan your expansion, as you are already doing, I think.

Cooperation, I am quite sure, can help a great deal. It can contribute to a cultural and economic evolution without social disintegration. It can mobilise the energies of the people, a mobilisation which is necessary for all development of joint action for the benefit of the community. Of course, governments have a

major role to play in supporting the movement in its early stages, as you are doing, in order to help them to organise cooperatives and to acquire staff capable of managing them. As soon as possible however cooperatives must be run and sustained by the cooperators themselves if cooperatives are to be efficient. People must truly feel involved in them. If not, the cooperative movement can fail and nobody will worry about them.

As the President of the French Republic said a few weeks ago, when addressing the ICA Congress in Paris "the Cooperator is a person who is asked not to remain passive and, in a period when men have a tendency to hand over their own responsibility to others, and in particular to the State, Cooperation offers a positive conception of responsibility" and, I think that is true under all regimes which believe in Cooperation.

Your Excellencies, we also know your government is playing a very important role in the field of development. You have clearly defined your position in favour of active participation in the creation of a new economic world order, and the cooperators cannot but approve of such a policy. That is also what the ICA is aiming at, especially through the work of its Regional Offices. And that is why we are glad to hold the 18th meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia as well as the meetings of the Sub-Committee for Agriculture and Trade and of the Board of Advisers of the IDACA in Tehran.

I would like to thank the Iranian Cooperative Movement and especially, Mr. Sassani, for inviting me to participate in these meetings.

I am convinced that they will be very successful meetings for the benefit of all of us and especially the people involved in the cooperative movements in this part of the world.

Vote of thanks by Mr. P.E. Weeraman, ICA Regional Director for South-East Asia at the inauguration of the Eighteenth meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia on 6 November 1976 by His Excellency Mr. A. Hoveyda, Prime Minister of Iran

Mr. Chairman, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is my great privilege this morning to speak a few words on behalf of the International Cooperative Alliance, as its Regional Director for South-East Asia.

It would be presumptuous on my part to assume that the International Cooperative Alliance, commonly known as the ICA, needs no introduction to you.

The ICA is one but the oldest international non-governmental organisation in the world. It was formed 81 years ago, in 1895, in London where its headquarters have been up to now. Today it is the world body of the Cooperative Movement with a membership covering 65 countries and 326 million cooperators. It is thus not only one of the oldest but also the most widespread non-governmental organisation in the world. The ICA seeks to substitute for the profit-making regime a cooperative system of production and trade based on joint self-help and organised in the interests of the whole community. This it seeks to do in complete independence and by its own methods. By its very rules the ICA is neutral ground where people holding the most varied opinions and professing the most diverse creeds may meet and act in common. The ICA seeks to achieve unity of action by cooperators throughout the world.

The ICA started a Regional Office and Education Centre for South-East Asia in New Delhi in 1960. It serves fourteen countries from Iran to Japan and Australia. During its sixteen years of existence the Regional Office and Education Centre, with massive support from the Swedish Cooperative Centre, has held over one hundred technical meetings such as Experts and Policy-makers Conferences, Seminars and Workshops in

which nearly 4,000 have participated. It has a section for the coordination of technical assistance from developed movements and aid-giving agencies and for the promotion of international inter-cooperative trade. The most important achievement in this direction has been the setting-up of the International Cooperative Trading Organisation (the ICTO) at Singapore to facilitate cooperative selling as well as cooperative buying and ultimately to bring cooperative producers and cooperative consumers into direct trade relationships so that the producers will get more money for their products while those same products will be available at cheaper prices than before to the consumers, due to the elimination of the profit-making middlemen all along the line. The ICTO can pave the way to this paradoxical but nevertheless true situation. This can however be achieved only if large cooperative buyers and sellers will give up their established business with middlemen and work through ICTO, having the interests of the producers and consumers at heart. In the field of publications the Regional Office has published several books and booklets on very important subjects of concern to the Movement, the results of its own research and its technical meetings.

The Regional Office has specialists in the fields of Cooperative Law, Cooperative Administration, Cooperative Education, Educational Methods, Agricultural Cooperation, Consumer Cooperation and Cooperative Housing.

In all its work, the Regional Office is guided by the wholesome advice given by its Council - the ICA Council for South-East Asia - and its Sub-Committee on Agriculture and Trade with its two Working Groups on Fisheries and Trade. We expect to have a similar Sub-Committee on Consumer Cooperation. The ICA Council for South-East Asia is also the Board of Advisers of the Institute for the Development of Agricultural Cooperation in Asia (IDACA). All these bodies will hold their meetings during these three days beginning today. Each national cooperative movement is represented by two Councillors, one for agricultural interests and the other for non-agricultural interests.

We have also with us today a special invitee in the person of Dr. Nicol Newiger, Head of the Human Resources Division of FAO. We have invited him to discuss with us the new policy of FAO in regard to small projects, for this can mean much progress for the Developing Countries of Asia.

The Council and its auxiliary groups meet every year in one of the countries served by the Regional Office on the invitation of one of its member movements. This is the second time we are meeting in Iran. The first such occasion was in 1969, one of the best sessions we have had so far.

And today, on behalf of the ICA, I take this opportunity to thank the Sepah Consumers Cooperative, one of ICA's member-organisations in Iran, and one of the best cooperatives in our entire Region, for the wonderful arrangements they have made for this year's meetings and the lavish hospitality they have extended to the delegates and the ICA. We are glad to see behind all this the hand of General Jalil Sassani, the cooperative leader of Iran. He was the leader in 1969 and today in spite of the elapse of seven years, we see him stronger than ever, both cooperatively and physically, and we express to him our best wishes for continued strength to his cooperative elbow,

We are heartened by the cooperation and assistance that he has received from the various ministries of the Government - the Prime Ministry, the Ministry of Cooperation and Rural Affairs, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources in whose beautiful amphitheatre we are meeting even before its formal inauguration.

We are very grateful to His Excellency Mr. Rohani, the Minister of Agriculture, Cooperation and Rural Affairs and Mr. Sadaghiani, the former Minister of Cooperation and Rural Affairs, for making this inauguration ceremony their responsibility by inviting you, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, to this ceremony and we are deeply grateful to you for gracing this occasion with your presence.

During the last three days, after my arrival in Tehran, I have come to know the very great assistance that Mr. Sassani has received from the officials of the two Ministries and the very great interest they have taken to make this inauguration a success. My deepest thanks to them all.

I have reserved for the last my most important duty, that of expressing to His Excellency Mr. Hoveyda, Prime Minister of Iran, our deepest gratitude for his graciousness in coming here and inaugurating our Eighteenth Sessions.

This is the first time that a Prime Minister has, in person, opened our Sessions. In 1974, the Prime Minister of my country, Sri Lanka, was to open our sessions but due to unavoidable reasons she had to be in your country on that day, and so it was the Deputy Prime Minister who opened our sessions that year. The inauguration of our present sessions by His Excellency, Mr. Hoveyda is an indication of the measure of importance His Imperial Majesty's Government attaches to the Cooperative Movement. We know that Iran is the only country that has declared a Cooperative Year so far. The Prime Minister's gracious act this morning is an underlining of the policy indicated by that declaration made by His Imperial Majesty the Shahanshah a few years back. We cooperators feel greatly encouraged by this attitude. We know that His Imperial Majesty the Shahanshah of Iran is personally devoted to the Cooperative Movement and is convinced of the value of Cooperation for the social and economic development of Iran. We have no doubt that under Mr. Sassani's dynamic leadership the Cooperative Movement of Iran will be able to deliver the goods.

The social and economic importance of the Cooperative Movement for every country hardly needs reiteration. On the economic front it eliminates exploitation by capitalists and middlemen, gives producers and consumers their due returns, places producers and consumers in control of the economy in place of capitalists and middlemen, and so brings about economic democracy without which political democracy would not be meaningful. On the social front, it develops the people's self-reliance and their

capacity to manage their own affairs, and trains people in the processes of democracy as well as inculcates in them the discipline of remaining loyal to democratic decisions. Without these attainments, political democracy will come to a grinding halt. The value of cooperative activity cannot therefore be over-rated. In fact all this would amount to a Social Revolution, but a revolution without the "R". Truly, Cooperation is a way of life. It inculcates in people the spirit of service to humanity and the spirit of abstaining from exploiting another's need, a spirit best explained in the words of an early cooperator: "I shall have my hand in no man's pocket and no man shall have his hand in mine." "A true Cooperator," says Holyoake, the cooperative historian of the last century, "has three qualities - good sense, good temper and goodwill. 'Good sense' to dispose him to make the most of his means; 'good temper' to enable him to associate with others; 'goodwill' to incline him to serve others and be at trouble to serve them, and to go on serving them, whether they are grateful or not in return, caring only to know that he does good, and finding it a sufficient reward to see that others are benefited through his unsolicited, unthanked, un-requited exertions. Sooner or later, generally later, they will be appreciated." This is the type of citizen that Cooperation develops.

The development of self-reliance, a capacity for managing one's own affairs, and the attitude of service for its own sake, give character to a people. So every country needs a Cooperative Movement to achieve true development. Every government too needs it. Firstly, because cooperatives are strongest where any government is at its weakest - the grass-roots level. The collaboration of cooperatives is therefore necessary for the success of any scheme of development which needs the people's participation for its success. Secondly, cooperatives are continuous barometers of public opinion which can inform the government continuously about the needs of the people and join hands with the government to satisfy those needs. But this collaboration must be as free and willing partners of the State in the great task of nation-building. All state assistance to cooperatives must be without effect on their character and independence as stated in the famous ILO Recommendation No. 127 of 1966.

We must remember that "Cooperation", as said by one of India's greatest men, Rabindranath Tagore, "is an ideal not a mere system, for at every turn it communes with our spirit." And he added "the manhood of man is at length honoured by the enunciation of this principle." We must also remember that an ideal is not a dream or fantasy. It is, as said by the Indian savant Swami Vivekananda, what has been actually achieved by men. Therefore, as said by him, men should not try to lower ideals to their standards but endeavour to raise their standards to the level of the ideals. And this is precisely the position with cooperators. What was achieved in reality at Rochdale in 1844 was set down as the Principles of Cooperation. The Cooperative Movements of 65 countries, joined under the banner of the ICA, are trying to live up to that ideal. One of these countries is Iran and we who seek the spread of our Movement are greatly encouraged by the support given to it by the Government of Iran as indicated by the Prime Minister's gracious inauguration of our Sessions. On behalf of the ICA and the representatives of its member-organisations in South-East Asia assembled here today and on behalf of the Institute for the Development of Agricultural Cooperation in Asia, I offer my deepest thanks to Your Excellency Mr. Hoveyda, and Your Excellency Mr. Rohani for all that you have done for us and to you, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, for honouring us with your gracious presence.

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MINUTES

**ICA Council
for South-East Asia**

NINETEENTH MEETING

Venue BALI, INDONESIA

Dates 9TH DECEMBER 1977

**International Cooperative Alliance, Regional Office
and Education Centre for South-East Asia, "Bonow
House", 43 Friends' Colony, New Delhi-110014, India**

International Cooperative Alliance
"Bonow House"
43, Friends Colony, New Delhi-14.

Minutes of the Nineteenth Meeting of the ICA Council for
South-East Asia held at Bali, Indonesia, on 9th December 1977

1. The Nineteenth Meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia was held at Bali, Indonesia, on 9th December, 1977.
2. The following were present :

Members of the Council

1. Mr. Eddiwan, Chairman & Member for Indonesia
2. Mr. I.H. Hunter, Member for Australia
3. Mr. Ali Hossain, Member for Bangladesh
4. Mr. M.A. Haque, Member for Bangladesh
5. Mr. R.G. Tiwari, Member for India
6. Mr. Tapeswar Singh, Member for India
7. Mr. Djoko Basuki, Member for Indonesia
8. Mr. S. Nakabayashi, Alternate Member for Japan
9. Mr. S. Miyagawa, Alternate Member for Japan
10. Mr. Poo Yung Lee, Member for Korea
11. Dato N.A. Kularajah, Member for Malaysia
12. Mr. Supah Noh, Member for Malaysia
13. Mr. B.P. Faustino, Member for Philippines
14. Mr. Monico G. Yadao, Member for Philippines
15. Mr. M. Kulasegaram, Member for Singapore
16. Mr. Mak Kam Heng, Member for Singapore
17. Mr. M.R.B. Daswatte, Member for Sri Lanka
18. Mr. Wichien Sobhon, Alternate Member for Thailand
19. Mr. Vichien Inthachat, Member for Thailand

Absent

1. Mr. Robert Woolnough, Member for Australia
2. Mr. J. Sassani, Member for Iran
3. Mr. Taghi Salem, Member for Iran
4. Mr. Hee Ryung Lee, Member for Korea
5. Khan Amir Abdullah Khan Rokari, Member for Pakistan
6. Mr. M.P. Jayasinghe, Member for Sri Lanka

Secretary Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, ICA Regional Director for South-East Asia

ICA Regional Office Staff

1. Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education)
2. Dr. D. Vir, Joint Director (Education)
3. Mr. Lionel Gunawardana, Joint Director (PPR)
4. Mr. M.K. Puri, Joint Director (TAT)

In attendance

1. Mr. H. Usui, CUAC, Tokyo
2. Mr. Akira Kurimoto, JCCU, Tokyo
3. Mr. Prem Kumar, Personal Assistant to Regional Director, ICA ROEC

Agenda Item 1 : Welcome

3. Mr. Eddiwan, Vice-President, Dewan Koperasi Indonesia, welcomed the members on behalf of the Indonesian Cooperative Movement. He also welcomed the new Regional Director and also paid a tribute to Mr. P.E. Weeraman, the former Regional Director, for his excellent record of service. He thanked all the members for coming to Bali to attend the meeting and hoped that their stay in Bali would be pleasant.

Agenda Item 2 : Introductory Remarks by the Regional Director

4. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, ICA Regional Director for South-East Asia, extended a warm welcome to the distinguished Councillors to the 19th meeting. He requested the Councillors to give the ICA ROEC more positive directions and guidance in order to map out the strategy of work for the years to come. He drew the attention of the Councillors in regard to the need to reexamine the role and functions of the various Sub-Committees of the Council and invited the distinguished Councillors to provide the necessary guidance and directions in this regard. He took the opportunity of thanking the Chairman for the kind words he had expressed about him and about the previous Regional Director, Mr. P.E. Weeraman, who worked in the Regional Council for over nine years.

Agenda Item 3 : Election of Chairman

5. Mr. Eddiwan, Member for Indonesia, was elected Chairman of the Council till the holding of the next Council Meeting.

Agenda Item 4 : Confirmation of the Minutes of the 18th Meeting

6. The following amendments were proposed by Mr. Mak Kam Heng in respect of the statement on Singapore Cooperative Movement at para 27 (page 16) of the Minutes :

- (1) line 4 to read as "The Singapore National Cooperative Union submitted its comments on the bill" and the balance portion of that paragraph to be deleted.
- (2) the last line which reads "The act has not been passed yet" to be deleted.
- (3) the last line "The Trade Union Group will be brought into this Union" to be deleted.
- (4) the fourth sentence to be redrafted as follows: "It was decided that a new Committee should redraft the constitution for the apex organisation".

Subject to these amendments, the minutes of the Eighteenth Meeting of the ICA Regional Council held at Tehran, Iran, on 7th and 8th November 1976, were confirmed.

Agenda Item 5 : Background Papers on the Cooperative Movement of each country

7. In order to avoid repetition of information in the background papers of each country, the Council requested the ICA ROEC to prepare an up-to-date background paper in respect of each country which could then be printed and made available when necessary. Once the basic information was available in this form, only the subsequent development should be reported at the next meeting of the Council.

8. The Chairman suggested that in future the title of the background paper which would be presented at the Regional Council Meeting should be

"Recent Changes, Trends and Developments of the Cooperative Movement" in the member country.

9. The background papers already prepared were available with the Councillors. At the request of the Chairman, each member made a brief statement regarding the present position of the cooperative movement in his country.

Agenda Item 6 : Administration Section

10. The information given in the Agenda Notes was noted by the Council. The Regional Director requested the member-organisations to furnish the ICA ROEC with statements of costs incurred by them in respect of any project or programmes worked in collaboration with the ICA ROEC to enable him to furnish this information to both the ICA and the SCC.

Members' Contributions to the Funds of the ICA ROEC

11. The member for Australia said that the Australian Cooperative Movement had already made contributions to the funds of the ICA ROEC through ICA Head Office in London and suggested that necessary corrections be made in the statement. The Regional Director said that the communication from London Office was received after this document was prepared and that the necessary amendments would be made. The member for Malaysia also said that their contribution had been made to the ICA Head Office. As there was no common practice in vogue it was decided that membership subscriptions should be made to London and other contributions to the ICA ROEC in Delhi.

Concessions by the Government of India

12. The Regional Director thanked the Government of India for the continued concessions that were being granted to the ROEC in respect of its day-to-day activities and also in regard to expatriate experts working in India.

Staff Changes

13. The Regional Director reported the following staff changes that had taken place in the ROEC :

1. Mr. P.E. Weeraman, after serving the International Cooperative Alliance as Regional Director for South-East Asia for nine years, retired on the 31st July, 1977.
2. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru has been appointed as the new ICA Regional Director for South-East Asia in succession to Mr. P.E. Weeraman, who has retired.
3. Mr. M.V. Madane, who was on a assignment with FAO in Afghanistan as Cooperative Adviser to the PACCA Project, has been given extension for one more year upto 31st August, 1978.

Agenda Item 7 : Education Centre

14.1 Action taken on the minutes of the last meeting relating to educational activities was noted.

14.2 The Director (Education) informed the meeting that the Course on "The Relationship between the Board of Directors and the Chief Executive in a Cooperative Organisation" had to be postponed due to the difficulties in securing suitable participants in sufficient number. The member for Malaysia indicated that the difficulties for member movements in nominating proper participants were on account of the requirement that participants should be not above 50 years of age and on account of the fact that senior board members and chief executives in large business organisations generally reach these positions at rather late stage. Mr. Rana pointed out that as the course dealt with the subject of relationship between the Board of Directors and the Chief Executive in a cooperative organisation, the participants to the course should be from the two categories viz. (a) senior board members, and (b) chief executive of a cooperative organisation.

14.3 With regard to the above, Mr. Hunter indicated that as the course was designed at a very high level it was essential to have senior management personnel. He further indicated that only one-third of the course contents would be devoted to the question of relationship between the board and the chief executive and that nearly two-thirds of the course would be devoted to "Top Level Management Functions and Techniques". On the basis of this information, the meeting was of the opinion that the participants need not be only board members/chief executives but could also be middle level management personnel who have the potential to rise to senior positions. It was also agreed that the age limit should not be rigidly adhered to for this course. The Chairman suggested that the title of the course should be changed and that the ROEC should inform the member-organisations about the course content so as to facilitate nominations. It was also agreed at the meeting that the ratio of an almost equal number of participants from each of the two categories viz. board member and chief executive need not be insisted upon and that it would be perfectly alright if there were more managerial personnel in the course in relation to the board members.

14.4 Member Education (pp.30-33, para 11, Section III) : Mr. Rana indicated that there was a typographical mistake and the relevant pages to be referred to should be pages 30-33. In this connection, he indicated that action has already been taken. Member organisations have been requested to prepare assessment reports on Cooperative Education Programmes in their countries and send these to the ICA ROEC. The ICA ROEC would compile these reports. It is also proposed to hold an experts consultation on the subject of member education so that guidelines could be prepared on this important subject for the benefit of member movements

in the Region. The assessment reports will provide a valuable basis for holding the experts' consultation.

14.5 As regards the request of the NCUI, contact will be taken with the NCUI and necessary assistance rendered.

Review of Activities (November 1976 - September 1977)

15.1 The Council noted the activities carried out by the Education Centre for the period November 1976 to September 1977. Dato Kularajah complimented the ROEC on the very good educational programmes carried out by it during the year.

15.2 Mr. B.P. Faustino reported about the Regional Seminar on Cooperative Housing which had been recently conducted in the Philippines. He mentioned that the seminar was a very timely one from the point of view of the Filipino movement and that it generated a great deal of interest on the part of the Filipino authorities. The Philippines movement will be holding soon, in collaboration with the Philippines Housing Authority, a National Seminar to formulate a programme of cooperative housing and requested the ICA ROEC to make available Mr. Sten Johnsson as a resource person.

Programme of Activities (July 1978 - June 1979)

16. Mr. Rana presented the programme of activities the ICA ROEC proposed to carry out during the year. The Council approved of the following activities scheduled for the financial year 1978-79 :

16.1 Regional Workshop on Cooperative Press & Publicity in Japan

Venue	:	Tokyo, Japan
Duration	:	21 days, September 1978
Participants	:	25

This seminar would be held in collaboration with the CUAC and IDACA.

16.2 Regional Seminar for Managerial Personnel of Fishery Cooperatives in the Region preceded by study visits in the Rep. of Korea

Venue	:	Tokyo, Japan
Duration	:	3 weeks, October-December 1978
Participants	:	25

This seminar would be held in Japan preceded by study visits in the Republic of Korea. A tentative agreement from the member-organisations in Japan and the National Federation of Fishery Cooperatives of the Republic of Korea was already available. However, once government financial assistance was assured the seminar would be held. This was a tentative proposal at that stage.

16.3 Top Level Cooperative Leaders' Conference

Venue : Sydney, Australia (Tentative)
 Period : October-November 1979

As suggested by the last Council meeting in Tehran, a Top Level Cooperative Leaders' Conference would be held prior to the holding of the ICA Congress in 1980. The theme of the conference could be "How to enhance cooperatives' capability".

Mr. Hunter proposed that this conference be held in Sydney, Australia. If the Council approved, he would approach the Commonwealth Government of Australia and if government agreed to this proposal, then this conference could be held in Australia in 1979. Mr. Hunter suggested that we should invite participants also from New Zealand, the Pacific Islands and also some of the movements in South America. The Council accepted these suggestions. The Chairman suggested that it should be a conference of Asia/Pacific Top Level Cooperative Leaders. The Regional Office was asked to work out the details keeping in view the above directions given by the Council. Invitations should be sent to Ministers and Commissioners of Cooperative Development to this conference as was done in the case of previous Top Level Conference. Mr. Rana said that the ICA might be able to approach the AARRO and other international organisations for some of the funding of this conference.

16.4 Open Asian Conference

Venue : Thailand (Tentative)
 Period : December 1978
 Participants: 150

The Council felt that the ICA ROEC should hold an Open Asian Conference on a self-financing basis in 1978. It was suggested that the maximum of 150 persons should be accepted for this conference. The member for Thailand said that he will take up the matter of holding the Open Asian Conference after the Regional Council meeting in Thailand with the Board of Directors of Cooperative League of Thailand and will inform the ICA of the decision. The ICA ROEC was asked to write to the Cooperative League in this regard.

The Council suggested the following two topics for this Open Asian Conference :

1. Management Planning
2. Cooperatives and Multinationals

16.5 Follow-up Programme of Cooperative Teachers

Venue : Philippines
 Duration : 3-4 weeks in February 1979
 Participants : 15

This programme will be for selected participants to the courses which have been organised previously for cooperative teachers. Only those participants who have prepared the teaching material as agreed by them and whose material comes up to a reasonable standard would be invited to this follow-up programme.

The members for Philippines suggested that the presence of the cooperative teachers should be utilised to hold a Technical Meeting along with University Teachers in the Philippines teaching Cooperation for discussing the curriculum on Cooperation in University Courses in the Philippines. The technical meeting may be held after the course is over.

16.6 Field Projects

(1) Cooperative Education Field Project in Indonesia

The Director (Education) reported that some preparatory work had been carried by Dr. D. Vir and that he was in the process of formulating project proposals. It was hoped to make this project operational during 1978-79.

(2) Project for Training of Cooperative Teachers in Sri Lanka

The Director (Education) said that the project document had been worked out and that the ICA ROEC and the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka had basically agreed on the document and that the Government of Sri Lanka too had accepted the project. It was expected that this project too would become operational in 1978-79.

(3) Project for Consumer Education & Information in Sri Lanka

This is a project which would be supported by the Consumer Guilds of Sweden. The initiative came from the women leaders of the Consumer Guilds for starting such a project. The necessary preparatory work had been done. The ICA had carried out a survey about the present position and role of women in cooperatives in Sri Lanka and that survey provided a basis for formulating the project proposal. The project document had already been agreed to by the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka and the Government of Sri Lanka. The SCC and the Consumer Cooperative Guilds have also accepted the project document.

The Regional Director informed the Council that the approval of SIDA was awaited to commence the project.

The Council approved the above three projects.

16.7 National Seminars

The Councillors requested assistance from the ICA ROEC for holding the following national seminars in their respective countries :

Malaysia (ANGKASA)	:	Education Methods
Korea & Bangladesh	:	Training of Women Leaders
India	:	How to combat poverty through cooperatives
Sri Lanka & Bangladesh	:	-Agricultural Cooperation
Bangladesh	:	Consumer Cooperation

The Director (Education) said that depending on the resources and the specialists available, the ICA ROEC will try to assist the member movements in holding the above national seminars.

16.8 Women & Cooperatives

The ICA ROEC would carry out following activities during the year :

- a) Two national basic courses in cooperation for women cooperators,
- b) Study in one country of the Region about the extent of womens' participation and how it can be enhanced, and
- c) Case studies of two cooperative organisations regarding womens' participation.

16.9 Youth & Cooperation

The Regional Director said that the intention in putting this item in the Agenda was to enquire from the Council whether there was anything the Councillors would expect the ICA ROEC to do in this particular field. The member for Malaysia said that they had some literature on cooperation and youth and that could be distributed through national organisations. The member for India informed the Council that they had recently held a National Seminar on the subject and thought that more emphasis should be given to this aspect.

Agenda Item 8 : Technical Assistance and Trade Section

17. The Council noted the activities of the Trade and Technical Assistance Section (Part I & II) during the period under review and noted the follow-up action taken on the recommendations made at the last meeting of the Council.

Agenda Item 9 : Publications and Public Relations and Library Section

18. The Council noted the different publications that had been brought out by the PPR Section and also the efforts that were being made by the Section for collection of cooperative news from the Region. The Joint Director (PPR) requested the members to ensure that cooperative news of interest were conveyed to the ROEC for inclusion in the Regional Bulletin on a regular basis. He further requested that a separate person be nominated in the member-organisations who would be responsible for the supply of information to the ROEC regularly.

19. The services provided by Librarian and Documentation Officer to the libraries in the Region was noted with appreciation.

20. The proposal to hold a Orientation Course for Librarians was discussed. The members of the Council were of the opinion that the course would be useful to the librarians. It was suggested that the course be held on a self-financing basis and the reactions of the member-organisations be obtained on the holding of the course on a self-financing basis. It was also suggested that some scholarship may be given to countries which had foreign exchange difficulties.

Publications for 1977-78

21. The following publications would be brought out during the year 1977-78 :

- (1) Indian Cooperative Rules vis-a-vis Cooperative Principles
- (2) Role of Cooperatives in Increasing Food Production
(This will be published after ascertaining the reactions of the Cooperative League of Thailand)
- (3) Readings in Cooperative Marketing
- (4) Cooperative Series : two or three publications under this series.
- (5) Speeches on Cooperation : Speeches made by eminent cooperators will be published under this series.
- (6) Publicity : i. Four issues of the ICA Regional Bulletin
ii. Other publicity material e.g. ICA in South-East Asia

Agenda Item 10 : Decisions and Recommendations of the ICA Sub-Committee on Agriculture & Trade for South-East Asia

22. The Secretary of the Sub-Committee on Agriculture and Trade briefed the Council on the important recommendations that had been made by the Sub-Committee at its meeting held on 8th December, 1977 - the reactivation of the Trade Promotion Group and the formation of a separate Sub-Committee on Fishery Cooperatives for South-East Asia.

23. The Council approved the formation of a separate Sub-Committee on Fishery Cooperatives for South-East Asia and reactivation of the Trade Group. Mr. I.H. Hunter was elected Chairman of the Trade Promotion Group with Mr.M.K. Puri, Joint Director(TAT) as the Secretary.

"24. Mr. Irwin Hunter, member for Australia, expressed the view that various Sub-Committees of the Regional Council if they were to perform effectively should consist of persons knowledgeable in the particular field of the Sub-Committee and should be able to meet well before the Regional Council meeting to enable it to programme its activities, review performance and thereafter to report to the Regional Council. Also the best benefits from the function of separate Sub-Committee would not be derived. Some of the Council members however felt that in view of the additional travel costs that would be involved, it would be difficult to accept this suggestion. After some discussion it was agreed that the ICA ROEC should take necessary action to make the Council and Sub-Committee meetings more effective. It was also suggested that the ICA ROEC should explore the possibility of holding the Sub-Committee meetings on Consumer, Trade and Fisheries on a self-financing basis and if such was not possible then Sub-Committees would meet as before - before the Regional Council meeting. However, the Agriculture Sub-Committee would meet along with the Regional Council." ... PROPOSED WAS MOVED BY
the Council.

Agenda Item 12 : Relations with International Organisations

26. The information given in the Agenda Notes was noted by the Council.

Agenda Item 13 : Venue and Dates of the next meeting

27. The member for Thailand invited the Council to hold its next meeting, 20th in the series, in Thailand in the beginning of December 1978. The venue will be intimated later. The Council was of the opinion that the venue should be Bangkok. The Council thanked the member for the kind invitation.

Agenda Item 14 : Any other matter with the permission of Chair

28. The Council approved the formation of separate Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia and noted that Mr. S. Nakabayashi was appointed Chairman of this Committee and that Mr. M.K. Puri, Joint Director (TAT) & Specialist in Consumer Cooperation would be the Secretary of the Committee.

The Council decided that the publication of ICA Trade News should be discontinued as it serves no useful purpose to the member movements.

29. The Regional Director, Mr. Rajaguru, expressed his thanks to the host, the Dewan Koperasi Indonesia, for hosting the meeting and to its staff and the staff of the ICA for the excellent support received and also to the distinguished Councillors for their deliberations and advice.

Agenda Item 15 : Vote of thanks

30. The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair which was passed unanimously.

New Delhi
January 10, 1978

R. B. Rajaguru
Secretary, ICA Council for S.E. Asia

pk/

11 January 1978

Appendix

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE ICA COUNCIL FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA

- | | | | |
|------------|----|--|-----|
| AUSTRALIA | 1. | Mr. Irwin Hunter
President
Coop. Federation of Australia
36, Northbourne Avenue
Canberra City, A.C.T. 2601 | - A |
| | 2. | Mr. Robert J. Woolnough
Vice President
Coop. Federation of Australia &
President, Coop. Federation of N.S.W.
80, Mount Street
North Sydney, N.S.W. 2060 | -NA |
| BANGLADESH | 3. | Mr. Ali Hossain
Chairman, Bangladesh Jatiya Samabaya Union, &
Vice Chairman
Bangladesh Jatiya Samabaya Bank
9/D Motijheel Commercial Area
Dacca-2. | |
| | 4. | Mr. Mohammad Abdul Haque
Chairman
Bangladesh Jatiya Samabaya Union
9/D Motijheel Commercial Area
Dacca-2. | -HA |
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