

*ICA Council
for South-East Asia*

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ICA

26th Meeting

Venue Bangkok, Thailand

Dates 8 Nov. 1984



*International Cooperative Alliance, Regional Office
and Education Centre for South-East Asia, "Bonow
House", 43 Friends' Colony, New Delhi-110065, India*

International Cooperative Alliance
"Bongow House"
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TWENTYSIXTH MEETING OF THE ICA COUNCIL FOR SOUTH-EAST
ASIA HELD AT BANGKOK (THAILAND) ON 8TH NOVEMBER, 1984

Inauguration Ceremony of the 26th Meeting
of the ICA Council for South-East Asia

1. The inauguration ceremony of the 26th Meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia and its various Sub-Committees was held at Bangkok Palace Hotel, Bangkok (Thailand) on 5th November 1984. The ceremonial meeting was chaired by Col. Surin Cholpraserd, President of the Cooperative League of Thailand. Besides the members of the Council, the Sub-Committees, and officials from ICA Headquarters and SCC, there was a large and representative gathering of cooperators and government officials who also attended the meeting. The chief guest was His Excellency Mr. Phun Boonhit, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives of the Royal Thai Government.
2. Col. Surin Cholpraserd in his opening address expressed his happiness that the cooperators of Thailand were able to host the 26th Meeting of the ICA Council and extended a warm welcome to the Councillors and the Committee Members. He drew attention of the cooperators to the increasing gap between the rich and the poor and the need for new integrated approaches like FAO's AMSAC programme to revitalise cooperatives and to make cooperatives more efficient. He expressed the hope that the Council would be able to provide the guidelines which could increase the effectiveness of cooperative performance.
3. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, Regional Director, in his address extended a warm welcome to the Regional Councillors and the members of the various Sub-Committees to the 26th Meeting. He outlined in brief the major decisions made at the Hamburg Congress, and Central Committee Meetings in October and drew attention to the new roles the ICA was being called upon to play in the field of development, consequent to the numerous debates and discussions after the late Dr. Laidlaw's Cooperatives in the Year 2000 A.D. He went on to mention the Policy Paper put out by the ICA which indicated the priority areas for action and also referred to the work programme presented to Congress by Mr. Y. Daneau, the Vice-Chairman of the ICA, and stressed the need for the ICA Council and for the members of the ICA to approach development on an integrated basis and on the basis of perspective plans for each country which would take into consideration the national

framework for development.

He referred also to the new Rules accepted by the ICA Congress, which gave recognition to the Regional Councils and consequently the Council would have a more effective role to play in assisting the Regional Offices to identify needs and carry out meaningful programmes.

He was hopeful that the 26th Meeting of the ICA Council would be the starting point for new and more effective approaches to cooperative development.

4. Mr. Bengt Kjeller of the SCC in his address referred to the competencies gained over 25 years of operation in Asia and stressed the need to develop more and more programmes for regional cooperation and competencies within the region. He briefly referred to the agreement between the ICA and SCC for technical support and the priority areas of the SCC in providing technical assistance.

5. In his inaugural address, Mr. Phun Boonchit, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives of the Royal Thai Government expressed the pleasure of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives and the Royal Thai Government to extend a very warm welcome to all the ICA Regional Councillors and Committee Members to the 26th Meeting of the ICA Council for Asia. He emphasised the fact that cooperation was a group effort to solve problems of common concern and to improve the standards of life on the basis of mutual help and self help and the need for making members more aware and more self reliant if they are to benefit from cooperative effort. He mentioned that in rural Thailand, the government had realized that agricultural cooperative were the only means to solve the many economic problems of the farmers, who constituted 80 per cent of the population of Thailand. The Thai Government, therefore, had put some emphasis on the development of agricultural cooperative in the Fifth National Economic and Social Development Plan for 1982-86, and that the National Plan would be oriented towards improving the total welfare of the rural people. He reaffirmed his conviction that the Cooperative Movement in rural communities would certainly be the essential and dynamic force for achieving new rural societies with justice, equity and general welfare. He expressed his confidence that with all ICA Councillors' expertise and experiences, the meeting would contribute greatly to the development of the cooperative movements in this region.

6. A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Tawsewat Charoensook, Director of the Cooperative League of Thailand.

Minutes of the 26th Meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia held at Bangkok on 8th November 1984

7. The 26th Meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia was held at Bangkok Palace Hotel, Bangkok (Thailand) on 8th November, 1984 under the Chairmanship of Mr. Chern Bamrungwong, Regional Councillor from Thailand.

8. The following were present :

Members

1. Mr. Chern Bamrungwong, Chairman & Member for Thailand
2. Mr. A.T. Poustie, Member for Australia
3. Mr. Quazi Abdus Salam, Member for Bangladesh
4. Mr. S.M. Selim, Member for Bangladesh
5. Mr. V.P. Singh, Member for India
6. Mr. Eddiwan, Member for Indonesia
7. Mr. Moh. Yahya Suryanagara, Member for Indonesia
8. Mr. Shiro Futagami, Alternate Member for Japan
9. Mr. S. Fukuda, Member for Japan
10. Mr. Ki-Won Suh, Member for Korea
11. Mr. Yong-Duck Kim, Alternate Member for Korea
12. Datuk Haji Aziz Mohammad Ibrahim, Alternate Member for Malaysia
13. Mr. R. Mathimugan, Alternate Member for Malaysia
14. Gen. Arcadio S. Lozada, Member for Philippines
15. Mr. A. Kilyako, Member for Philippines
16. Mr. A.J. Hendricks, Member for Singapore
17. Mr. Roland Tay Tatt Jin, Member for Singapore
18. Mr. M.R.B. Daswatte, Member for Sri Lanka

Secretary : Mr. R.B. Rajaguru
Regional Director, ICA ROEC

Special Invitees

1. Mr. Malte Jonsson, ICA Geneva
2. Mr. Alf Carlsson, SCC, Stockholm
3. Mr. Bengt Kjeller, SCC, Stockholm
4. Mr. Folke Dubell, ICA/SCC
5. Mr. K. Fujimoto, Managing Director, IDACA
6. Mr. Ulf Bergstrom, Cooptrade Project, Kuala Lumpur

Observers

1. Mr. M.M. Vyas, India
2. Mr. Modesto P. Sa-Onoy, Philippines

ICA ROEC Staff

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

In attendance

1. Mr. Yukio Abe, Japan
2. Mr. S. Ohta, Japan
3. Mr. Prem Kumar, Personal Assistant to Regional Director, ICA ROEC.

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Agenda Item No. 1 : Welcome

9. Mr. Chern Bamrungwong, Director-General of Cooperatives Promotion Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, extended a warm welcome to the Councillors on behalf of the host movement. He emphasised the importance of the Regional Council Meeting and the need for constructive approaches to cooperative development. He added that in Thailand itself cooperatives were given tremendous support by government and that His Majesty the King himself supported special programmes for cooperative development. He wished the meeting all success.

Agenda Item No. 2 : Introductory Remarks

10. The Secretary read out the message received from the President of the International Cooperative Alliance on the sad demise of Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India, who had been a firm supporter of the ICA : "The shocking news of the tragic death of Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi produced an extra measure of grief among members of Cooperatives throughout the world. We in cooperatives knew her not only as the rest of the world did - as a courageous and dedicated leader of her nation and the world - but also as a staunch advocate of cooperatives. Her interest and support of the cooperative system as a way for her countrymen to help themselves were among reasons that India is among the world leaders in cooperatives. Indeed, more citizens of India than of any other country are represented in the membership of the International Cooperative Alliance. Prime Minister Gandhi's death is an inestimable loss to India and to the world. We were shocked and revolted by the criminal and violent act that cost her life. We dedicate cooperators' grief toward work for a peaceful and democratic existence for all men and women, regardless of their differences. On behalf of the International Cooperative Alliance, which unites 365 million individual cooperators throughout the world, I convey to you and all the people of India our most profound sorrow and our condolences for the devastating loss India has suffered".

11. The Secretary mentioned that Mrs. Gandhi had been the patron of the Regional Council and one who took keen interest in and supported the activities of the ICA.

12. The Council observed a two minute silence in her memory.

13. The Secretary then reported the sad demise of Mr. Joseph Edward, a Regional Councillor for Singapore. The Council observed a two minute silence in his memory.

14. Mr. Malte Jonsson, ICA, Geneva, expressed his happiness at being able to be at the Meeting and read out a message from Mr. Robert Beasley, Director of the ICA.

Message of the Director to the Regional Council for Asia :

"I want to extend my greetings and best wishes for a productive meeting.

Also, I want to express genuine regret that I cannot attend the Council meeting. I had intended to be with you, but following-up on decisions made at Congress, some changes being made at Secretariat Headquarters, and the need to prepare for impending visits to Headquarters by new ICA Executive Committee Officers and Members made it necessary for me to stay in Geneva. I regret it; I had looked forward to meeting you, working with you, and visiting your region.

At Headquarters, much change is underway. We have done some reorganizing, although little of it will affect your contacts with ICA. For the most part, the changes are intended to make ICA more efficient and responsive. Another change will be introduction of computer equipment. We do not intend to over-do this, but judicious application of these new office and communication tools can be very useful to us all.

At Hamburg, as you are probably aware, the members adopted a new set of rules for ICA. Included in those rules are two articles addressing the Regional Councils. Article 33 is the first time the Regional Offices are mentioned in ICA rules. Similarly, Article 34 mentions the Regional Councils for the first time. I am sending copies of the Articles with this letter so that you can read them in full. If you have comments or questions, please forward them to Development Director JONSSON or to me.

Once again, my sincere wish for a productive and happy time together. You have important work to do. I wish I could be with you--I will be at the first opportunity."

15. Mr. Jonsson added that at ICA Hq. great importance was attached to the decisions and recommendations of the Regional Councils as these would indicate the programmes, proposals and needs of member organisations and hence would be most useful in guiding the Secretariat. He mentioned also that he, along with the SCC representatives, would be attending the Regional Council Meeting in Nairobi also, and that he was hopeful that both these meetings would provide the base for future actions. He drew attention to the work and the policy of the ICA which sought to get the cooperative movements in the industrialised countries more involved in the development work of the ICA. He mentioned the Donors meeting in Oslo in April and the next such meeting will be in Washington in October and was hopeful that the ICA would be able to count on more donors to support the technical assistance programmes to developing countries.

16. Mr. Bengt Kjeller, SCC, in his opening remarks said that national cooperative development, from the point of view of SCC, was a national responsibility, while regional cooperative development would be a regional responsibility. He stressed the need to ensure that regional cooperation plans were firmly in the hands of those in the region and that proposals were not referred to Europe, Geneva or Stockholm or elsewhere for decisions as this might lead to blocking the actual action plans. As far as resources are concerned, he said that he was of the view that the region should look for them among themselves as the region had human and financial resources within itself. He said that he would support the making of Sub-Committees more executive like and more concrete in their plans. He was of the view that the Executive Committee to the Regional Council would be able to assist in making the plans more concrete in future. From the SCC point of view, he said they would support such moves that show that development programmes in the region are firmly in the hands of the cooperatives in the region.

17. The Secretary in his opening remarks drew attention to the rather heavy agenda amongst which was an item on Long Range Policies, discussions on which would help to concretise the views and approaches and provide the guidelines for future action.

Agenda Item No. 3 : Election of Chairman

18. Mr. Chern Samrungeong, Regional Councillor from Thailand, was unanimously elected as Chairman of the Council.

Agenda Item No. 4 : Confirmation of the Minutes of the 25th Meeting

19. The Minutes of the 25th Meeting of the ICA Regional Council held on 4th & 5th November 1985 in Tokyo (Japan), which had been circulated earlier, were confirmed.

Agenda Item No. 5 : Letters and reports from non-attending members

20. The Secretary reported that there were no letters or reports from the non-attending members.

Agenda Item No. 6 : Report on the "Recent changes, trends and developments of the Cooperative Movements in South-East Asia" by the Councillors

Australia

- the small retail cooperatives were facing increasing pressure from the large supermarkets and chain stores, particularly in the larger country centres where they have opened stores for the first time.
- the community's support for cooperative enterprises was apparently falling. The older generation was still supporting the cooperatives but the younger generation was increasingly questioning the role of cooperatives. Many of the younger generation consider that there should be a return to "free market" conditions.
- there had been a substantial increase in the growth of the credit unions and also to a lesser extent the building societies.
- some of the state governments were reviewing their Cooperative Acts to continue the development of worker cooperatives.
- the possibility of take over of cooperatives by Multi-Nationals existed e.g. attempted takeover of Nepean Milk Cooperative Ltd. by way of share transfers.
- Wesfarmers was being restructured to allow listing on stock exchange.

Bangladesh

- recently the government has decentralised administration. The BJSU had organised in each district one cooperative union and one land mortgage bank.
- Cooperative Act and Rules were being amended. A committee had been set up consisting of government officers and cooperators both from BRDP system and from the traditional cooperative system to recommend amendments to the law.
- the government was exploring the possibility of integrating BRDP and the traditional cooperative system.

India

- cooperatives have been emphasizing on cooperative democracy,
- more credit to weaker sections,
- strengthening village level primaries through the programs of reorganisation and revitalisation,
- strengthening of primary marketing societies operating at primary market point so as to improve their operational efficiency,
- diversification of cooperative processing activity,
- more emphasis being given on production of agricultural inputs in cooperative sector,
- larger involvement of consumer cooperatives in Public Distribution Scheme,
- organisation of industrial cooperatives to provide more employment to artisans,
- implementation of a massive programme of dairy coops in the country under Operation Flood Programme,
- establishment of national level federations for fishery and labour cooperatives,
- introduction of fishermen insurance scheme for members of fishery cooperatives,
- establishment of Large Size Multipurpose Societies for tribals.

Indonesia

- strong support of government to develop self-supporting autonomous cooperatives - government agencies to be used mostly to stimulate and strengthen cooperatives.
- DEKOPIN (the National Cooperative Council) invited as partner of government in planning for cooperative development.
- number of cooperatives have increased from 17,625 in 1979-80 to 24,791 in 1983-84. Total membership is 13.612 million. The base village level cooperative is the KUD of which there were now 6327 with a membership of 9.539 million.
- KUDD, which had hitherto performed mostly agricultural support activities are now performing multi-service functions in addition to agricultural support. 6000 Cooperative Service Points

will be set up through the KUDD to service the members better.

- DEKOPIN in collaboration with concerned government agencies is involved in joint working teams to support cooperative development.
- the Fishermen's Cooperatives, though they are separate institutions, work in close collaboration with the KUDD - now 615 Fishermen Cooperatives with a membership of 133082. Marketing however is a continuing problem.
- 5 Cooperative Training Centres provide Cooperative Education for fishermen.
- a more recent trend is the undertaking of joint ventures to support fishery development and marketing in skip jack, tuna, shark, sea weed, pearl culture, shrimp hatchery and culture.
- increasing focus on the involvement of women in cooperatives - programmes are coordinated through Ministry of State for Role of Women.
- increasing focus on youth and cooperatives. KOPINDO, the National Federation of Youth Cooperatives now has a capital of over 227 M. Rupiah.

Japan

- Japanese economy is facing severe pressures both from international sources and from within. Cooperatives are compelled to work in a situation of severe pressures and constraints.
- the recent Japan - U.S. farm trade agreement is likely to affect domestic agricultural production and prices. In the field of citrus, it is likely that the cooperatives would have to undertake another mandarin orchard diversification programme.
- the CUAC is launching a programme to reduce costs of rice production.
- at the farm family level both agricultural income and off farm income have dropped sharply. This is reflected in the diminishing loans business of agricultural cooperatives.
- at the end of 1983, there were 9136 unit agricultural cooperatives of which 4353 were general agricultural cooperatives while others are concerned with specialised crops.
- overall membership in agricultural cooperatives have diminished from around 6 million to 5.6 million over the past 21 years - but associate membership has increased from 800,000 to 2.3 million.
(Note :- the growth in associate membership can be attributed to

(a) the reduction of farm households from 6 million to 4.5 million and (b) to sons of agricultural households not in farming acquiring membership).

Korea

- the conversion of the three tier system of agricultural and livestock cooperatives to the two tier system, consequent to the new Agricultural Cooperative Law of 1980, is now complete. The City or County agricultural cooperatives were transformed into the City or County offices of the NACF/NLCP.
- the number of primary agricultural cooperatives has decreased to 1469 from 1485. There are 42 special type cooperatives.
- around 90% of all farmers are members of the agricultural cooperatives and the average membership per agricultural cooperative is around 1409 persons.
- the agricultural cooperatives have had significant success in mobilising rural deposits and also in providing suitable welfare measures under their insurance schemes.
- in 1983 the Kyunggi Agricultural Cooperative Leaders Training Institute was set up, which devotes its time exclusively to the training and education of member farmers.

The Jeonju Agricultural Cooperative Leaders Institute was set up in 1984 with similar objectives.

The total number to be trained in those Institutes in 1984 will be 12,000 member farmers.

- in the field of fisheries there has been considerable growth -
 - a) the fishing fleet has increased to over 69,000 vessels.
 - b) the motorisation programme has covered most of the vessels.
 - c) the gross tonnage has increased to over 800,000 G/T and due to the enlargement of vessels the average tonnage per vessel has increased from 3.6 G/T in 1962 to 9.4 G/T in 1983.
 - d) exports have increased from over USD 56,000 in 1962 to over USD 900 million in 1983 (16 times growth).
 - e) fishing household income has increased from 193,200 Won in 1970 to over 4 million Won in 1983 (roughly 650 Won to 1 USD in 1983).

Malaysia

- a National Development Cooperative Society (Koperasi Pembangunan Negara) to coordinate the business and trading activities of the District Cooperative Societies in Malaysia and to provide financial assistance to cooperatives has been set up.
- the Cooperative College of Malaysia now runs an International Course on Cooperative Management for countries in Asia and the Pacific.
- increasing interest in developing consumer cooperatives. A Malaysian Consumer Cooperative Society has been formed and this has a plan for setting up Cooperative Supermarkets in several large cities and towns. It maintains close contact with the Japanese Consumer Cooperatives and derives benefit from their experience and expertise.
- increasing support by government to strengthen Farmers Associations and the National Federation of Farmer Associations. It is intended that in the long run the Registrar will play only a regulatory role and that the NAFAS will play the dominant leadership and development role.

Philippines

- some significant economic measures taken by government in recent times are -
 - a) devaluation
 - b) floating the Peso
 - c) development policy shift from industry to agriculture
 - d) measures to mop up excess liquidity.
 These are bound to affect the operation of cooperatives.
- the Ministry of Agriculture has been expanded to Ministry of Agriculture and Food - there is now a new Minister - Dr. Salvador H. Escudero III, who replaced Minister Tanco. The new Ministry is also responsible for Development of Fisheries.
- under the reoriented emphasis cooperatives will be called upon to play an even more responsible role in Development.
- the Integrated National Cooperative Audit System, has now been established and is in operation in some Regions of the Republic.
- with the advice and assistance of the CUP consumers cooperatives in Metro Manila area have initiated a series of discussions to work towards the setting up of a central purchasing agency.

- the SCC/ICA Cooptrade Project has helped in identifying exportable commodities and in establishing trade contacts. The progress has been encouraging.
- the CUP lays much emphasis on the development of the cooperative union system (consisting of the CUP and its 13 affiliated Regional Unions) in the Philippines.
- an Indicative Five Year Development Programme for Fishery-Cooperatives has been drawn up.
- a Cooperative Manpower Survey has been undertaken by the ILO and the ICA. The information will be used at the ILO sponsored workshop on Training Standards and Policy.
- in the field of sugar, there are at present 31 cooperatives with full fledged status, 43 with provisional status and 16 provisionally registered pre-cooperatives. The Sugar Cooperative Development Institute (SCDIP) is exploring the possibility of developing cooperative to cooperative trade in respect of the sugar produced by its members.

Singapore

- organisation of two major seminars, namely, ILO/SNCF Workshop on Coop Training Policy and Standards and ACO/SNCF/FES Seminar on Cooperative Law in Asean.
- presently SNCF, the apex organisation, is carrying out internal audit and management consultancy services besides education and training research and publicity - in future SNCF may be called upon to carry out the function of external audit of cooperatives in Singapore. There may be amendment to the legislation to allow the federation to do external audit as audit done by accountants (private) is very costly in Singapore.
- the federation is also looking into the programme to develop and promote school cooperatives in Singapore to tap the vast resources of youth energy.

Sri Lanka

- open economy approach has severely affected cooperative trade due to increased competition - many MPCSS are in financial difficulties.
- the Industrial Cooperatives and in particular the Textile Weavers Cooperatives have also been severely affected.
- a new Cooperative Act - Act No. 32 of 1985 has increased the powers of the Registrar/Commissioner considerably - his powers to intervene in day to day management and control of cooperatives,

to remove Boards of Management etc. have been increased.

- a National Cooperative Congress was held in June 1984 to review the situation vis-a-vis cooperatives and to formulate guidelines for growth of self-reliant and autonomous cooperatives.
- the ICA supported Projects, the Teachers Training Project and the Women's Project have now been merged with the normal activities of the NCC. The Projects as such have been terminated.
- 3 Regional Education Centres have been set up and are functioning with SCC/SIDA support.
- the PROCAS, Small Farmer Project is being continued with the support of the Netherlands Embassy.
- two SCC sponsored missions visited Sri Lanka to assess the cooperative situation and to look at Dairy and Fishery Cooperatives in particular.

Thailand

- ACFT has been restructured. Its membership will consist only of Provincial level Cooperative Federations - formerly even Primary cooperatives were members. These will now affiliate to the Provincial level cooperatives.
- ACFT has increased its purchase and export of corn and rice.
- there is a continuing programme to develop storage capacity - 130 additional stores will be constructed with 5000 ton capacity in each.
- the programme for strengthening selected agricultural cooperatives is continuing - 60 in 1981, 150 in 1982, 180 in 1983 - this programme is supported by IBRD.
- the National Agricultural Cooperative Training Institute (NACTI) is providing specialised training to cooperative staff and committee men - this is with ZEC support.

So far 1467 committee men and 986 management staff have been trained.

- there is increasing emphasis on Cooperative Fishery Development - marketing is still a critical factor affecting development. At present there are 19 cooperative societies with 4000 members.
- there is increasing emphasis on developing consumer cooperatives - 33 new consumer cooperatives have been registered in 1983
- increasing emphasis on developing and supporting Taxi/Autorickshaw/Mini Cab Cooperatives.

Agenda Item No. 7 ; Administration

21. 7.1 & 7.2 - The information given in the agenda notes was noted. The Secretary thanked the members who had provided additional funds and requested those who had not made the contribution, to do so.

22. 7.3 & 7.4 - The Council noted the contributions made by various member organisations towards the working of the Agriculture and Consumer Committees.

Support by member organisations to ICA ROEC Regional/National Activities

23. The Secretary requested the member organisations to furnish ROEC with information on support given by member organisations to ICA ROEC in the conduct of its regional/national activities.

Very often member organisations were not interested in giving the information, but the information would be very useful especially for Donors.

24. Mr. Malte Jonsson stressed the need to include this contribution in the accounting and he said that the new forms would provide a column for such information. He therefore urged the members to keep the ROEC informed of the supporting costs.

25. 7.5, 7.7, 7.8 & 7.9 - Information given in the agenda notes was noted.

Agenda Item No. 8 : Education Centre

26. The information given in the agenda notes was noted.

Agenda Item No. 9 : Technical Assistance & Consultancies

27. The information given in the agenda notes was noted.

28. The question of why there were so few project proposals was raised. It was pointed out that many a movement had not developed the capacity within itself for project identification and formulation. The ROEC had assisted where possible with feasibility studies etc.

29. Mr. Malte Jonsson informed the Meeting that ICA Hq. was working on a standard format for ICA supported projects.

30. Gen. R.S. Lozada, Philippines, congratulated Mr. M.K. Puri, Specialist in Consumer Cooperation, for his excellent report on the possibility of setting up of a Regional Warehouse for Consumer Cooperatives in Mindanao.

Agenda Item No. 10 : Publications, Public Relations
and Library Section

31. The information given in the agenda notes was noted.

32. Note : Mr. Alf Carlsson, Director, SCC, joined the discussions at this stage. He expressed his regrets at his inability to be with the meeting from the beginning. He also indicated that he was happy to be in Thailand and mentioned that at the end of the year, he would be leaving the SCC and once again work with ICA, this time in ICA Hq. in Geneva.

Agenda Item No. 11 : Decisions and recommendations of the
Sub-Committees of the Regional Council
- Agriculture, Fisheries, Consumer, Trade,
Credit, Industrial Cooperatives

33. The Chairmen/Secretaries of the Sub-Committees on Agriculture, Fisheries, Consumer and Trade reported to the Council the decisions and recommendations arrived at at the Sub-Committee meetings.

34. ICA Sub-Committee for Agriculture for South-East Asia

1. The Sub-Committee elected Gen. Arcadio S. Lozana Chairman for the next four years.

2. The members reported the significant developments in the agricultural sector of their movements and Mr. Chern Samrungsang, Director-General, Cooperatives Promotion Department, gave a talk on 'Agricultural Cooperative Movement in Thailand - Problems and Prospects'.

3. The Sub-Committee discussed the two project proposals of Cooperative Union of the Philippines (CUP) formulated with the guidance of the RDEC :

- a) Integrated Cooperative Development Programme for Cooperative Member Farm Families in the Compostela Valley.
- b) Cagayan North-Integrated Agro-Fishery Cooperative Project

The Sub-Committee endorsed them for securing necessary assistance for implementation.

4. The Sub-Committee decided to recommend the following activities proposed to the Regional Council for approval :

1. Regional Seminar on Processing of Agricultural Produce for Increasing Returns to Farmers (Japan).

2. Regional Seminar on Role of Agricultural Cooperatives in Creating Subsidiary (including off farm employment) occupation for farming families.
3. Regional Seminar on Cooperative Dairy Development
4. Field Projects on Development of Rural Poor through Cooperatives.
5. National Consultancy Workshops on Formulation of Development Strategies for Primary Agricultural Cooperatives.

At this stage, Mr. Bengt Kjeller of SCC told the Sub-Committee that SCC will not be prepared to fund many seminars. The SCC would like other types of activities also to be undertaken by the ICA. The SCC would be making proposals at the Council Meeting.

The Sub-Committee felt that the activities proposed were useful and decided to recommend them subject to availability of funds.

35. ICA Sub-Committee for Fisheries for South-East Asia

1. The Sub-Committee elected Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim, Chairman, for the next four years.
2. The members reported the latest developments in the fishery sector of their movements and Mr. Chern Samrungrong, Director-General, Cooperatives Promotion Department, gave a talk on 'Fishery Cooperative Movement - Problems and Prospects'.
3. The Sub-Committee noted the educational activities carried out by the ICA ROEC in the field of fishery cooperatives. It also noted the Regional Seminar on Fishery Cooperatives carried out by the National Federation of Fishery Cooperative Associations of Japan and recorded its thanks to the Federation for holding this seminar annually.
4. Mr. Subhash Chandra gave an account of the Insurance Scheme the Fishery Cooperative Federation of India had implemented for fishermen in India with the assistance of Government of India. He said the Indian Government as a result of representation made by the Federation is subsidising the premium. This scheme will benefit thousands of poor fishermen in India. He offered to assist by way of providing further information to any movement interested in initiating such insurance schemes. He thanked the ICA ROEC for the opportunity afforded to him by the Regional Office to participate in the Regional Seminar conducted by it in the Republic of Korea with study visits in Japan. Had it not been for this opportunity his insurance scheme would not have been implemented in India as he formulated the scheme based on what he learnt in the Republic of Korea.

5. The Sub-Committee discussed the Cagayan North Integrated Agro Fishery Cooperative Project submitted by the Cooperative Union of the Philippines and endorsed it for securing necessary assistance.

6. Gen. Lozada referred to the Thai-Japan project for assistance to agricultural cooperatives in Thailand and said that possibility of such assistance for other countries from Japan and Korea also should be explored by the ICA. The Regional Director explained that relationship between Japan and Thailand is a special long standing one and it is a government to government agreement. The major assistance from developed countries like Japan depends on whether the country is on the priority list for assistance in the particular field where assistance is sought. However there are several assistance programmes which have resulted from initiatives taken by the Regional Council. He cited the example of annual Training Seminar on Fishery Cooperatives conducted by the Federation of Fishery Cooperative Association of Japan, on-the-job training programme of the Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union. Therefore he suggested that request for such assistance may be discussed at the Council meetings. The members from the countries from where assistance is sought cannot commit on behalf of their governments. If a commitment from the members representing those countries can be received to discuss the request with their government that would be useful.

7. Pilot Project for Development of Inland Fisheries in Sri Lanka

The Secretary explained that the project which was submitted by Fishery Federation of Sri Lanka to ICA ROEC was in turn submitted to ICA Hq. for securing assistance. The Hq. referred this to the ICA Fisheries Committee for a feasibility study. The Chairman of the Fisheries Committee had requested the FAO and the FAO had requested that the project should be recommended by the Government of Sri Lanka as a priority project. Now the Fishery Federation of Sri Lanka was negotiating with the Government. Long period had passed since this was referred to Sri Lanka government and it was very difficult to get governments to recommend such small cooperative projects as priority projects.

Mr. Bengt Kjeller asked why in the first place such small projects are referred to Europe and why ROEC cannot look for donors by itself.

The Regional Director explained that this was the procedure of the ICA.

The SCC representative felt that these procedures are cumbersome and more simplified procedures need to be adopted. Several members also spoke in favour of simplifying the procedures. The Sub-Committee felt that when such projects are submitted to ICA they

should not be referred to FAO or other U.N. bodies. Instead ICA should search for donors.

The SCC representative said that the movements of the Region should now be self-reliant and should try to finance such activities by themselves. Mr. Subhash Chandra pointed out that the movements in this region are still financially weak, specially the fishery sector. Wherever possible they try to do things on their own. But still they need assistance and the developed movements have to accept this situation.

36. ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia

1. The 8th meeting of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia met in Bangkok on 7th November 1984. The meeting was attended by representatives from 10 member countries, namely Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Korea, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

Mr. Bengt Kjeller of the Swedish Cooperative Centre, Stockholm, also attended the meeting.

Mr. Malte Jonsson from ICA Hq. could join the meeting during the latter part only.

2. Mr. Snith Chittaporn, President of the Consumer Cooperative Federation of Thailand was unanimously elected as Chairman and Mr. Fred Sanchez from the Philippines as Vice Chairman of the Committee for the next 4 years.

3. The Member for Japan informed the Committee that in response to their wishes the JCCU had agreed to conduct a Regional Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in Japan from 20 August to 10 September, 1985.

4. The Member from Republic of Korea informed the Committee that the NACF had agreed to host a two week Regional Seminar on Rural Distribution through Cooperatives from 7-22 April, 1985 in Korea to be followed by five days study visits in Japan.

5. Members of the Committee placed on record their great appreciation and thanks to the JCCU for providing on-the-job training to professional employees of consumer cooperatives from the region on a recurring basis every year. Members of the Committee expressed that this type of practical training had been found immensely useful by their employees and they wanted that possibilities of securing similar facilities from other advanced movements in countries like Sweden, Canada, U.K. and U.S.A. should also be explored.

6. Members of the Committee expressed great appreciation for the various activities and programmes carried out by the ICA ROEC in the field of consumer cooperation and they fully endorsed the general

approach and various steps being followed for the promotion of consumer cooperative movements in the region. It was expressed that the activities and programmes were according to their real needs and priorities.

The programme and activities proposed for 1985-86 were discussed and endorsed by all member movements. The representative from the Philippines wanted that in addition to the proposed programmes the RO should also carry out a consultancy mission for the strengthening of consumer cooperative movement in the Philippines similar to the one carried out recently in Thailand. He also stressed upon the need for continuing technical assistance and expertise for training programme in retail management for employees of the consumer cooperatives.

7. In view of lack of expertise in member movements to formulate their perspective plans, the Committee suggested that the Secretary of the Committee together with expertise from SCC and JCCU should visit member movements and assist them in drawing up their perspective plans for the next 3 years.

It was further suggested that areas which call for external assistance should be identified only after the preparation of the perspective plan for each country.

It was further recommended that the Chairman, Vice Chairman and the Secretary of the Committee should carefully examine all proposals for external assistance at the national and regional levels for promotion of consumer cooperatives.

8. The Committee recommended to member movements to realise the urgent need for securing solid and genuine support of housewives for their consumer cooperatives. It was recommended that each member movement should discuss about the different ways and means by which they could secure active participation and support of housewives for their consumer cooperative movement. It was further recommended that this important aspect for enhancing member participation in the movement should receive due attention in their perspective plans.

37. ICA Sub-Committee on International Trade for South-East Asia

During the period from the 25th Regional Council in 1983 to the coverage of the present report, the Sub-Committee on International Trade (SCIT) has worked closely with Cooptrade Project as its major activity. During the period under review, Cooptrade Project (CTP) has undertaken the following activities:

In January, a Technical Meeting on Export Marketing was held in Kuala Lumpur for one week with 12 participants from cooperative business organisations in the Region. At this time, an Evaluation Team

was sent by the Swedish Cooperative Centre to determine the utility of Cooptrade and the need for its extension for another three years. The Evaluation Team concluded the importance and need of Cooptrade. Consequently, CTP was extended for the same period.

In February, a six-week consultancy was concluded between CTP and CUP for the upgrading of production technique and plant layout of a metal sheet manufacturing cooperative in Manila. This cooperative was identified as a potential exporter of high quality metal sheet products and the consultancy was intended to increase its efficiency and product quality.

In February, Cooptrade also finalised its project in Bacolod for the export of rattan furnitures to a buyer in Holland.

In March a study was conducted on the leather products produced by cooperatives in Jakarta, Indonesia, in cooperation with Kopindo.

In April, a project identification mission was conducted in Zamboanga, Mindanao in the Philippines where rattan cages are found to be abundant and cooperatives are developing products for export. As a result, an integrated rattan project was developed together with the project in Bacolod. The rattan project in Bacolod was visited by buyers from Holland who made final product specifications. Also during this month, a mission was made to the island of Guimaras in Iloilo for the export of fresh tropical fruits (mangoes) produced by a cooperative which was organised under the auspices of CUP. A market research was conducted and final arrangements are underway for export at the beginning of 1985.

In May, a project proposal was discussed with the national cooperative organisation in Colombo, Sri Lanka, for the export of desiccated coconut.

In June, the order of buyers from Holland for rattan furnitures from the Philippines was executed resulting in a shipment of an order for US\$8,000. The rattan cooperative has now concluded with the European buyer a contract for a monthly shipment worth US\$9,000 per shipment.

In August, on initiative of CUP, CTP and CUP conducted a national conference on international trade in Manila with 24 participants from various cooperatives in the country which had previously been identified to have strong potentials for export. The government of the Philippines helped with technical people in the conference.

In September, the CTP office was relocated to Kuala Lumpur.

In October, consultancy was provided to the cooperative to develop desiccated coconuts for export from Colombo. In November, another consultancy on marketing of metal products was entered into for the metal sheet manufacturing cooperative in Manila.

The two-year period of its work provided CTP with experience on the strategies needed for maximize its efforts and meet the increasing demands of its time and resources. As CTP had been extended for another three years, CTP adopted the following objectives for which a funding source had already been identified.

In the long term, CTP will develop international cooperative trade (export and import) in fields of major importance to cooperative members as producers or as consumers. The trade must directly benefit the members.

In the short term, CTP has the following objectives starting July 1, 1984 :

1. Build up a cooperative trade network in the Region through and by the national cooperative trade promotion committees of each country and the ICA-SCIT.
2. Build up a cooperative trading information and intelligence network or system that will serve the national committees, the ICA-SCIT and the trading cooperative organisations.
3. Establish national and regional coordination with the other sub-committees of the ICA in the Region, as banking and credit, consumers, agriculture, etc., as well as with other international cooperative organisations engaged in international trade.
4. Establish within the Region at least two cooperative organisations per year as international traders.
5. Assist the national cooperative organisations in the formulation of national cooperative trade promotion plans or programmes of at least two countries per year, and provide these national cooperative organisations with technical assistance for the implementation, evaluation and continuity of their respective plans and programmes.

These objectives adopted by the CTP have been discussed with the ICA-SCIT, as a result of which and in order to complement the CTP effort and make the ICA-SCIT effectively functional, the SCIT proposes to the Regional Council now in session the approval of the following SCIT Terms of Reference :

1. The SCIT should be composed of members from the national cooperative trade promotion committees

and who should mainly come from cooperative trading organisations.

2. The committee members should bear their own costs for participation in meetings of the committee.
3. The Funds of the Committee should consist of funds raised by member organisations and those that may be voted by the Regional Council to finance the operations of the Committee as well as those that the Committee itself may be able to obtain from donors and financial institutions.
4. The Committee should meet at least once a year at the date and time the members believe necessary, the results of such meeting to be furnished to each national organisation, particularly those that are unable to send delegates to the meeting. The meeting will be technical in nature.
5. The Committee shall elect its own chairman and vice-chairman. The ICA (Trade Adviser) in the Region should be the secretary of the Committee. It shall be his responsibility to prepare long term plans, annual work programmes with budgets, and quarterly and annual reports as well as the minutes of the technical and other meetings. The Committee shall decide on these plans and their budgets.
6. The Chairman of the Committee shall report to the Regional Council, present its plans and budgets, and where applicable, request for funding.
7. The ICA (Trade Adviser) shall also take responsibility for all communication and coordination with higher cooperative bodies or agencies of the ICA and shall insure the smooth flow of communication between the ICA, CTP, the national cooperative organisations and their trade promotion committees, and other parties interested in the work of the Committee.
8. Members of the Regional Council shall take responsibility in ensuring the efficient operation and cooperation of their trade promotion committees as they relate to the SCIT. Regional Councillors should also take responsibility to ensure that reports requested by the SCIT are submitted promptly.

The Regional Council is requested to define the relationship of the SCIT with appropriate bodies of the ICA, their lines of communication and responsibilities, particularly that of the Trade Committee of the ICA. The present Committee in the Region is a "sub-committee" of what committee?

The Regional Council is also requested to determine the specific role of the Committee and its relation with the Committee it created or reporting to it, particularly the responsibility of the

Council in the effective operation of the Committee. While each country finances its own member in the Committee, the responsibility of the Council on the regional function and activity of the Committee and the funding of such activity have not been determined.

The Regional Council is also requested that in the interim that the SCIT is not fully constituted and the term of the present chairman terminates, the Council elects the chairman to serve until the next Congress of the ICA.

38. ICA Committee for Cooperative Credit & Banking for South-East Asia

The Secretary informed the meeting that for reasons beyond the control of the secretariat the meeting of the Credit and Banking Committee could not be formally held because of the absence of adequate membership. There were only two Committee Members present. At an informal discussion it was decided that we should keep the Credit and Banking Committee going and that from the secretariat we should once again write to the institutions concerned and the persons who are already in the Committee, with copies to Regional Councillors about the need for a re-nomination of members to the Committee and the need to get the Credit Committee going. It was also decided that the Regional Councillors should establish contact with their own national organisation with a view to strengthening this very important Sub-Committee. It was also felt that the Credit Committee should establish contact with APRACA, the ICA Banking Committee to help strengthen its activities.

39. ICA Sub-Committee for Industrial Cooperatives

The Secretary reported that as regards the Industrial Committee, no members of the Industrial Committee were present and consequently a meeting could not be held. He requested the RC to decide on a future course of action in this connection.

After much discussion it was decided to amalgamate the Industrial Committee with the Trade Committee which would thereafter be called the Trade and Industry Sub-Committee of the Regional Council.

40. The Secretary reported on the activities of SEASPECT and gave some information about its last meeting in March, held in Kuala Lumpur.

41. Following on the request for setting up two more Sub-Committees, one on Tourism and the other on Transport, the RC decided that a study should be first undertaken and reported on to the next RC after which a decision could be made.

Agenda Item No. 12 : Programme of activities of ICA ROEC
July 1985 - June 1986

42. The programme of activities as contained in the Agenda Notes was endorsed by the Council. It was suggested that for the next meeting the probable costs of proposed activities be included to enable Regional Councillors to get some idea of the commitments made.

Agenda Item No. 13 : IDACA Activities

43. The information given in the agenda was noted.

44. Mr. K. Fujimoto, Managing Director of IDACA, gave the following additional information:-

1. Training Courses for Cooperators from Selected Countries : These courses would be continued. Normally a country selected will have the facility for two years. New countries will be selected for next year. Discussions are on-going with the government in this regard, and the countries selected will be informed in due course. The countries mentioned in the agenda notes should not be taken as final.

2. General Course in Agricultural Cooperatives under Colombo Plan : This is one of the oldest and traditional courses of IDACA. For this course not only the cooperators from the region but also from different countries of Africa and South America have been so far invited. The new line of thinking is to increase the number of cooperators from this region rather than giving seats to countries in other regions.

3. The Colombo Plan Course : This is an annual event, supported by the government and is under Colombo Plan. Most of those attending have been government officers. Regional Councillors could use their influence to enable non-government officers too to attend these courses.

4. IDACA has been conducting Reunions in various countries over the last several years. The country where we will meet is yet to be decided. Therefore the name of the country mentioned in the agenda may be deleted.

5. IDACA will soon be shifting to new premises located within the Agricultural Cooperative College. The shift will take place around April 1986.

45. Mr. Shiro Futagami explained that funds for IDACA activities came exclusively from CUAC, which gets its support from the farmer members of cooperatives. As farmer income was getting reduced for various reasons there was strong pressure from the membership to reduce IDACA budget. The CUAC was making efforts to persuade government

to support more technical assistance programmes for cooperatives, but their success is very limited.

46. It was therefore difficult for IDACA to expand its activities. The CUAC was at present spending more than 4 million U.S. Dollars for maintaining and running various courses at IDACA.

Agenda Item No. 14 : Relations with member organisations in the Region

47. The information given in the agenda notes was noted.

Agenda Item No. 15 : Relations with international organisations

48. The information given in the agenda notes was noted.

Agenda Item No. 16 : Long Range Policies, Programmes and Activities

1. Expenses for Councillors attending Regional Council Meetings

49. The Regional Councillor for Australia in his intervention mentioned that he had raised this issue with the RD so that he could focus on the need for more and more Regional Councillors supporting their own costs so that the ICA expenses in RC Meetings could be reduced. The Secretary explained that at present the ROEC supports Regional Councillors half airfare. However, from the very beginning the Regional Councillors from Australia and Japan had met their full costs. In recent times one of the Councillors from Malaysia supports his own costs. The IDACA representatives always bear their own costs.

50. In respect of 16.2 the Secretary explained that the item was included as there had previously been various proposals to consider reconstitution of the RC. But in view of the fact that the Hamburg Congress has accepted New Rules which provide for the RCC, it was not possible to discuss the item in this forum.

- i. In view of the New Rules Article 34, the RC decided that the secretariat would in future write to the NCO in each country for nomination of Regional Councillors.

In the case of the Republic of Korea however, the Regional Councillor mentioned that he would discuss this aspect with the other members of the ICA and let the ROEC know of the decisions made.

- ii. In response to a query about the provision in the Rules about "Congress to Congress" the Secretary pointed out that this provision was there in the old rules also - but that National Cooperative Organisations have been changing their delegates dependent on National situations.

- iii. The question of electing Chairman and Vice-Chairman, and members of the Executive organ as provided in the new rules was raised by a Councillor for Indonesia.

Some Councillors were of the view that as the Rules were new and as many of the member organisations were not aware of these rules, elections under the new Rules should be put off until the member organisations had a chance to nominate under the new Rules.

After much discussions the Council decided to elect a new Chairman, Vice-Chairman and four others to the Executive organ of the RC.

The following were elected unanimously to the Executive Sub-Committee of the Regional Council :

- | | | | |
|----|------------------------------------|---|---------------|
| 1. | Mr. R. Mathimugan, Malaysia | : | Chairman |
| 2. | Mr. Eddiwan, Indonesia | : | Vice-Chairman |
| 3. | Mr. Chern Samrungrong, Thailand | : | Member |
| 4. | Gen. A.S. Lozada, Philippines | : | Member |
| 5. | Mr. A.T. Poustie, Australia | : | Member |
| 6. | Mr. Roland Tay Tatt Jln, Singapore | : | Member |

- iv. The Regional Council next considered the constitution of Sub-Committees of the RC. The following decisions were made :

1. There would be not more than two members from each country in each specialised Committee.
2. The present practice of the RC calling for nominations for the Sub-Committees - viz. from the Specialised Cooperative organ at the National level and where such does not exist, from the NCO would continue for the future.
3. The meetings would be on a self-financing basis.
4. The Executive Sub-Committee will examine the Rules of the various Sub-Committees and make suggestions for amendments where appropriate.

- v. To enable Sub-Committees to continue until they meet next, the RC made the following tentative appointments:

(1) Credit & Banking Committee

- Mr. M.M. Vyas as Chairman Interim
- A representative from Malaysia as Vice-Chairman Interim

(2) Agricultural Sub-Committee

- Mr. G.K. Sharma, India, as Vice-Chairman Interim

(3) Fishery Sub-Committee

- A Vice-Chairman from Korea to be selected

(4) Trade & Industry Sub-Committee

- Mr. Modesto Sa-Onoy, Chairman Interim
- Mr. M.R.B. Daswatte, Vice-Chairman Interim

51. 16.3 SEASPECT - The Regional Council decided that there should be an Education Sub-Committee of the Regional Council and that the secretariat should work out a scheme for the expansion of the SEASPECT to be the Education & Training Sub-Committee, with appropriate changes in its composition.

52. 16.4 The information given in the agenda notes was noted.

53. 16.5 The information given in the agenda notes was noted.

54. 16.6 ICA ROEC Documentation and Information Centre - The information provided under agenda item 16.6 was warmly received. There was a general acceptance that the services provided by the ICA ROEC Documentation Service was very useful, and that such services should be improved and extended.

55. While discussing the aspects of documentation, a further suggestion was made - and that was that the ICA ROEC develop a Research, Planning and Development capacity to assist member organisations in this field. The research was not to be academic research but action oriented research. It was generally accepted that planning and development would be fundamentally national responsibilities, but the ROEC could assist in all aspects of research, planning and development, and could get the support of allied institutions concerned with these aspects.

56. The Council decided that this proposal be studied further.

Agenda Item No. 17 : Any other matter with the permission of the Chair

57. Gen. A.S. Lozada, Councillor from the Philippines, raised the question of support by ICA/SCC by way of soft loan to support CUP in its proposal for converting the Central Escolar University, with 20,000 enrolment, into an International Cooperative University. Gen. Lozada explained that the university had run into financial problems and that there was a possibility for CUP to come in by

purchasing stock in the university and to work towards making the university a cooperative university. He further mentioned that as already in the Philippines, the teaching of Cooperation as a subject in school curricula was on going, the creation of an International Cooperative University would further strengthen Cooperative Education and Training. He also mentioned that he had made a written request to ICA/SCC on this proposal.

58. Mr. Malte Jonsson from ICA Hq. mentioned that the letter had been duly received and that it was being studied, and that there was much more information necessary even for a preliminary study. He would be in contact with the CUP in due course.

Agenda Item No. 18 : Venue and Date of the next meeting

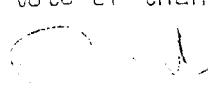
59. Mr. V.P. Singh, Member for India, extended on behalf of the National Cooperative Union of India and the Cooperative Movement of India, an invitation to the Regional Council and other subsidiary Committees to hold the 27th Regional Council Meeting in India in 1985 to coincide with the 25th Anniversary celebrations of the ICA ROEC. The tentative dates worked out with the ROEC were around 5th to 16th November, 1985.

60. The Council noted this information with appreciation and thanked the Member for India for the invitation.

61. Mr. A.T. Poustie, Member for Australia, confirmed the invitation to hold the 26th Meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia in Australia in 1986.

Agenda Item No. 19 : Vote of thanks to the Chair

62. The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair.


R.B. Rajaguru
Secretary

ICA Council for South-East Asia

New Delhi
December 12, 1984.

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AGENDA NOTES

*ICA Council
for South-East Asia*

TWENTYSIXTH MEETING

Venue Bangkok, Thailand

Dates November 8, 1984



*International Cooperative Alliance, Regional Office
and Education Centre for South-East Asia, "Bonow
House", 43 Friends' Colony, New Delhi-110065, India*

TWENTYSIXTH MEETING OF THE ICA COUNCIL FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA
Bangkok (Thailand) : November 4-10, 1984

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Annexe

Programme of Activities of ICA ROEC - July 1985 - June 1986

Minutes of the 25th Meeting of the Council held in Tokyo (Japan) on 4th & 5th November, 1983.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1WELCOME

1. ~~Col. Surin Cholpraserd, Chairman~~, Cooperative League of Thailand, will welcome the members of the Council on behalf of the Thai Cooperative Movement.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

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

ii. Remarks by ICA Director

iii. Remarks by SCC Representative

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

3. The members of the Council are requested to elect a Chairman from among the members from the host country, viz. Thailand. The new Chairman's term of office will be till the next Council Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF
THE 25TH MEETING

4. The minutes of the last meeting were circulated to all the members. The minutes may be confirmed. For minutes, please see annex to these notes. Action taken on the minutes is given in the relevant agenda items of these notes.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5LETTERS AND REPORTS FROM
NON-ATTENDING MEMBERS

5. The Secretary will table letters and reports, if any, received from Councillors who are unable to attend the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6REPORT ON THE "RECENT CHANGES, TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS OF THE COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA" BY THE COUNCILLORS

6. Each Councillor will table written report on the recent changes, trends and developments of the cooperative movements in his country and highlight briefly the more significant items.

It is suggested that Councillors bring with them to the meeting 40 copies of the written statement for circulation. Papers received before the meeting will be circulated in advance.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7ADMINISTRATION

7.1 The ROEC is glad to report that the following member organisations have contributed the amounts mentioned against their names to the funds of the ROEC for the financial year 1983-84 :-

Name of the member organisations	Contributions paid in Indian Rupees
1. Bangladesh Jatiya Samabaya Union (balance contribution of 1982-83 plus contribution for 1983-84)	9,750.00
2. National Agricultural Cooperative Federation of the Rep. of Korea	11,378.00
3. National Union of Cooperatives Malaysia (ANGKASA)	10,000.00
4. Cooperative Central Bank, Malaysia (special contribution)	21,834.05
5. Japanese Joint Committee on Cooperatives	29,000.00 6,500.00
Total	81,962.05 34,262.00

7.2 The total received for the year was Rs. ~~81,962.05~~ and this generous support of the member-organisations is acknowledged with deep sense of gratitude.

Other members are kindly requested to make their contributions available as soon as is possible.

Contributions to the ICA ROEC in respect of the
work done for the Sub-Committee on Agriculture

7.3 For the year 1983-84, contributions have been received from the member organisations in Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea and Thailand amounting to £ 300 and are acknowledged with thanks.

Other members are requested to forward their contributions early.

Contributions to the ICA ROEC in respect of the
work done for the Committee on Consumer
Cooperation for South-East Asia

7.4 The member organisations from Thailand, Korea, Malaysia & Philippines have contributed £ 50.00 each to ROEC towards the working of this Committee. Other members are requested to forward their contributions early.

Support by member-organisations to ICA ROEC
Regional/National Activities

7.5 Member organisations have not made available any information to ROEC in this regard.

Concessions of the Government of India

7.6 The foreign experts attached to the ROEC continue to enjoy income-tax and import-duty concessions from the Government of India. We express our sincere thanks and appreciation to our host government for the encouragement and continuing support provided.

Staff Changes

7.7 Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education), ICA ROEC, has been released on no-pay for one year to take up an appointment with the FAO as Cooperative Management Adviser in its Project on Agricultural Cooperative Training in Afghanistan (PACTA) in Kabul, Afghanistan. He will resume duties in ROEC in December 1984.

7.8 Mr. Ganga Prasad, Night Watchman, at ROEC resigned from the services of the ROEC with effect from 24 May 1984. In his place, Mr. Ram Chander has been appointed as Night Watchman with effect from 1st July 1984.

7.9 Consequent to a reorganisation of the structure of the Cooptrade Project by the SCC, the Trade Adviser Mr. Ulf Bergstrom has ceased to work in the ICA ROEC.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 : EDUCATION CENTRE

Section I : Action taken on the Minutes of the last meeting

8.1 Action has been initiated to carry out the programme of activities approved by the Council for the year July 1984 to June 1985.

Section II : Review of Educational Activities July 1983 to June 1984

REGIONAL SEMINARS/CONFERENCES

8.2 Regional Seminar on Integrated Cooperative Activities for Agricultural Development, Seoul, 1-12 August 1983

A Regional Seminar on "Integrated Cooperative Activities for Agricultural Development" was held by the ICA ROEC in Seoul (Rep. of Korea) in collaboration with the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (NACF) from 1st to 12th August 1983. Fifteen participants from seven countries attended the seminar. The countries represented were Bangladesh, India, Rep. of Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

The objectives of the seminar were:

- (i) to review the situation of integrated cooperative activities of agricultural cooperatives in the region.
- (ii) to discuss different activities of agricultural cooperatives intended to develop agriculture.
- (iii) to discuss problems of integration and coordination of different activities of agricultural cooperatives like credit, supply, guidance and marketing.
- (iv) to study the integrated cooperative activities for development of agriculture in the Rep. of Korea and Japan,
- (v) to frame guidelines for agricultural cooperatives on linking credit, supply, farming guidance, processing, marketing and better living activities into an integrated service package.

The seminar programme in Korea also included study visits. The participants were taken to National Agricultural Cooperative Federation and its branches at provincial and county level, a marketing centre maintained by the NACF and primary agricultural cooperatives.

8.3 Technical Conference on Cooperative Credit & Banking, New Delhi, 17-22 October 1983

A Technical Conference on Cooperative Credit and Banking for South-East Asia was held by the ICA ROEC in collaboration with the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI), from 17-22 October 1983 in New Delhi. The conference was held on a self-financing basis. The NCUI provided board and lodging to the participants during the conference period.

The aims of the conference were to review cooperative credit and banking situation in the region and to facilitate exchange of experience on innovations, problems and developmental opportunities, to suggest guidelines for promotion and development of cooperative credit and banking in the region and to suggest a plan of action for the ICA Committee for Cooperative Credit and Banking for S-E Asia, including establishment of a Regional Cooperative Credit Development Fund.

The conference discussed problems of formulation of guidelines for promotion and development of cooperative credit and banking, suggestions regarding Action Plan for the ICA Committee on Cooperative Credit and Banking and feasibility and mechanics of establishing a Regional Cooperative Credit Development Fund.

8.4 Top Level Conference on "Enhancing Cooperative Capability", Tokyo, 7-12 November 1983

A Top Level Cooperative Leaders Conference was organised by the ROEC in collaboration with the Afro-Asian Rural Reconstruction Organisation (AARRO) and the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives of Japan in Tokyo from 7-12 November, 1983. The meeting was attended by both official/non-official cooperative leaders from both Asia and some countries in Africa. The total number of participants was 37, among whom were four Ministers working in the area of cooperatives, several heads of government departments, Ministries concerned with Cooperatives, the Regional Councillors for Asia and several other cooperative leaders.

The main theme of the Conference was "Enhancing Cooperative Capability" and this subject was discussed under three broad heads: (1) Cooperative Development, (2) Cooperatives and the Poor, and (3) Integrated Rural Development.

The Conference discussed a wide ranging area of subjects which have relevance to the strengthening of cooperative activity and the promotion of cooperative growth and emphasised the need for the cooperative sector to be autonomous and self-reliant. The Conference also went on to emphasize the need for the government to play a supporting role to assist the cooperative which generally are primarily concerned with the weaker sections of the population and the Conference was of the view that the government should support and facilitate and not control and manage the cooperatives.

The Conference stressed also the need to develop strong linkages within the national situation both vertical and lateral and also the strengthening of the national cooperative organisations and the national level apexes so that cooperatives could play a dynamic role as against a residual role as is played sometimes by many cooperative movements.

The Conference also recognised that in the total process of development in each country the cooperatives had a vital role to play and that cooperative approaches to development should be on an integrated basis with particular emphasis on involving the mass of the people in the process of development strategies and in the implementation of development programmes. The Conference felt that the very structure of the cooperatives which were generally available in all countries from the grass-root level upwards enabled cooperatives to be both responsive to the needs of the mass of the people and also to be an effective instrument to harness the potential of the people at the village level for integrated rural development.

The Conference emphasized the need for collaboration between the various cooperative movements of the regions and also the need for organisations like the ICA and AARRO and U.N. Agencies to keep in constant contact with the movements and to support their various programmes for development.

8.5 Technical Meeting on Export Marketing,
Malaysia, January 23-29, 1984

The ICA/SCC COOPTRADE Project conducted a six days Technical Meeting on Export Marketing at the Cooperative College in Petaling Jaya, Malaysia, in January 1984.

Twelve participants from seven countries representing cooperative business organisations in Asia had been invited to the meeting to improve their skills in export techniques.

The programme was based on a training material, produced by MATCOM (Materials and Techniques for Cooperative Management) in collaboration with COOPTRADE's programme to promote international cooperative trade. The programme was designed to test out the Training Package as regards its suitability to upgrade the necessary skills in Export Marketing of those executives/officials of cooperatives involved in export marketing.

8.6 Regional Workshop on CEMAS Field Education
Development Material, Pune, February 6-24, 1984

A Regional Workshop on Field Education Development (FED) Material was held at Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Management (VMNICM), Pune, from 6th to 24th February 1984. The workshop was organised by the ICA ROEC in collaboration with the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) and VMNICM.

There were 22 participants from 11 countries comprising cooperative education officers and field workers. The workshop was directed by Dr. Dharm Vir, Joint Director, ICA ROEC, and Mr. Bo Engstrom, Head of CEMAS, ICA, Geneva.

The main objectives of the workshop were:

- (a) to orient the participants with the CEMAS Field Education Development (FED) Programme and the package of material developed by CEMAS.
- (b) to enable them to learn the skills of using this approach to cooperative field education and training, and
- (c) to explore the possibilities of adapting and using the approach in different countries of the Region.

To achieve the objectives mentioned above, various methods were used during the workshop. The main method used was the self-study by the participants and discussion with the resource persons of the various modules included in CEMAS FED Pack. For their use during the workshop the foreign participants were given the FED Package prepared by the ICA CEMAS, Geneva, and the Indian participants were given the adapted Indian version of the package. Plenary sessions were frequently held to evaluate the performance of participants.

8.7 Fourth SEASPECT Meeting & Follow-up of the SCC/ICA/MATCOM Course for Principals & Senior Teachers of National Cooperative Colleges in S-E Asia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, March 11-22, 1984

The Fourth Meeting of the South-East Asian Specialists Group on Cooperative Training (SEASPECT) and a Follow-up programme of ICA/SCC Courses for Principals and Senior Lecturers of National Cooperative colleges of South-East Asia was held by the ICA ROEC in collaboration with the ANGKASA at the Cooperative College of Malaysia, Petaling Jaya, from 11th to 22nd March, 1984. The meeting was attended by 14 participants from six countries of the region. The countries represented were Bangladesh, India, Malaysia, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

The Follow-up Course preceded the SEASPECT Meeting. The subjects discussed during the Follow-up Course were Training Management, Curriculum Development, Field Experience of Cooperative Trainers and Monitoring and Evaluation in Cooperative Training. Further, the participants were introduced also to the Field Education Development (FED) Programme initiated by the CEMAS Section of ICA. Selected case studies prepared by the participants as a part of their follow-up assignment were also presented and discussed during the Workshop.

The 4th SEASPECT Meeting was held on 19th March 1984 at the Cooperative College of Malaysia and was attended by the Principals, Directors of Cooperative Colleges from India, Malaysia, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Bangladesh.

The 4th SEASPECT Meeting reaffirmed the need for continuation of the Specialists Group and was of the view that the Group should find a place in the Regional Council structure of the ICA and also that it should

establish close links with the AGITCOOP. The meeting went on to deliberate on the various problems affecting the development of training capability and the training colleges in the region and was of the view that the cooperative training colleges would have to play an increasingly effective role in developing suitable training and education systems to ensure proper performance of cooperatives and closer collaboration and participation of members in cooperative activities. The meeting felt that special cells should be set up in cooperative colleges to undertake aspects of manpower planning, research, curriculum development etc.

8.8 A Sub-Regional Workshop on Techniques of Audio-Visual Instructions and Development of Training Material, Manila, 4-23, June 1984

A Sub-regional workshop on the Techniques of Audio-visual Instruction and Development of Training Material was organised by the ICA Regional Office at Manila, the Philippines, during June 1984. The sub-regional workshop was held in collaboration with the ICA member-organisation in the Philippines, the Cooperative Union of the Philippines Inc. The Workshop was attended by 13 participants from the Rep. of Indonesia, Malaysia, Rep. of Korea, Thailand, Singapore and the Philippines.

To enhance the effectiveness of cooperative trainers and cooperative field educators by exposing them and training them in the effective use of various training methods, training material, to achieve a better rapport and communication with their respective target groups.

In order to achieve the main objective of the Workshop, the following plan was adopted:

- (i) General information, through country papers, about the audio-visual and training material activities in the participating countries.
- (ii) Introduction to various relevant topics through resource persons.
- (iii) Supplementing the information and other inputs through study visits to relevant organisations.
- (iv) Providing skills through practical sessions under the supervision and guidance of resource persons.

- (v) Enhancing the communication process through participative methods e.g., group discussions, group projects, self-evaluation and presenting the assignments, and
- (vi) Providing additional information on various topics by providing background papers etc.

As a part of practical work, the participants undertook several individual and group assignments.

8.9 A Sub-Regional Seminar on Fishery Cooperatives, Colombo, 29 May - 8 June, 1984

A Sub-regional Seminar on Fishery Cooperatives was held by the ICA Regional Office and Education Centre for South-East Asia in collaboration with the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka and Sri Lanka Fisheries Cooperative Federation from 29th May to 8th June 1984 in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Seventeen participants from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand participated in the Seminar.

Two resource persons from Japan and Malaysia gave talks at the Seminar in addition to those from Sri Lanka.

The subjects discussed in the seminar included organisation and development of fishery cooperatives; supply of credit, fishing gear and other requisites of fishing families; and better living activities including supplementary income generating activities promoted by fishery cooperatives.

NATIONAL SEMINARS/WORKSHOPS/COURSES

8.10 National Workshop on FED, Gandhi Nagar, 1-15 September 1983

As a follow-up to the first national workshop held by the National Cooperative Union of India at New Delhi, the second workshop on CEMAS Field Education Development (FED) Approach was held at Gandhi Nagar in Gujarat State of India from 1st to 15th September 1983. This workshop

was held by the NCUI in collaboration with the Gujarat State Cooperative Union and the ICA-CEMAS. Mr. Bo Engstrom, Head, ICA-CEMAS, Geneva; Dr. Dharm Vir, In-charge, ICA-CEMAS Unit, New Delhi; Mr. K.C. Jain, Executive Director, NCUI; and others participated as resource persons.

There were 24 participants in the workshop representing the NCUI, ten State Cooperative Unions and several field level organisations in India. They appreciated the efforts made by the ICA-CEMAS for the improvement of cooperative education at the field level and found FED Material of much relevance. However, some participants emphasised on the need of further adaptation of FED Approach and Material to local conditions.

8.11 Course on CEMAS FED Approach,
New Delhi, 7-11 November 1983

The Joint Director (Education), ICA ROEC, helped the National Centre for Cooperative Education (NCCE), New Delhi, in conducting another course from 7th to 11th November 1983 on CEMAS Field Education Development (FED) Approach. Among others, the faculty members of the NCCE actively participated in the course. He has also been helping the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) and its field projects in different parts of the country in the revision and intensive use of CEMAS-FED Material.

8.12 Advance Management Course in Madras

The Consultancy and Promotional Cell of the National Cooperative Consumers Federation of India conducted a one week Workshop in Advance Management for Managers of Consumer Cooperative Societies in Tamil Nadu in collaboration with the Natesan Cooperative Training College at Madras from 5-9 December 1983. The ICA ROEC extended their collaboration and deputed the Specialist in Consumer Cooperation in Regional Office to deal with a few subjects, economy of a cooperative retail shop, break-even analysis technique for planning and controlling the business in consumer cooperatives, profitability in supermarket, and leakage and how to control it.

8.13 Seminar on Self-Service

The National Cooperative Consumers Federation of India organised a one week Workshop on Self Service, for Managers of Consumer Cooperatives from southern States, at Bombay from 20th to 26th August 1984.

The Specialist in Consumer Cooperation at the ICA ROEC inaugurated the seminar and assisted at the various seminar sessions.

8.14 CEMAS

(i) The CEMAS Unit in ICA ROEC, New Delhi, continued to provide clearing house service to the movements in the Region. Besides the member movements, 45 other organisations made use of the service. The Unit has been able to build up substantial educational material produced by the participants of the ICA's training courses and among other things this material is being made available to interested educators on request.

(ii) The Cooperative Film Catalogue was updated and circulated among the user organisations. Requests from training institutions in India for supply of films and film-strips on loan were received and complied with. In addition, 32 film shows for about 750 persons were arranged at the Conference Hall for the trainees and other visitors to the ICA ROEC.

(iii) An Annotated Bibliography of Cooperative Management Cases, Volume-II, including information on 60 cases has been brought out and is being circulated among the cooperative organisations and training institutions in the Region. The Handbook on Adult Psychology and Educational Methods published by the ICA ROEC, New Delhi, has been well received by the cooperative educators in the Region. The Manual for Study Circle Leaders has been revised and sent to press for printing.

(iv) Close liaison was maintained with the ICA-CEMAS, Geneva, Moshi and Abidjan in the field of clearing house, production of educational material and adaptation of CEMAS-FED Package. Collaboration with MATCOM was also continued.

8.15 Follow-Up

(i) Under Follow-up of the Regional Courses on Training Methodologies, copies of CEMAS, Geneva publications and the Handbook on Adult Psychology and Educational Methods were supplied to the participants, CEMAS Liaison Officers and other contacts in the Region.

(ii) As a follow-up to the Regional Workshop on Field Education Development held at Pune (India) during February 1984, several countries, such as, Bangladesh, Indonesia, the Philippines and Malaysia have decided to organise national workshops on CEMAS-FED Approach and Material. Member organisations in India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Thailand have shown interest in adopting CEMAS-FED Approach and its intensive use in local conditions.

8.16 Research and Consultancy

A study on cooperative member education in the Region has been undertaken. It is being supplemented by in-depth studies of selected countries having sizeable programmes of member relations and leadership development.

Consultancies and other assistance have been provided to the following organisations in the field of cooperative education and training:

- (a) St. Augustinian Sisters of the Philippines, Cooperative Education Centre, Philippines.
- (b) ICFTU Asian Regional Office, New Delhi.
- (c) NCUI, NCGT and NCCE, New Delhi.
- (d) IFFCO Institute of Marketing Development, Gurgaon, near New Delhi.
- (e) Project Topic, NCDC, New Delhi.
- (f) Department of Educational Technology, NCERT, New Delhi.
- (g) State Resource Centre (National Muslim University, New Delhi).

8.17 Project for Training of Cooperative Teachers in Sri Lanka

The project as such, was brought to a conclusion on the 30th of June 1984 after six years of operation with assistance from the SCC. The project was intended to improve the capabilities of the teachers in management training and to develop various skills particularly in the field of participatory teaching and adult learning.

The project has now been integrated with the normal functions of the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka and continues to perform useful services both to the Regional Education Centres and the Provincial Education Centres in the country.

During the course of the project valuable documentation has been produced by the project which have been made available to many of the training institutions in the region.

The experiences of the project are being brought out by the ICA ROEC in a booklet prepared by the then Project Director, Mr. W.U. Herath, entitled "The Teacher Training Project in Sri Lanka - An Experience on Cooperative Trainer Development". This will highlight the objectives of the project, the various experiences gathered and the problems encountered by the project in implementing the various activities undertaken by it and will serve to share the experiences of the project with other concerned.

8.18 Cooperative Consumer Education Project for Women, Sri Lanka

This project was integrated with the normal activities of the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka with effect from 1 January 1984 and came to a conclusion as a distinct project on the 30th June 1984. The activities of the project have now been integrated with the National Cooperative Council and are being continued through the National Women's Committee, the District Committees of the National Cooperative Council, the various member Multipurpose Cooperative Societies and the Department of Cooperative Development. Over 100 MPCs are now involved in this aspect of consumer education for women as a normal part of their on going activities and many of the activities are funded by the MPCs themselves.

In more recent times attempts have been made through the women's organisations at the branch level of the MPCs to focus more attention on consumer protection and the women's organisations are in the process of federation to provide them with the necessary strength for effective consumer protection action.

The experiences of the project are being brought out by ICA ROEC in a booklet prepared by the then Project Director, Mrs. Jayantha C. Bulmulle, with the intention of sharing the experiences of the project with others concerned.

8.19 Project for Enhancing Income Generating Activities among Cooperative Members Housewives Thailand

This project is on going and has upto now received assistance from the ICA's Cooperative Development Fund to provide necessary raw material for the members' housewives in their weaving activities and also to improve their skills in weaving and designing. The project itself now covers six agricultural cooperative areas and it is hoped that during the course of the period of project assistance through the Cooperative Development Fund meaningful steps will be taken to improve the living standards of the families of the members of the agricultural cooperatives and also to increase the awareness of the members housewives in respect of such areas of interest as nutrition, health, family welfare, cooperation, etc.

STUDIES

8.20 Study of Rural Consumer Distribution in Korea

The Specialist in Consumer Cooperation at ICA ROEC undertook a study of the distribution of consumer goods in Korea and Japan in May 1984. The study reports are under preparation and these will form a part of the the background papers at the proposed Regional seminar.

The National Agricultural Cooperative Federation of Korea has agreed to host a two week seminar on Rural Distribution through Cooperatives in Korea, in April 1985. ICA ROEC is negotiating with the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives of Japan to explore the possibility of arranging study visits by participants of the seminar to Japan for 4-5 days so that participants could get an opportunity to study the system in Japan on the spot.

8.21 Study of Women's Industrial Cooperative Societies in Bangalore (India)

A study of four Women's Industrial Cooperative Societies in Bangalore, Karnataka State, India, was undertaken from April 23rd to May 2nd 1984. These societies are working as ancilliary feeder units to one of the oldest public sector undertakings in India, namely, the Indian Telephone Industries Ltd., Bangalore.

The members of these societies are all women and include destitute women, physically handicapped persons and widows, wives, daughters and other dependents of the I.T.I. By providing them with an opportunity to earn supplementary incomes by working in these ancillaries, the I.T.I. has assisted the families to which the women belong to improve their standard of living.

Based on the experience of the first society, which was established in 1960, three other similar societies were started in 1965, 1973 and 1976 respectively.

Many Women's Industrial Societies face a lot of problems with regard to training in skills for the job required, availability of raw materials, insufficient working space, market outlets for their produce etc. The four Women's Industrial Societies in Bangalore face no problems of this type as the I.T.I. provides them all their requirements. There is a very cordial relationship between the members of the societies and the concerned staff of the I.T.I.

This study, upon finalisation, will be made available to Member Organisations and women cooperators in the Region. It is felt that examples of this kind can be usefully emulated elsewhere for the benefit of low-income groups - including women - elsewhere also.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND CONSULTANCIESTechnical Assistance

1. Project Proposal for Income Generating Activities of Women Members' of Multipurpose Cooperatives in Sri Lanka (of the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka)

The project is now awaiting donor identification.

2. Project Proposal for assistance for Dairy Development Scheme by Cooperative Milk Supply Society, PO Sonatala, Howrah (West Bengal), India

This is awaiting final clearance from the National Cooperative Union of India before taking up with the HO for locating suitable donor.

3. Project Proposal for Enhancing Women's Involvement and Contribution to Socio-Economic Development through Cooperatives - sponsored by ANGKASA in Malaysia

This has now been forwarded to ICA Headquarters and is awaiting identification of a suitable donor.

4. Project Proposal for Setting up Inland Water Fisheries in Sri Lanka

This is awaiting final clearance from the Ministry of Fisheries in Sri Lanka.

5. Several Project Proposals forwarded by the Cooperative Union of the Philippines (CUP) are at the stage of being processed and once the final documents are complete they will be forwarded to the Headquarters for locating suitable donors :

- (i) Three Year Training Programme for the Full Operationalization of Regional, City and Provincial Cooperative Unions;
- (ii) Cagayan North Integrated Agro-Fishery Cooperative Project;
- (iii) Nabunturan Integrated Development Programme Package for Farm Families in the Compostela Valley, Mindanao.

Consultancies1. Cooperative Rice Marketing in Thailand

A Study of Cooperative Rice Marketing in Thailand was conducted by the ICA ROEC. The report of the Study is under preparation.

2. Development of Consumer Cooperative Movement in Thailand

The Cooperative League of Thailand had approached the ICA ROEC, New Delhi, to assign an expert to assist them in their scheme for strengthening the Consumer Cooperative Movement in Thailand. Many of the existing consumer cooperative societies in Thailand have been losing business and the number of cooperative stores suffering losses have been gradually increasing. The government and cooperative leaders in the country were feeling much concerned about this trend in the movement and requested the ICA Regional Office for a consultancy mission.

The Specialist in Consumer Cooperation at the ICA ROEC carried out a consultancy mission from 11th January to 9th February 1984. During the mission he visited 20 consumers cooperative societies, covering main regions of the country and also conferred with officials of Cooperatives Promotion Department, cooperative leaders and employees of consumers cooperative stores.

The report of the consultancy mission was supplied to the Cooperative League of Thailand and the Cooperatives Promotion Department on 16th April 1984. The consultant has made number of recommendations for strengthening consumer cooperative movement in Thailand. These recommendations are aimed to achieve the following objectives :-

- (a) Enlarge and broad base membership of consumer cooperative societies and increase sales turnover substantially;
- (b) Improve managerial and operational efficiency in retail societies;
- (c) Strengthen the National Federation of Consumers Cooperatives and build it into a very strong wholesale service organisation which may effectively support the retail societies.

It is hoped that meaningful follow up action will be initiated to implement the recommendations of the Consultancy Mission. The ICA ROEC would be of assistance where possible.

3. Regional Warehouse for Consumer Cooperatives in Mindanao (Philippines)

The Cooperative Union of the Philippines requested the ICA ROEC, New Delhi, to explore the possibility of setting up of a Regional Warehouse for Consumer Cooperatives in Mindanao.

The Preliminary Investigation Study was carried out by the Specialist in Consumer Cooperation at the Regional Office from 23rd June to 8th July, 1984. During his visit, he made three field trips and visited 12 consumer cooperative stores in three out of four regions in Mindanao. He also conferred with cooperative leaders, government officials about the project. The pre-feasibility report was made available to the Cooperative Union of the Philippines in August 1984. It is hoped that this report will serve as a guide to cooperative leaders in Mindanao in arriving at a decision whether to set up a regional warehouse in Mindanao or not.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10 : PUBLICATIONS, PUBLIC RELATIONS
AND LIBRARY SECTION

PUBLICATIONS

10.1 The following publications were brought out during the period under review : (September 1983 to August 1984):

(i) Report of the Regional Meeting for Representatives
of National Cooperative Women's Committees

10.2 This is the report of the Regional Meeting of representatives of national cooperative women's committees held in Galle, Sri Lanka, in July 1982.

(ii) Programme for Effective N.C.O. Action -
Report of the Regional Seminar

10.3 The publication consists of the report of the seminar held on the subject along with a selected working papers presented at the seminar.

(iii) Manpower Management and Cooperative
Development - Report

10.4 The publication comprises the report of the seminar held on the subject held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 27th March to 9th April, 1983.

(iv) Youth and Cooperatives - Report
of Regional Seminar

10.5 This is the report of the seminar jointly held by the ICA ROEC and the Commonwealth Youth Programme of the Asia Pacific Centre in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 22nd May to 2nd June 1983.

(v) Integrated Cooperative Activities
for Agricultural Development

10.6 This is the report of the Regional Seminar held in Japan and the Republic of Korea from 24th July to 12th August 1983.

(vi) Amalgamation of Primary Cooperatives - The
Japanese Experience by L. Gunawardana

10.7 This is a reprint of the earlier edition brought out in 1973.

(vii) Report on Activities - 1983

10.8 A report on the activities carried out by the ICA ROEC during 1983 was brought out in printed form. It also includes information on the activities scheduled for the period January to June 1984 and also proposed to be held from July 1984 to June 1985. The recent changes, trends and developments of cooperative movements in the region as reported by the Councillors at the last Regional Council meeting held in Japan is also included in the report.

PUBLICATIONS CURRENTLY IN THE PROCESS OF PRODUCTION

10.9 The following publications are in different stages of production and will be brought out during the current financial year i.e. July 1984 to June 1985:

1. Curriculum Development for Adult Learning by W.U. Herath
2. Field Experience for Cooperative Trainers by W.U. Herath

10.10 The two papers were presented by Mr. Herath, former Director of the Teachers Training Project in Sri Lanka to the ICA Course for Principals and the SEASPECT meeting held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in March 1984.

3. Enhancing Cooperative Capability - Report of the Top Level Cooperative Leaders Conference and Papers

10.11 The publication consists of the report of the Top Level Cooperative Leaders Conference and the Working Papers presented at the Conference held on the theme "Enhancing Cooperative Capability" jointly held by the ICA ROEC and the AARRO in collaboration with the CUAC and the IDACA.

4. Manual on Study Circle Methods by Dharm Vir

10.12 The above manual, produced earlier in February 1975 has been revised and the revised edition will be brought out for the ICA CEMAS Unit of the ICA ROEC during the current year.

5. Readings in Agricultural Cooperative Marketing

10.13 The publication consist of two parts. The first part consist of country papers dealing evolution of cooperative marketing in the country, cooperative marketing structure, nature and functions of marketing societies etc. The second part consist of papers on different aspects of cooperative marketing.

6. Indian Cooperative Laws and Rules vis-a-vis Cooperative Principles by P.E. Weeraman

10.14 Our earlier publication on "Indian Cooperative Laws vis-a-vis Cooperative Principles" has been sold out. There is still a demand for the publication. The earlier editions dealt with only the cooperative societies acts of Indian states. This edition treats their cooperative societies rules as well.

7. The Teacher Training Project in Sri Lanka - An Experience in Cooperative Trainer Development by Mr. W.U. Herath, the then Director of the Project

10.15 This booklet is intended to share the experiences gathered through the above project.

8. The Women's Consumer Education Project in Sri Lanka - An Experience in Enhancing Women's Involvement in Cooperatives, by Mrs. Jayantha C.T. Bulumulle, the then Director of the Project.

10.16 This booklet is intended to share the experiences gathered through the above project.

PUBLICITY

10.17 The ICA Regional Bulletin was issued quarterly. The feature "spotlight" was continued giving details of the following success stories:

- i. Kerala Dinesh beedi Workers Cooperative - October 1983 issue.
- ii. Deedar Cooperative Society, Comilla, Bangladesh January 1984 issue.
- iii. Krishak Bharati Cooperative Ltd. April 1984, issue.
- iv. Mudialy Fishermen's Cooperative Ltd., July 1984 issue.

FOCUS

10.18 From the January 1984 issue the Bulletin carries a new feature entitled "FOCUS" which gives information regarding significant cooperative developmental activities in the Region.

(a) Collection of Cooperative News

10.19 Collection of cooperative news from the region for use in the ICA Regional Bulletin was continued during the year under review. Members of the ICA Regional Working Party on Cooperative Press for South-East Asia continued to send cooperative news, features, success stories.

(b) Press Releases

10.20 The practice of issuing press releases after the conclusion of an ICA event was continued. The press releases were sent to cooperative journals in the region.

LIBRARY, DOCUMENTATION AND INFORMATION SERVICESLibrary

10.21 There are 15,775 volumes including bound periodicals on cooperatives and allied subjects and nearly 5,000 booklets in the library now. The library subscribes to many journals and also receives many on a complimentary basis. Altogether over 200 journals are received in the library. It acts as a clearing house of information on books and documentation on cooperatives and allied subjects. The library has been extensively used by the cooperators, cooperative organisations, students and scholars from Asia as well as from Africa and West.

Documentation Services

10.22 As in the past library continue to issue Documentation Bulletin for South-East Asia, the Annotated Bibliography of Literature on Cooperative Movement in South-East Asia and New Additions to ICA ROEC Library - A Cumulative list.

In addition to maintaining library and providing documentation services, library has been actively involved in the promotional and developmental activities of cooperative libraries, documentation and information services and systems in the Region of South-East Asia.

Supply and Exchange of Literature

10.23 The library undertakes the exchange of material with other libraries. It supplies on request free mimeographed material on cooperative subjects. It also acts as a clearing house of cooperative literature especially in English language publications published by the member movements.

Liaison and Promotional ActivitiesLiaison Work

10.24 The Librarian and Documentation Officer is an active member of the International Working Party of Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers. He has been assisting the Working Party in the implementation of the decisions taken in the Working Party meetings, particularly of those having a bearing on South-East Asia. Besides these, he has been contributing articles, lists of articles, reports, news reports, etc., to the Working Party's newsletter "LIBRADOCC and International Archive News". He has been helping the International Working Party in bibliographical and other technical matters. Special attention has been given in the expansion of the membership of the Working Party in the Region of South-East Asia.

Promotional Work

10.25 During the reporting period, Librarian and Documentation Officer provided consultative services to National Council for Cooperative Training (NCCT) in conducting a follow-up Workshop for Librarians of Cooperative Training Colleges, VMN ICM and NCCT, held at Pune (India), 4th to 15th June 1984.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11

DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE
SUB-COMMITTEES OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL
- AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES, CONSUMER,
CREDIT, INDUSTRIAL COOPERATIVES

11.1 A resume of the decisions taken by the Sub-Committees of the Regional Council will be placed before the Council by the respective Secretaries at the time of the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12

PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES OF ICA ROEC
JULY 1985 - JUNE 1986

12.1 For Programme of Activities of ICA ROEC for the period July 1985 to June 1986, please see annex to the Agenda.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 13 : IDACA ACTIVITIES

The Outline of the Activities of IDACA

1. Training Programmes from Jan. 1983 to May 1984

1) General Course in Agricultural Cooperatives under the Colombo Plan

13.1 This is the oldest and a traditional course which IDACA has been conducting since the founding of the institute. It has been held every year without any interruption as a part of the government technical cooperation programmes.

13.2 IDACA has been entrusted with implementation of the course which should otherwise be conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

13.3 This is the only training course at IDACA organized on the government to government basis in which participants will be exposed to the Japanese experiences in the general aspects on the agricultural cooperative movement of Japan.

13.4 In compliance to the requests for extension of the course period which had been eagerly made by former participants it was decided that it's duration be extended to two months from this year, thereby fulfilling expectations of participants for substantial and complete study.

13.5 As for the expenses necessary for implementation of the course, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is to meet the costs of airfare, board and lodging, daily allowances and miscellaneous other expenses.

13.6 The following are the period of the course, the number of participants attended : etc.

period : May 19 - July 11, 1983
 No. of persons who attended: 22 (mainly government officers in charge of cooperatives)
 Countries that participated: 18
 Place of study visit: Takanashi and Senya primary agricultural cooperative societies in Akita prefecture.
 Menuma-machi and Moroyamacho primary agricultural cooperative societies in Saitama prefecture.

2) ICA/CUAC/IDACA Regional Seminar

13.7 In line with the agreement between ICA and CUAC/IDACA, the Institute has conducted the seminar once a year, accepting, in principle, 25 participants in the region of South-East Asia.

13.8 The theme of the seminar in 1983 was on "Role of Multi-purpose Agricultural Cooperative Activities for Agricultural Development".

13.9 The following are the period of the course, the number of participants attended and etc.

Period: July 24 - August 1, 1983
 No. of persons who attended: 14 cooperative leaders and 2 ICA ROEC secretariats
 Countries that participated: 7
 Place of study visit: Murayama City primary agricultural cooperative society.

3) Training Course for Thais on Agricultural Development Project

13.10 At the request of ACFT of Thailand, the course has been organized under joint auspices of Zen-noh, UNICOOPJAPAN and CUAC.

13.11 The course was designed mainly for officials and employees of the agricultural cooperatives in the areas where Japan-Thai joint agricultural cooperatives promotion project was under way in order to provide them with practical knowledge and experiences on the organization, business activities and management of the multi-purpose agricultural cooperatives in Japan.

Period: August 21 - Sept. 20, 1983
 No. of persons who attended: 3
 Country that participated: Thailand
 Place of study visit: Azumi and Seba primary agricultural cooperative societies.

4) Training Course for the Cooperators from Selected Countries

13.12 On the basis of discussions held between the CUAC/IDACA and the agricultural cooperative organizations of the developing countries which are members of the ICA ROEC, CUAC/IDACA invites two countries to this country through member organizations of ICA regional council in the developing countries for training concerning the activities of agricultural cooperatives in Japan.

13.13 The course was conducted with the financial assistances from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

13.14 As for expenses necessary for implementations of the course, IDACA meet the costs of airfares, board and lodging and daily allowance during the period of the course.

13.15 The countries to which invitations were extended were Malaysia and Indonesia.

Period: August 22 - Sept. 21, 1983
 No. of persons who attended: 13 (Malaysia 8
 Indonesia 5)
 Countries that participated: 2
 Place of study visit: Azumi and Seba primary agricultural cooperative societies.

5) Training Programme for National Agricultural Cooperative Federation of Korea (NACF)

13.16 This is one of the memorandum training based on the agreement memorandum between NACF and CUAC. The course was tailored for middle level employees of NACF to upgrade and enrich knowledge and experiences by studying the theories and practical implementation of the Japanese agricultural cooperative movement.

13.17 NACF met the costs of direct expenses related to the training such as board & lodging and travel expenses during study visit for participants, while incidental expenses such as lecturers' allowances, miscellaneous expenses of Japanese attendants during the seminar were borne by Japanese organization.

Period: April 10-23, 1984
 No. of persons who attended: 6 employees of NACF middle level cadre
 Country that participated: Rep. of Korea
 Place of study visit: Shimozuma-shi and Ibaragi-yachiyo primary agricultural cooperative societies in Ibaragi prefecture

6) Training Course for Cooperativa Agricola de Cotia Cooperativa Central (CACCC) in Brazil

13.18 This is one of the training courses which takes place yearly on the basis of the agreement memorandum between CACCC and CUAC. The course was designed for officials, employees and councillors of CACCC.

13.19 International Airfares were borne by CACCC, while all the other expenses during the training in Japan were met by CUAC and the course was conducted in Japanese language.

Period: April 1-30, 1984
 No. of persons who attended: 5
 Country that participated: Brazil
 Place of study visit: Geihokucho and Asacho primary agricultural coop societies in Hiroshima prefecture.

7) Follow-up and Re-union
Programme of IDACA

13.20 The 7th Reunion took place in Thailand for two weeks from Feb. 6 to 19, 1984. The reunion was sponsored jointly by Agricultural Cooperative Federation of Thailand, Cooperative League of Thailand, Cooperative Promotion Department of Thailand and CUAC/IDACA in collaboration with ICA ROEC.

13.21 The meeting was held in Bangkok and attended by 80 ex-participants.

The objectives of the reunion were as follows:

- (1) To evaluate and grasp whether the courses/ seminars at IDACA have been relevant to their needs or not by hearing from the former participants, thereby making the future programmes of the IDACA training further improved.
- (2) To know how the experiences gained from Japanese movement have been utilized in the country.
- (3) To identify the problems they are faced with in promoting the cooperative movement and to exchange views for the solution of the problems.
- (4) To see how and under what circumstances they are engaged in their works by visiting their working places.
- (5) To get them acquainted with the latest development in the agricultural cooperative movement in Japan.
- (6) Last but not least, to refresh the friendship and mutual understandings between Japan and respective countries in the field of agricultural cooperative movement.

13.22 As a feature of the reunion held this time, besides regular delegates sent consisting of IDACA and CUAC members, Mr. H. Togawa, former IDACA standing director who was stationed in Thailand as project expert participated in the team, thus making the union richer in contents.

Some Other Noteworthy Information

20th Anniversary of IDACA's Founding held and History of Twenty Years of IDACA Compiled

13.23 In commemoration of the 20th anniversary of IDACA's founding, the institute held a ceremonial events at a Hotel in Tokyo in which many guests concerned took part last year.

13.24 Also at the same time, IDACA compiled a "History of Twenty Years" as one of the commemoration undertakings of the anniversary. It contains messages received from all quarters and describes IDACA's various activities and the epitome of yearly programme since its foundation. It has a separate volume supplement of the list of participants.

Publication of IDACA News

13.25 IDACA News is published twice a year in order to keep closer contact with ex-participants, alumni association and related agencies in the overseas countries.

13.26 The news is circulated directly to about 2,000 people who participated in the training at IDACA.

IDACA News No. 35, No. 36 were published.

2. Training Programmes from June 1984 to May 1985

1) General Course in Agricultural Cooperatives under the Colombo Plan

13.27 Together with ICA/CUAC/IDACA Regional Seminar and Voluntary Training Courses such as Training Course for cooperators from selected countries and IDACA's Special Training Course,

IDACA originally conceived this course as the core of IDACA training programmes and the most fitting of all IDACA training programmes among the government's group training programmes which were worked out as part of the government's technical cooperation with developing countries. This was discussed between CUAC and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

13.28 In this way, this course was given a definite status and came to be held regularly every year.

13.29 Since this is one of the basic training courses held at IDACA, the course aims at providing participants with an opportunity to learn Japanese experiences in the making of multi-purpose agricultural cooperative movement. Therefore, this course is not intended chiefly to upgrade participants technical skills or expertise, but rather to provide them with a general perspective on how Japanese agricultural cooperative movement as a whole is operated through offering lectures and study visits to the local primary societies.

13.30 As for the expenses necessary for implementation of the course, JICA met the costs of airfare, board and lodging, daily allowances and miscellaneous other expenses.

Period:	May 21 - July 8
No. of persons who attended:	21 (mainly middle level government officers in charge of cooperatives)
Participating countries:	17 Bangladesh (2), Brazil (2), Burma(1), Egypt (2), Fiji (1), India (2), Indonesia (1), Rep. of Korea (1), Nepal (1), Panama (1), Paraguay (1), Peru (1), Saint Lucia (1), Sri Lanka (1), Sudan (1), Tanzania(1), Thailand (1).

Place of study visit: Munakata and Kurume primary agricultural cooperative societies in Fukuoka prefecture.

Sanbu and Kisarazu-city primary agricultural cooperative societies in Chiba prefecture.

Note : In addition to the participants mentioned above, two other persons participated in the training course as individual training from Indonesia and Thailand on the JICA's individual training programme.

2) ICA/CUAC/IDACA Regional Seminar

13.31 This seminar is one of the traditional seminars courses at IDACA together with the aforementioned Colombo Plan Training Course. The institute has been carrying out the training since 1965, with a view to stepping up its ties with ICA ROEC.

13.32 Participants are selected from among member cooperatives of ICA ROEC in South-East Asian regions and lasts for three weeks and the theme in 1984 is on "Increasing production and productivity of agriculture and livestock industries through cooperatives and rationalization of distribution process". Participants will learn how a small unamalgamated multi-purpose agricultural cooperative has become a full-fledged one and acquired large processing facilities and relatively high business turnover.

Period:	Sept. 19 - Oct. 8, 1984
No. of persons attending:	25 (tentative) 2 ICA ROEC secretariats & 1 foreign resource person.
Participating countries:	Not yet decided
Place of study visit:	Kannamitobu primary agricultural cooperative society in Shizuoka prefecture.

3) Training Course for Thais on the Agricultural Development Project

13.33 At first this course was given as orientation as a training course for officials and employees of Thai agricultural cooperatives to enable them to help develop agricultural cooperative organizations in their country and it was brought to the fore as a bilateral agricultural cooperative activity to be carried out under the Japan-Thai Maize Agreement. And

IDACA was commissioned by then National Purchasing Federation of Agricultural Cooperative Associations (present Zennoh) to handle the project training course.

13.34 Later on, however, with the inauguration of the JICA in assisting project training course as an undertaking commissioned by JICA.

13.35 This course focuses on the training of people to assist in the greater development of agricultural cooperatives. Because of this, the participants are confined to rural leaders working at grass-root levels. This course is just as CACCC in Brazil course unique in that the lectures are given in their mother tongue, Thai. JICA will bear costs of airfares board and lodging, daily allowances and miscellaneous other expenses. It will be the final year of the course.

Period :	October 17 - Nov. 16, 1984
No. of persons attending:	3
Participating country:	Thailand
Place of study visit:	Fukumitsu Chuo and Nyuzen-cho primary agricultural cooperative societies in Toyama prefecture.

4) Training Course for the Cooperators from Selected Countries

13.36 It was in 1975 that the first course was started with financial assistances from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries for the implementation of the course.

13.37 Thanks to the ministry's support, CUAC/IDACA could begin to provide a training course in the name of "cooperation project for overseas agricultural cooperatives", with the number of countries from which to accept participants annually confined to two, which belong to member organizations of ICA. The countries which have sent participants to IDACA so far amount to eight.

13.38 The duration of the course lasts for one month. This course is designed mainly for providing participants with an opportunity to study Japanese experiences on the overall activities, the business and management undertaken by agricultural cooperatives in Japan, thereby making experiences learned from Japanese movement fully utilize for the development of agricultural cooperative movement in the respective countries.

Period:	October 17 - November 16, 1984
No. of persons attending:	13 (Malaysia 8 Indonesia 5)
Participating countries:	2
Place of study visit:	Fukumitsu Chuo and Nyuzen-cho primary agricultural cooperative societies in Toyama prefecture

5) 12th RECA Seminar

13.39 On the basis of the agreement between the Afro-Asian Rural Reconstruction Organization (AARRO) and CUAC, the RECA Seminar has been held twice in every three years since 1968 with the participation of government leaders of AARRO member countries under the theme of "The role played by agricultural cooperatives in the development of Japanese agriculture". This year the main theme of the 12th RECA Seminar is "Long term planning by Cooperatives".

Upto 1981, the RECA seminar has been held 11 times with the participation of a total of 162 persons.

13.40 From this year, the duration of the seminar will be extended to three weeks from the conventional two weeks with a view to making the seminar more substantial and complete.

Period:	Nov. 20 - Dec. 10, 1984
No. of persons attending:	20
Participating countries:	Not decided yet.

Place of study visit: Mikkabi-cho primary agricultural Cooperative society in Shizuoka prefecture.

Minamihata primary agricultural cooperative society in Saga prefecture.

6) Training Course for Cooperativa Agricola de Cotia Cooperativa Central (CACCC) in Brazil

13.41 According to an agreement between CUAC and CACCC, a training programme is planned to be held in April 1985 for the duration of 30 days at IDACA with a view to having them acquire knowledge and an idea about Japanese experiences in the making of multi-purpose agricultural cooperative movement with a special reference to organisational and business operational aspects.

13.42 The course is designed for councillors of CACCC, officials and employees of CACCC. The number of participants is five.

13.43 CACCC is to bear international airfare, while CUAC will cover various other expenses such as board and lodging, domestic transportation and other incidental expenses during their stay.

Period : April 1 - April 30, 1985

No. of persons attending: 5

Participating country: Brazil

Place of study visit: Not decided yet.

7) Training Programme for NACF

13.44 - This is a memorandum training based on agreement between NACF and CUAC.

13.45 This short course, mainly tailored for middle level employees of the Korean organisation provides them with an opportunity to enrich their knowledge by exposing them to

Japanese experiences in the actual workings of the agricultural cooperative movement. The duration of the programme is scheduled to last for about two weeks.

13.46 As for expenses for implementation of the programme, NACF is to meet the costs of direct expenses related to the training such as board & lodging and travel expenses during study visit, while miscellaneous other expenses are to be borne by Japanese organisation.

Period:	March or April 1985
No. of persons attending:	not decided yet
Participating country:	Rep. of Korea
Place of study visit:	not decided yet

Plan for Follow-up and Reunion
Programme of IDACA in Fiscal 1984

13.47 The eighth Follow-up and Re-union is scheduled to be held in Pakistan for a period of two weeks as usual sometime in the earlier part of 1985.

13.48 People from CUAC and IDACA in collaboration with the ICA ROEC will be despatched to the country to serve the purpose of the reunion about whose objectives are mentioned before.

Some other noteworthy information

Publication of IDACA News

13.49 IDACA News is published twice a year in order to maintain closer contact with ex-participants, alumni association and related agencies in the overseas countries.

13.50 IDACA News No. 37, No. 38 will be published this fiscal year.

Publication of Kokkyo O Koete (Beyond the border)

13.51 From this year Japanese version of IDACA News was published for the purpose of making all the agricultural cooperative organisations understand what sort of international activities CUAC/IDACA are carrying on. The above news bulletin is divided into two parts containing 8 pages.

13.52 The news carries various activities done by CUAC, an article on the introduction of agricultural cooperative movement of member countries in the region, IDACA training activities and the trend in an overseas on-going project etc.

13.53 This will be circulated to primary societies visited and other organisations concerned as quarterly news letter.

Production of a film on "Hiratsuka primary agricultural cooperative society"

13.54 The film, originally made in Japanese language by the Hiratsuka primary agricultural cooperative society, was produced in English version with some modifications to get participants familiarized with the activities undertaken by the society.

13.55 Unlike the conventional films, depicting agricultural cooperative organization in a general way, the film focuses upon in a more detailed manner the activities of various commodity-wise groups which are considered to be one of the factors contributing to the development of agricultural cooperative movement in Japan.

The film lasts for 40 minutes and is 16mm.

Instalment of audio-visual aids equipments

13.56 In order to enable participants to better grasp the activities of visiting agricultural cooperatives during field trip, video cassette device was installed.

13.57 It is now envisaged that its introduction will give both participants and instructors better effects in enhancing comprehension.

A class on learning Japanese language started

13.58 In response to eager requests on holding of Japanese language course from the former participants, it was decided to establish it as a new curriculum in the General Course in Agricultural Cooperatives under Colombo Plan from this year after lecture of the day is over.

13.59 Despite the fact that it was rather intensive oriented, it proved to be rather popular among many a participant. It is hence planned that the same course be also held next year.

13.60 However, in view of the fact that it appeared to be a overload to some of the participants, it's duration will be shortened so as to let participants devote themselves sufficiently to sparing time on reading materials distributed in the regular lectures on agricultural cooperative movement.

Training Programme from June 1985 to July 1986

1) General Course in Agricultural Cooperatives under the Colombo Plan (Tentative)

13.61 The detail about the course for 1985 is now under negotiation with the Ministry concerned and JICA. However, the course is scheduled to take place for two months, starting from May 9 to July 8, 1985 including orientation period at JICA which precedes the training at IDACA for about 10 days.

13.62 The course will be attended by some 20 participants from various developing countries of the world.

13.63 The government or member organization in the region desiring to nominate a prospective participant is advised to direct all inquiries for information and then forward nomination papers to the Japanese government through the Japanese embassy.

Period:	May 9 - July 8, 1985 (including stay at JICA's accommodation facility)
No. of persons attending:	20
Participating countries:	18 (the number based on the figure submitted to Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries according to quota)

Place of study visit: not decided yet.

2) 13th RECA seminar (Tentative)

13.64 The seminar has been implemented on the basis of the agreement between the Afro-Asian Rural Reconstruction Organization (AARRO) and CUAC.

13.65 The seminar, designed for senior government officers of AARRO member countries, aims at helping participants assist in the formulation of agricultural development policy by exposing them to Japanese experience on the agricultural development through agricultural cooperatives.

The duration of the seminar would be about three weeks.

13.66 According to the plan of IDACA activity in fiscal 1985, the seminar is not planned to be implemented, however, it has not been confirmed as yet whether it will be organised or not. It is under negotiation with AARRO.

Period :	not decided yet
No. of persons attending:	20
Participating countries:	not decided yet

Place of study visit: not decided yet.

3) ICA/CUAC/IDACA Regional Seminar (Tentative)

13.67 The seminar will be held in collaboration with ICA ROEC and CUAC/IDACA. The procedure for applying the seminar is that member organisation in the region desiring to nominate a prospective candidate is required to direct all inquires to and consult with ICA ROEC. Final screening of candidates is to be made between the said organisation and ICA ROEC in consultation with CUAC/IDACA.

13.68 The theme for the seminar is decided every year by consultations among the sponsoring organisations and is confirmed at ICA Regional Council Meeting.

13.69 The seminar takes the form of an international meeting with the secretary in charge sent to attend it from the ICA ROEC.

13.70 Its theme and duration is to be discussed with ICA ROEC during the coming ICA Regional Council Meeting in November 1984.

Period: will be discussed during ICA Regional Council Meeting.

No. of persons attending:

Participating countries: not decided yet

Place of study visit: not decided yet

4) Training Course for Thais on the Agricultural Cooperative Promotion Project (Tentative)

13.71 With the former Thai maize project course ended in 1984, a new course mentioned above was decided to be established.

13.72 This course forms a part of the agricultural cooperatives promotion project which was started in 1984 as a 5 year activity with technical cooperation from Japanese agricultural cooperatives with a view to bringing up 5 model cooperatives in Thailand after 4 years of research and preparatory activities.

13.73 The course is designed for Thai counterparts as well as leaders at grass root level being involved in the project to provide them with an opportunity to learn experiences of Japanese multi-purpose agricultural cooperative movement with a special emphasis on the training of farm guidance.

13.74 For detail about the course, it is under negotiation with Ministry concerned and JICA.

Period:	not decided yet
No. of persons attending:	not decided yet
Participating country:	not decided yet
Place of study visit:	not decided yet

5) Training Course for the Cooperators from Selected Countries (Tentative)

13.75 On the basis of discussions held between the CUAC/IDACA and the agricultural cooperative organisations of the developing countries to Japan through member organisations of ICA regional council in the developing countries for the training concerning the activities of agricultural cooperatives in Japan.

13.76 The course has been hitherto undertaken for 3 consecutive years for each country, but from this year it will be changed into two years with some modifications in the implementation of training programme.

13.77 The course is designed mainly for cooperative leaders at both the national and local level to provide participants with an opportunity of learning Japanese experiences on the organisation business and management of the multi-purpose agricultural cooperative movement, thereby making experiences gained fully utilize for the development of agricultural cooperative movement in the respective countries.

13.78 The duration of the course is one month and the countries for which invitation is to be sent will be Philippines and India.

Period:	not decided yet
No. of persons attending:	not decided yet
Participating countries:	(Philippines India) 13
Place of study visit:	not decided yet

6) Training Course for Cooperativa Agricola de Cotia Cooperativa Central (CACCC) in Brazil (Tentative)

13.79 This is one of the training courses which takes place yearly on the basis of the agreement memorandum between CACCC and CUAC.

13.80 The course is designed for officials, employees and councillors of CACCC for the duration of the month to give them an insight about Japanese agricultural cooperative movement.

Period:	not decided yet
No. of persons attending:	5
Participating country:	Brazil
Place of study visit:	not decided yet

7) Plan for Follow-up and Reunion
Programme of IDACA

13.81 The ninth follow-up and reunion will be held for the period of two weeks from the end of January to the early part of February 1986.

13.82 A team of delegates consisting of four persons from CUAC and IDACA will be despatched to Sri Lanka to serve the purpose of the reunion.

Other Information

Publication of IDACA News

13.83 IDACA News No. 39, No. 40 will be published in order to maintain closer contact with ex-participants, alumni associations and related agencies in the overseas countries.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 14RELATIONS WITH MEMBER ORGANISATIONS
IN THE REGION

14.1 The ROEC continued to maintain close liaison with member organisations in the Region through correspondence, personal visits, etc.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 15RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL
ORGANISATIONS

15.1 Cordial and fruitful relations continued to exist between the ICA ROEC, the UN Specialised Agencies as well as the non-government international organisations functioning in the Region. More specifically, the following instances of collaboration may be mentioned:-

FAO - The Mercantile Cooperative Finance Corporation, Pakistan, represented the ICA ROEC at the 17th FAO Regional Conference for Asia and Pacific held at Islamabad from 24th April to 3rd May, 1984.

UNESCO - The Education Officer (W&Y) participated in the UNESCO meeting of Experts to consider ways and means of taking the workers' interests into consideration when formulating and implementing adult education policies, held in Paris, France, from 25th to 29th April, 1983.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 16LONG RANGE POLICIES, PROGRAMMES
AND ACTIVITIES

1. Expenses for Councillors attending Regional Council Meetings

The Regional Councillor for Australia will raise this issue for discussion.

2. Various suggestions have been made in regard to the Reconstitution of the Regional Council and the RC Meeting which are listed below:-

- (i) the Regional Council should consist of delegates from all member organisations within the Region;
- (ii) the life time of the Regional Council Chairman should be from Congress to Congress;

- (iii) if there are to be only two members in the Council from each country, then a better system of representation should be worked out;
- (iv) it would be useful to invite government functionaries like Registrars/Director-Generals also to attend meetings with the Councillors.

The Regional Councillors may like to discuss the above and decide on these issues.

3. The South-East Asia Specialists Group on Cooperative Training (SEASPECT) has proposed that they be considered the Education Sub-Committee of the Council. The Regional Councillors would like to make a decision in this regard.

4. Over the last several RC Meetings mention was made of the advantages of each cooperative system drawing up its own perspective plan over at least a five year period to facilitate identification of needs and for easier programming of technical assistance. Perhaps the Councillors would like to review progress in this regard.

5. Another matter that has been raised with a view to establishing closer contact and collaboration has been the aspect of setting up Joint Committees of ICA Members where a country has more than one member in the ICA. Perhaps the Councillors would like to review the position.

6. The ICA ROEC Documentation and Information Centre - A proposal

We have been providing clearing house service in a limited way to our member organisations and others. But it is being done on an adhoc and selective basis. Now it is being felt that the rich cooperative information resources available in ICA ROEC library may be made available intensively and extensively to member organisations in particular and to other cooperative movements in general. It is envisaged that the present library documentation services may be geared to function as documentation and information centre for South-East Asia in particular and to the others in general. The proposal is being studied in ICA ROEC for its possible implementation.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 17

ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION
OF THE CHAIR

AGENDA ITEM NO. 18

VENUE AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

18.1 The alternate Member for India invited the ICA ROEC to hold its Council Meeting in India in 1985 to coincide with the 25th Anniversary of the ICA ROEC. The Councillor for India will confirm the invitation.

18.2 The Member for Australia has already extended an invitation to ICA ROEC to hold its 1986 Meeting in Australia.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 19

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR

pk/aa

757/9/84

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE
Regional Office & Education Centre
for South-East Asia,
43 Friends Colony, New Delhi-65

14th August, 1984

PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES OF ICA ROEC, NEW DELHI
FOR THE PERIOD 1ST JULY 1985 TO 30TH JUNE 1986

Note : The Programme is presented in two parts - Part I gives some detail about our perceptions of a Regional Programme for continued development effort spread over a number of years and the strategies proposed to provide a package of services which will help strengthen cooperative performance.

Part II gives the Programme proposed for the financial year 1985-86.

Part I

01.01 In designing our approaches to support development effort on the basis of long term perceptions, we have been guided by the needs within the Region which have been identified or expressed at various Regional and National Activities and also in discussions with the staff of the ROEC. We have also kept in focus the provisions of ICA's Policy Document, the Priority areas for Technical Support identified by the Swedish Cooperative Centre, the observations and recommendations made at the Donors Meeting in Oslo in early 1984 and also the recommendations of the Saxena Evaluation Committee.

01.02 The principal areas of focus in the overall strategy are:-

1. Policy Making and National Cooperative Levels;
2. Increasing Production, Productivity, Processing and Marketing, in the Agricultural Sector with a special focus on the Poor;
3. Development of Consumer Cooperatives with focus on Strengthening of Structure and Improvement of Operational and Managerial Efficiencies;
4. Enhancing Women's Involvement in Cooperatives;
5. Member Education and Staff Training;
6. Publicity and Public Relations.

01.03 What has been done and plans for the future - these are plans and activities that would have to be carried out over several years:

p.t.o.

01.03.01 Policy Making and National Cooperative Level Approaches:

Over the many decades of cooperative growth in the past, what has become increasingly evident is that, in spite of growth in numbers and the area of coverage by cooperatives, the initiative for cooperative development lies mostly with government, and cooperatives are at best implementors of government plans, often suffering losses and dislocation when the governments change or the government plans change. Several Regional Activities held in the recent past with a focus on Strengthening National Cooperative Organisations (NCO) Effectiveness and on Top Level Cooperative Leaders has shown that there is a great need for sustained activity in this area to strengthen the cooperative structures, to influence government policies and plans on cooperatives; to work towards the reduction of government control and management of cooperatives, to strengthen the cooperative character of the cooperatives and to make them member owned and member controlled and responsive to member needs.

The following activities are envisaged in this sector:

- (i) At Regional and Sub-Regional Levels - several technical meetings/Experts' Consultations/Orientation Workshops for functionaries both of government and of the National level cooperatives.

Joint Meetings of Regional Councillors and government top level functionaries at least once every three years to assess situations and to map out strategies.

- (ii) At the National level :

- Support the NCOO by way of consultancies, technical assistance etc.,
- Strengthening NCO staff capacity for better performance,
- Assist NCOO in developing better member relations programmes,
- Help NCO to conduct reorientation courses for government and cooperative functionaries,
- Work towards the establishment of a continuing forum for better dialogue and communication with government,
- Work towards a clear definition of government policy vis-a-vis cooperatives to enable the cooperatives to play their role in the development effort.

01.03.02 Increasing Production, Productivity, Processing and Marketing in the Agricultural Sector with a special focus on the Poor

Many a country in the region has gone through a process of amalgamation to increase the size of chiefly the agricultural cooperatives,

and some amalgamation has been done in the fishery sector too. Many a cooperative which, in following government plans and programmes, were concentrating mostly on credit, supply of inputs, procurement under government schemes, and occasional processing, have now realised that there is much more to be done both to increase production and productivity and also to improve the life style of the member. Further in many situations, it is being realised that a large percentage of the small and marginal farmer and the landless labourer has not benefited through cooperative action and that there is much to be done in this regard. This was amply demonstrated by the experiences of the Action-oriented Research Study on Small Farmers undertaken by the ICA/RTI/Netherlands Government.

The principal areas in which a need exists for continuing support are :

- Strengthening the organisational structure both at the primary level and in its federal structures,
- Improving managerial skills
- Widening the services rendered to the member to include also processing, marketing, farm guidance, better living guidance etc.
- Enhancing the involvement of women and youth - working out special programmes for them,
- Developing special programmes and projects to support the small and marginal farmer,
- Assisting the agricultural cooperatives to render a multiplicity of services needed by its membership, so that it becomes the focal point of economic activity for the farmer.

The following activities are envisaged in this sector:

- (i) At Regional and Sub-Regional level - Seminars, Experts Consultations, Technical Meetings to discuss matters relating to such areas of need e.g. Fish Farming, Dairy Development, Developing Micro level projects for the small and marginal farmer.
- (ii) National Level support for developing more dynamic programmes in this sector - also in supporting micro level projects for improving living standards.
- (iii) Supporting national level efforts for enhancing the involvement of women and youth.

- (iv) Supporting national efforts to strengthen the structure of this sector so that there is a better relationship between the primaries and the federal institutions.
- (v) Support National effort to develop processing and marketing.

01.03.03 Development of Consumer Cooperatives

Consumer Cooperatives were set up in many countries in the Region to service a government policy of making available scarce commodities on an equitable basis, mostly in times of emergencies. Often when the Policy changed, or the emergency no longer existed, many a cooperative has been wound up. But yet the need to develop strong and viable consumer cooperatives was recognised by many movements. The 1973 Open Asian Conference on Consumer Cooperation convened by the ICA ROEC helped in identifying the problems faced by the consumer, such as inflation and the rising cost of essential commodities, the shortage of goods (often artificially created), increasing adulteration and supply of sub-standard goods, misleading and aggressive advertising and such other ills which affected the consumer considerably. Hence arose the need for developing a clear strategy for assisting cooperative movements with the following main objectives:

- to help movements to develop strong and effective consumers cooperatives,
- to assist member movements in formulating and implementing appropriate consumer policy and programmes,
- to strengthen cooperatives role in the distribution of consumer goods in the rural areas,
- to emphasize the need for members active participation, particularly the housewives of members, in the working of consumer cooperatives.

Over the past several years, the ICA ROEC has supported programmes in the Region to improve managerial and operational efficiencies of retail cooperatives, to assist movements to set up cooperative supermarkets in the urban sector, to assist cooperatives to modernise their outlook, improve display and develop better buying and better inventory control, and in more recent times attempts have been made to improve the supply line by introducing the movements to concepts on centralised warehousing at various levels.

Activities envisaged for the future in this sector
are :

- (i) At Regional and Sub-Regional level :
Conferences of Cooperative Leaders, technical meetings and seminars to draw up Macro programmes.
- (ii) At National level :
 - Consultancies and technical assistance in specialised areas, depending on each country's needs.
 - Programmes to improve retail business performance.
 - Programmes aimed at improving Board/Manager Relationships.
 - Programmes aimed at improving consumer education and consumer protection.
 - Improving linkages between the primaries and the federal structures and improving the services of the federal structures.
 - To work towards joint buying, quality control, warehousing and better supply to retail cooperatives.
 - To encourage setting up of Supermarkets and Mini Markets, where appropriate.
 - To evolve an ongoing and dynamic consumer policy in each country and use the forum of the Regional Council and other fora to share experiences in this regard.

01.03.04 Enhancing Women's Involvement in Cooperatives :

This is an area which has been receiving special attention since the Regional Conference held by the ICA in 1975 on "The Role of Women in Cooperative Development". Several Regional and National Seminars focussing on women, their role in cooperatives especially with reference to better living, consumer information and protection and leadership development have been held and action has been initiated in many countries to set up National Women's Committees in the first instance and thereafter to work towards the development of a network of Women's Committees democratically constituted and elected from the level of the primary cooperative to the National Level.

Two projects in this field were initiated, one in Sri Lanka where the Project activities have been now integrated with the ongoing activities of the National Cooperative Council (NCC), and one in Thailand

which is being supported by the Cooperative Development Fund.

Much work remains to be done in the field of setting up and strengthening Women's Committees at all levels, in working out meaningful programmes as will improve women's awareness and increase their potential to play more meaningful and leadership roles in cooperatives, and in developing activities which will help women to generate additional income

The activities envisaged in this sector are:

- (i) At Regional and Sub-Regional Level -
Seminars, technical meetings, workshops to further the exchange of ideas and experiences; to create a better environment for greater involvement of women; to share the experiences of the Sri Lankan and Thai Projects.
- (ii) At National Level -
 - Develop suitable projects and programmes, as will help women to play more important roles in cooperatives.
 - Develop suitable income generating activities to help women to contribute more to family income and the development effort.
 - Initiate Discussions/Symposia at National level among both men and women to accelerate the pace of women's involvement in cooperatives.

01.03.05 Member Education and Staff Training :

All efforts in all the sectors mentioned above will have in them a large component of member education and staff training. However, it has to be mentioned that when one takes an overall overview of cooperative performance in many countries, the awareness of the member is very low, his view of the cooperative is sometimes detached and often thinks of it as something external. The view on cooperative performance is often indifferent. Hence there persists the need for continuing efforts to improve member awareness and involvement, and improve management performance so that the members get a better deal from their cooperatives.

Hitherto the support provided by the ICA ROEC in these fields were in the following areas : demonstrating effective approaches to member relations through the Indore Project in India, the Women's Projects in Sri Lanka and Thailand, the action-oriented Research Study on Small Farmer Development, providing services through CEMAS and FED, exchanging information through technical meetings, training of trainers in new techniques and methodologies of teaching, demonstrating the use of these techniques through the

Teacher Training Project in Sri Lanka, training of skills in production and use of Audio-Visual Aids, the steps taken to improve library and documentation services and the upgrading of skills of librarians in library management. There has been some emphasis on development of school and university cooperatives.

In recent times the ROEC conducted a survey by means of a questionnaire to assess the ongoing situations in regard to member relations, member education and leadership development and the responses have re-emphasized the need for continued support in this sector.

The South-East Asian Specialists Group on Cooperative Training (SEASPECT) has been of great help in identifying training needs and the needs in the sector of enhancing training capability.

The principal areas of need in this sector would be:

- to assist movements to devise more effective member relations/member education programmes,
- to help in strengthening school/university cooperatives and also in producing education materials to support the teaching of cooperation in schools - Also assisting the movements to train teachers in the general education system to teach Cooperation in schools,
- to produce necessary documentation, manuals, guides, etc. to support such programmes,
- to upgrade skills in production and use of AVA,
- to expose more trainers to new techniques and methodologies of teaching, with special emphasis on adult learning,
- to develop manpower assessment capability within each country, with Cooperative Training Colleges playing a role in identifying training needs and providing for such training,
- to exchange the experiences of the TTP, Sri Lanka, on a wider basis,
- reinforce SEASPECT so that it becomes an even more useful instrument in supporting activity in this field.

The action envisaged in this sector are :

- (i) At Regional and Sub-Regional Level -
 - Experts' Consultations, Technical Meetings, training programmes for Field Workers, trainers etc.
 - Research and analysis in the field of member education.

- Production of manuals, prototype materials.
- Indepth studies and evaluations on ongoing programmes.

(ii) At National Level -

- Workshops on Research Methodology, Education Management, Manpower Surveys, Field Educator Training, skills training for AVA etc.
- Develop projects for member education programmes at micro level - these could be coordinated with ongoing projects with a special economic focus.
- Conduct workshops to develop syllabi and text book material to support teaching of Cooperation in schools - also assist in developing similar supports to help training of teachers in this sector.
- Support National Workshops on Curriculum Development and Field Experience for Teachers

01.03.06 Publicity and Public Relations :

The ICA ROEC has over the past several years focussed attention on the aspect of Publicity and Public Relations in the field of cooperatives. It has also attempted to promote a greater exchange of Cooperative Experiences and News within the Region. Through several workshops action has been taken to identify the problems faced by Cooperative Journalists and to upgrade their skills through exposure to new situations and new media. Though there has been considerable improvement within cooperative circles, as yet not much headway has been made by the Cooperative Media to influence or to get favourable treatment by the general media. Much has to be done to improve the public image of cooperatives in many countries and much has to be done in influencing or getting a breakthrough into the general media.

Some exploratory steps are proposed to be taken up in this sector.

Activities proposed are :

(i) Regional Level -

A seminar to explore the strategy of cultivating general media.

(ii) At National Level -

Support local cooperative journals with consultancy where necessary.

Part II Activity Programme 1985-86

01. Regional Activities

01.01 A Regional Technical Meeting on State and Cooperatives:

Venue: to be decided
Duration: 12 days

Objectives :

- to examine in depth the relationship between state and cooperatives in the countries of the Region;
- to see whether the relationship inhibits the growth of voluntary democratic cooperatives;
- to identify the respective roles of government and government functionaries vis-a-vis cooperatives growth;
- to draw up guidelines as would help in establishing healthy relationships that would promote the growth of member owned, member controlled and member responsive cooperatives.

Direct Target Group

- Senior Government Policy Makers and Functionaries
- Top Level Cooperative Leaders and Executives
- Specialists in the field of Cooperative Development

Actual Target Group

- Policy Makers of governments and of the National Cooperative Organisations.

Follow-up

- This activity will be as a part of the continuation of activities aimed at strengthening Cooperative Movements. Follow-up will be undertaken in collaboration with the NCOO at national level.

01.02 Regional Seminar on the Role of Agricultural Cooperatives
in creating subsidiary (including off-farm employment)
occupation for farming families

Venue : Japan (tentative)

Duration : 3 weeks

Objectives:

- to identify avenues of subsidiary (including off-farm) employment for the members of farming families including women and youth to enhance their income,
- to evolve suitable methods of assisting farming families in creating self employment opportunities,
- to examine ways and means of assisting farm families securing off-farm employment specially in off-seasons, and
- to examine the possibilities of cooperatives establishing by themselves avenues of subsidiary employment for farming families.

Background:

It is now generally accepted that living standards of farming families cannot be brought up to reasonably high levels comparable to that of city workers, if their earnings solely depend on farm income. It has to be supplemented by subsidiary and off-farm income. Farming families have to be assisted by cooperatives by creating income generating activities.

Direct Target Group:

- Small farmer leaders
- Women cooperative leaders
- Youth cooperative leaders
- Managers of Agricultural Cooperatives
- Senior government officers of cooperative department charged with agricultural cooperative development.

Actual Target Group:

- Small farmers and their family members

Results and Follow-up

The seminar would result in creating an awareness among the cooperative leaders the need for subsidiary and off-farm incomes for farming families if they are to improve their living conditions. It will identify avenues of such income and evolve methods of assisting the farming families in creating and/or obtaining subsidiary off-farm employment and identify areas in which cooperatives themselves can undertake employment creating ventures.

The finding of the seminar will be widely disseminated to agricultural cooperatives and they will be encouraged to take suitable action to play an active role in assisting their member families in engaging in subsidiary (including off-farm employment to enhance their income.

01.03 Regional Seminar on Cooperative Dairy Development

Venue : India (Tentative)

Duration : 14 days

Objectives:

- to review the situation of dairy cooperative development in the Region,
- to examine organisation, management and operational problems and suggest solutions,
- to examine different patterns of cooperative dairy development with a view to suggesting suitable patterns for conditions prevailing in different countries in the Region,
- to examine milk processing and marketing activities of cooperatives and suggest innovations where necessary.

Background:

There is a great need for increasing milk production in the Region. Dairy Cooperatives have a very important role to play in this field. There is an increasing realisation of the potentialities of cooperative method to assist in the development of the dairy industry. Time is opportune to examine various aspects of dairy cooperative development with a view to evolving guidelines for cooperative dairy development.

Direct Target Group:

- Presidents, Board members and Managers of milk cooperatives
- Senior officials of government cooperative department charged with dairy cooperative development

Actual Target Group:

- Primary milk producers

Results and Follow-up:

The seminar will examine various problems in cooperative dairy development and suggest solutions. It will evolve guidelines for development and strengthening of dairy cooperatives so as to enable them to make positive and effective contributions to dairy development. The seminar will suggest suitable cooperative patterns of dairy development. It will examine marketing and processing aspects and suggest innovations where needed.

The recommendations of the seminar will be disseminated to member organisations and dairy cooperatives through the participants and other channels and their implementation would be encouraged.

01.04. Regional Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in Japan

Venue : Japan

Duration : 3 weeks

Objectives

- to study supermarket operations in Japan
- to identify the reasons for the success of Japanese Consumers Cooperative Movement
- to study distinguishing features of the consumers cooperative movement
- to study role of Japanese Consumers Cooperative Movement in the field of consumer information, consumer education and consumer protection
- to study working of university consumers cooperatives in Japan
- to study the role played by university cooperatives in improving welfare, cultural and educational activities for student community in the university campuses
- to study contributions made by university cooperative stores for the promotion and expansion of urban consumers cooperative movement

Background:

There is rapid growth in the field of consumer cooperatives in many countries. There is growth both in the urban sector and in more recent times in the rural sector. There is a growing demand from many movements to get their more senior employees and policy-makers for exposed to consumer cooperative growth in a developed economy. Japan presents an excellent situation to stimulate growth in other countries. The Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union have agreed to host a seminar on consumer cooperation.

Direct Target Group:

- Managers of consumers cooperatives
- Managers of University cooperative stores
- Policy-makers in government departments connected with development of consumers cooperative movements

Actual Target Group:

- Consumers cooperative societies
- The consumer
- University campuses, faculty members and University employees

Results and Follow-up:

It is expected to follow-up the Regional Seminar with appropriate follow-up activity at the National Level.

01.05 Regional Workshop-cum-Seminar for Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers of South-East Asia

Venue : to be selected

Duration: 2 weeks

Objectives:

- to review the impact of hitherto conducted activities by the ICA ROEC on the subject and the progress achieved,
- to formulate future course of action,
- to evolve strategies for the development of cooperative library, documentation and information services and systems in the participating countries,
- to impart skills of organisation of cooperative resource centre with particular reference to documentation and information services, and
- to examine the feasibility and the strategy of organising Regional Working Party of Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers for South-East Asia

Background:

The cooperative movements of the Region have grown in size and have diversified their activities in all walks of life. To provide trained manpower support many educational programmes are being conducted in the Region. To provide reference and information support to the movement in general and education, training and research activities in particular, there is a need to develop a network of cooperative libraries, documentation and information centres in the Region. The ICA ROEC need to continue its educational activities in this field to lend the necessary support.

Target Group:

- Librarians and Documentation Officers working with the libraries and documentation centres of member organisations/institutions in South-East Asia

Results and Follow-up:

It is envisaged that the participants, in cooperation and collaboration with the ICA ROEC will take action:

- i. to develop and strengthen existing libraries and documentation centres,
- ii. to develop national cooperative libraries, documentation and information centres,
- iii. to conduct national workshop for imparting skills to the working and potential librarians of cooperative organisations/institutions, and
- iv. to develop a network of cooperative library, documentation and information services in their respective countries.

01.06 Experts' Conference on Member Relations
and Leadership Development

Venue : to be decided

Duration: 14 days

Objectives:

- to discuss recent trends and innovations in member relations and education at the field level in the Region,
- to share new experiences on development of cooperative leadership from the grassroots level upward,
- to discuss applicability of group, mass and other approaches in cooperative member relations, education and development, and
- to suggest ways and means of involving weaker sections, women and youth in cooperative activities.

Target Group:

- Experts in cooperative member education, member and public relations
- Planners and education officers in the cooperative unions, business federations and government departments concerned with member education and extension
- Senior cooperative educators and leaders of selected organisations having successful programmes of member relations and leadership development including for youth.

Activity:

Papers highlighting the main trends and problems in the field of member relations and education in the respective countries and case studies of selected cooperatives and experiences with innovations in cooperative member relations and leadership development will be used at the conference. Efforts will be made to develop a guideline for involvement of weaker sections, women and youth in cooperative activities.

01.07 SEASPECT Meeting-cum-Workshop on T.T.P. Experiences

Venue : to be selected

Duration : 14 days

Objectives:

- to assess progress in the field of Trainers Training and Management Training,
- to discuss new techniques and methodologies in training,
- to examine in depth the experiences of the TTP, Sri Lanka and derive useful guidelines, and
- to study ways and means of enhancing the effectiveness of National Cooperative Training Centres.

Background:

During the course of the year, action will be taken to undertake a study on the National Cooperative Centres, their present levels of performance, their effectiveness and the constraints faced by the institutions.

At the same time, action will be taken to disseminate the experiences of the TTP, Sri Lanka.

Direct Target Group:

- Principals/Directors of National Level Cooperative Training Colleges/Senior Lectures of same

-

Actual Target Group:

- Managerial staff of cooperatives/improve cooperative services to the members.

Results and Follow-up:

It is expected that the SEASPECT Meeting and Workshop will help stimulate more vigorous action in the field of Training and that eventually the cooperatives will render a better service to their members.

01.08 Regional Workshop on Cooperatives and Media Publicity

Venue : to be decided

Duration: 14 days

Objectives:

- to examine the publicity needs of the cooperative movements in the Region,
- to examine ways and means of strengthening the cooperative press,
- to impart skills to personnel working in cooperative press and publicity,
- to evolve methods of involving national press in cooperative publicity, and
- to evolve methods of effectively using government media such as T.V. and Radio for cooperative publicity.

Background:

There is a need for the member movements to design and carry out publicity programmes to create awareness of the potentialities of the cooperatives and their activities and to generate interest for cooperative development work among members in particular and public in general. In these efforts, member movements in addition to using their own journals should try to involve the national newspapers and also use of government media like T.V. and Radio. The ICA ROEC through educational activities need to assist the member movements in this regard.

Direct Target Group:

- Editors, Public Relations Officers and Information Officers working in cooperative organisations in the Region

Actual Target Group:

- Members of the cooperatives and the general public

Results and Follow-up

The workshop will evolve methods of improving performance of cooperative press and involving national press for cooperative publicity and ways of effectively using government media for cooperative publicity.

The press and publicity workers of national cooperative organisations will use methods evolved at the workshop to improve their own press and publicity activities to involve national press in cooperative publicity.

In addition, the members of the Regional Working Party for Cooperative Press for South-East Asia will be involved in the implementation of the recommendation of the workshop.

01.09 27th Regional Council Meeting and Silver
Jubilee Celebrations of the ICA ROEC,
New Delhi.

Venue: New Delhi, India.

Duration: 4th - 15th November 1985

The ICA ROEC New Delhi will complete 25 years service in Asia. In collaboration with the National Cooperative Union of India, who will host the 27th Regional Council Meeting, the Silver Jubilee celebrations will be held in New Delhi. The celebrations will take the form of a public meeting of representatives from cooperative organisations/governments from Asia and elsewhere.

A souvenir will be released on the occasion.

02. Sub-Regional Activities:

02.01 Sub-Regional Workshop on Approaches to Cooperative Orientation of Government and Other Functionaries.

Venue: To be decided

Duration: 14 days

Objectives:

- To assess the environment in which government and other staff concerned with cooperatives function, and to see what kind of attitudes generally prevail.

- To assess the present approaches and their impact on cooperative growth.

- To identify the ways and methodologies that could be used to create changes in attitudes among functionaries.

- To draw up suitable guidelines as will help in the conduct of a series of reorientation courses in the national context.

Direct Target Group:

Top level cooperative government functionaries, Directors of Training Colleges, senior trainers, cooperative leaders and top level functionaries, representatives from field level cooperatives and specialists in cooperative development.

Ultimate Target Group:

The Government Functionaries concerned with Cooperatives.

Follow Up:

Using the guidelines that emerge, efforts will be made to support appropriate programmes at national level which will focus on reorientation of the government staff working with cooperatives.

02.02 Sub-Regional Workshop on Research
Methodology and Planning.

Venue: To be decided

Duration: 10 days

Objective:

- To develop capacity within National Cooperative Organisations to undertake action oriented research at field level to enable them to evaluate efficacy of on going programmes and to assist in developing suitable micro-level projects.

- To devise methodologies that would make planning more effective on the basis of research findings.

Direct Target Group:

Selected officials from the National Cooperative Organisations who would set up Research and Planning Cells within their organisations.

Ultimate Target Group:

Cooperative Members and their organisations at various levels.

Background:

The approach to co-operatives development is often on a speculative basis. New approaches are made often in the very same areas where co-operatives have failed. No attempt is generally made to really understand the reasons for failure and consequently the same mistakes are often repeated.

At the same time, new approaches are made in new areas without adequate research being done in that field, and often such ventures meet with little success and often bring a bad name to co-operatives.

It is felt, that developing research and planning capability within the NCOO will help to have more meaningful and effective action within the cooperative system.

Follow-Up:

It is envisaged that each NCO will develop Research and Planning Cells within their system and that action oriented research will be undertaken in at least some selected areas affecting cooperative growth.

02.03 Sub-Regional Workshop on Fish Farming and Prawn Breeding.

Venue: To be decided.

Duration: 14 days

Objectives:

- To examine the contribution of fishery cooperatives in fish farming and prawn breeding and their potentiality.
- To evolve guidelines for introducing these activities in fishery cooperatives.
- To impart skills needed specially at management level in these fields.

Background:

Fish farming and prawn breeding is receiving increasing attention of the governments of the Region in their attempt to increase fish production. The fishery cooperatives can contribute a great deal to this effort. There is a need to examine this area and evolve guidelines to strengthen and expand cooperative activity in this field and to impart skills needed specially at management level for effectively carrying out such activities.

Direct Target Group:

Presidents, Board members and Managers of Marine and Inland Fishery Cooperatives.

Ultimate Target Group:

Fishermen

Results and Follow-up:

The Workshop will examine the potentialities of existing cooperatives to undertake fish farming and prawn breeding activities and also whether there is a need to organise special cooperatives for this purpose. It will evolve guidelines for cooperatives to initiate, expand and strengthen activities in this field and will impart skills needed specially at a management level.

The participants, through member organisations and fishery cooperatives would implement the recommendations of the workshop.

03.

CEMAS

03.01.

Schedule of Proposed Activities.

1. Clearing House Service.
2. Adaptation and use of CEMAS FED Material (Follow-up of regional and national workshops).
3. Two national workshops on CEMAS FED Approach and Participatory Techniques - Sri Lanka and Philippines.
4. Production of a prototype manual for teachers and educational material on cooperation for students in schools.
5. Assistance in development of filed projects in member participation and education at the local level.
6. Liaison with ICA-CEMAS Geneva/Moshi/Abidjan.

03.02

National Workshops on CEMAS FED
Approach and Participatory Techniques.

Venue:

Sri Lanka & Philippines (Two).

Objectives:

1. To familiarise the participants with the Field Education Development (FED) Approach developed by the ICA-CEMAS.
2. To expose the participants to FED material (Training Package) and other participatory techniques for member education.
3. To provide them with an opportunity to learn the techniques of using the FED material in local conditions, after suitable adaptations.
4. To explore possibilities of the use of CEMAS-FED and other approaches on a pilot basis in selected areas.

Background:

The ICA/CEMAS has developed a strategy for local cooperative education entitled "Field Education Development (FED) Approach". A training package of materials based on modular approach has been developed by ICA-CEMAS and tried out in some countries of South and East Africa. The approach and the material are being adapted and tried out for countries of South-East Asia. After adaptation of the material to Indian conditions a Regional Workshop on FED Material was held by ICA ROEC at VMNIM, Pune, during February 1984. As a follow-up to the Regional Workshop it has been decided to adapt the material to local conditions in different countries and organise national level workshops at least in two countries during 1985-86. It is expected that the material adapted to local conditions will be used by the sponsoring organisations.

Efforts will be initiated to develop the local adaptation of FED material with the help of local resource persons who may be appointed by the sponsoring organisations as members of an Adaptation Committee.

Target Group:

Field educators and selected cooperative officers working at the national level mainly for the cooperative education and training (about 25). They should preferably be graduates with proficiency in English and about 3-5 years experience of cooperative field work.

Brief Description:

The CEMAS-FED Packages and other related materials will be used by the participants for self-study and group work, during workshop which will be of two-weeks duration. Comments on the material used will be collected from the participants. Some field visits would also be organised.

03.03

An Outline for a Field Project on
Development of Rural Poor Through
Cooperatives.

Objectives:

1. To study the situation of rural poor in a selected area and their relations with existing cooperatives. (possibility of adaptation and use of Cemas FED approach will be examined.)
2. To explore the possibilities of developing income generating activities for the selected households (including for women and youth).
3. To help improving their social economic and cultural standards through education and other means through cooperative, group efforts.

Background:

According to ICA ROEC plan for 1984-85, follow-up work on involvement of the poor including small and marginal farmers and agricultural labourers in agricultural cooperatives for increasing food production and increasing their incomes through creation of avenues for off-farm income, would be undertaken in selected countries.

The first phase of the follow-up work would be bench-mark surveys in the selected area to ascertain the existing economic situation and the potential for development. Based on the information gathered and with active involvement of the target groups and society level workers a plan for development of agriculture and subsidiary occupations would be formulated. The project approaches developed in the Regional Seminar on Involvement of Small Farmers in Cooperatives for Increasing Food Production, Outlines for field action (projects) proposals developed in Gandhi Nagar and Pune Workshops on CEMAS Field Education Development (FED) Approach and the studies made by the ICA on cooperatives and the poor would be used in formulating the development plan.

The second phase of the follow-up would consist of observations of the implementation of the plan. Based on the actual experience of implementing the development plan, techniques for involving the poor in the cooperatives for increasing food production and increasing their incomes through creating subsidiary occupations would be documented for use by other cooperatives.

Actual Target Groups:

Poor farm families, agricultural labourers and unemployed youth of selected villages predominantly inhabited by rural poor (adopted villages and member families by selected cooperatives).

Direct Target Groups:

Field educators and other cooperative workers in selected areas.

Brief Description of Activity:

A guideline for field workers to be prepared.

- Training of field workers and education of local leaders.
- Situation study (sample of rural families).
- Problem analysis - assistance in problem solution (group action) and cooperative assistance.
- Monitoring and evaluation.
- Revision of project approaches and guidelines for field workers.
- Introduction of guidelines in on going field projects (in India).

04. Women and Poor.

04.01. For Sub-Regional Workshop
please see 02.02.

04.02. National Workshops to Promote Women's
Involvement in Cooperatives.

Venue: Three countries to be selected in
consultation with the NCO and the National
Women's Committees.

Objectives:

1. To share experiences from countries where such programmes have been successfully carried out.
- * 2. To motivate the member organisations to initiate projects involving women in cooperative development.
3. To motivate women to participate actively in cooperative and allied activities.

Background:

In most of the countries of the Region women belonging to the low-income bracket - in rural and urban areas - are finding it necessary to augment the family income and cooperatives having income-generating activities are a valuable help in this regard. Consumer education, combined with nutrition and allied subjects is another need. The project approach is one which incorporates programmes to meet many of women's needs and also produces leadership among them. Hence, the ICA ROEC is trying to motivate its Member Organisations in the Region to initiate projects involving women.

Direct Target Group:

Policy makers and cooperative employees concerned with working in the field of women and cooperation, women's committees and other women's bodies.

Actual Target Group:

Women cooperators at the grass root level.

Brief Description of Activity:

- (a) Discussions on experiences gained from projects from other countries.
- (b) Identification of projects in the selected countries.
- (c) Formulation of project proposals.
- (d) Follow-up.

Follow-up:

It is hoped that a few more countries could be motivated to commence activity in this field at least on a pilot basis.

04.03

An In-depth Study on the Formation of Women's Committees, the Activities they perform and the Constraints if any, that Inhibit Rapid Growth.

This will be in two phases -

Phase I - Collection of information by Questionnaire and other means from all countries in the Region - Collection and Interpretation of same.

Phase II - Special field studies where such becomes necessary on the basis of the questionnaire responses.

Objectives:

There is very little systematic information available in regard to women's involvement in cooperative activity. The information available is often vague.

There is a need to know how and in what ways cooperative effort has helped to increase women's awareness and their roles in cooperatives.

Even where women's committees have been formed, some are still at National level and have not become representative of women's committees at primary level. Very little is known in respect of the roles played by the women's committees at the primary level.

A study of this nature will help update information and will help in sharing experiences between the countries of the Region.

04.04

National Consultancy Workshops on
Formulation of Development Strategies
for Primary Agricultural Cooperatives.

Objectives:

- To examine management problems of primary agricultural cooperatives.
- To determine action to be taken by primary agricultural cooperatives to assist the rural farming families in the socio-economic development and the support needed by them from the federal organisations.
- To determine effective methods of taking such action by primary agricultural cooperatives and extending needed support by the federal organisations, and
- To formulate guidelines for formulating and implementing primary agricultural society based development projects to bring about overall economic and social development of rural farming population.

Background:

Progress so far achieved by the primary cooperatives have to be consolidated and their functioning further strengthened to enable them to provide complete package of services needed by the farming families. Strategies for such a course of action need to be drawn up. A net work of primary society based development projects should be initiated to put into practice the strategies so formulated. These development projects should not be "capital intensive" and "attention intensive" projects functioning in artificially induced conditions that would not be replicable under normal conditions. They should be project supported by local resources with the participation of the membership and their families to the fullest possible extent based on priorities determined by them. Such projects can be expected to have the demonstrative effect and the possibility of wide replication.

Direct Target Group:

- Presidents and Board members of primary agricultural cooperatives and their federations.
- Managers of primary agricultural cooperatives and their federations.
- Government officials of cooperative department charged with agricultural cooperative development.

Actual Target Group:

- Small farmers and their families

Results and Follow-Up:

The workshops will determine action needed to be taken by primary agricultural cooperatives in different fields of activities for bringing about economic and social development of rural farming families and most effective methods of taking these actions and support needed by them from the federations. It will formulate guidelines for formulating and implementing economic and social development projects with local resources and local participation that could be widely applied to primary agricultural cooperatives.

These projects will be implemented in a net work of selected primary agricultural cooperatives in the Region with active support of the national and regional federations. The ICA ROEC will extend consultative support in this regard.

Follow-up Work:

Follow-up work on small Farmer involvement in cooperatives, cooperative activities in creating income generating activities and initiation of primary society based development projects will be undertaken in two countries.

04.05

Please also see 03.03.

05. Research
- 05.01. Conduct of two case studies on cooperative member education and relations in selected cooperatives (one in India and other outside India).
- 05.02. An In-Depth study on cooperative education in schools and colleges in a selected country and its follow-up (Malaysia/Philippines).
- 05.03. Collection and dissemination of information on cooperative member relations and education in the Region.
- 05.04. Consultancy in Member Relations and Education on request.
- 05.05. Enhancing the Effectiveness of National Cooperative Training Centres to Improve the Management of Cooperatives in South-East Asia - A Situation Study

Venue: Regional Office at New Delhi.

Objective:

The aim of the study is to collect and document the existing situation of cooperative training centres and their relationship with the cooperative movements, conduct fact-finding surveys on some selected countries, and to identify the areas of further assistance.

Background:

A number of national level cooperative training institutions in the Region have been conducting various types of training programmes for various categories of cooperative personnel and cooperative leaders. Some of the training programmes are structured while several others are offering ad hoc training programmes. The ICA has been providing technical assistance and support to these cooperative training institutions in several ways e.g., training of trainers, providing technical guidance, publications, facilities and equipments, study visit opportunities and scholarships etc. Although the heads of these national cooperative training centres get together at the SEASPECT meetings, yet a well-defined study has not been made as to find out to what extent have these training centres been able to contribute to the improvement of cooperative organisations, and what other steps could be taken by the ICA and by others to make the centres more effective.

A situation study would, therefore, be necessary to take stock of the existing situation and to identify the areas in which assistance would be necessary and to what extent and with what magnitude.

Actual Target Group:

Cooperative employees and general membership of cooperatives at the primary level.

Direct Target Group:

Cooperative trainers and educators and policy makers.

Brief Description of Activity:

- a. Questionnaire type survey.
- b. Holding brief discussions with selected centres, cooperative departments and national organisations.
- c. Compiling an analytical situation study with a recommendatory part.
- d. Holding technical meeting along with next SEASPECT meeting to obtain additional information and guidelines for formulating technical assistance projects.
- e. Formulation of technical assistance projects.

05.06 Name of activity : A Comprehensive Situation Study on the State of Audio Visual Aids Application and Training/ Education Material Development in the Region.

Venue : ICA Regional Office, New Delhi.

Objectives

The aim of the study is to collect and document the existing situation of the use of audio visual equipments, aids, training materials in cooperative education and training programmes in the Region. Based on the findings of the study, further support to the NCOs and NCTCs could be identified and provided.

Background

Almost all the cooperative organisations and training centres including the cooperative departments have been carrying out a number of cooperative education, training and extension programmes in the Region. As a result of which several technical inputs had been made to facilitate the implementation of such programmes. These inputs generally included : training programmes for trainers and extension workers, provision of various training machines and equipments, provision of various kinds of softwares, e.g. films, slides, audio visual aids, and provision of facilities for production of training and educational materials. Several NCOs even had been operating material production units, and some of them had audio visual aids production units. A number of cooperative training centres and cooperative education sections have all kinds of equipments, but most of them either remain underutilised or not utilised at all. In some cases the utilisation is impossible because of costs involved and in many cases the trainers are not interested in using these machines and aids.

It has been felt that given the necessary guidance and encouragement, these equipments and facilities can be put to use for the benefit of cooperators and their involvement in cooperative affairs.

The situation study would reveal the availability of such equipments and facilities to each movement in the Region. The findings would help the ICA to develop further training and education activities which would gradually make use of such facilities and equipments.

Direct target group

Cooperative employees and general membership of primary cooperatives.

Actual target group

Education and training divisions of NCOs and the faculty members of NCTCs and cooperative extension divisions of the Government.

The steps to be followed are :

- Questionnaire type study
- Compilation of information received
- Arriving at recommendations
- Identification of projects for possible assistance.

06. SUPPORT TO NATIONAL PROGRAMMES

06.01 Name of activity : Strategy for Development of Consumers
Cooperative Movement in Malaysia.

Venue : Malaysia

Duration : 2 weeks

Objectives

- i. To study existing arrangements and the various agencies involved for the promotion and development of consumers cooperative movement in Malaysia.
- ii. To study the existing structure of consumers cooperative movement in Malaysia.
- iii. To make recommendations for an appropriate strategy for development of effective consumers cooperative movement in Malaysia.

Background

The ANGKASA and the Cooperative Union of Malaysia have jointly requested ICA ROEC to study the existing situation in Malaysia and to assist them in evolving an appropriate strategy for the development of an effective and strong consumers cooperative movement in their country.

It is proposed to carry out two weeks study of the existing situation which will be followed by a technical meeting of representatives from various departments and agencies who are connected with development of consumers cooperative movement in the country. The technical meeting which may last for two days will consider in detail the findings and recommendations of the study.

Actual target group

- (i) Angkasa, (ii) Consumer Cooperative Movement,
- (iii) The Consumer.

Direct target group

The study will be conducted by the Specialist in Consumer Cooperation in ICA ROEC which will be followed by a technical meeting with representatives from various departments and agencies who are concerned with the consumer cooperative movement in Malaysia.

Follow-up

It is hoped that the study and the Technical Meeting will help to establish a well coordinated consumer cooperative system in Malaysia.

06.02 Name of activity : Technical Assistance to Consumers Cooperative Federation in Thailand.

Venue : Bangkok (Thailand)

Duration : 20 days

Objectives

- i. To assist Consumer Cooperative Federation of Thailand in working out efficiency norms for guidance of managements in retail societies in the country.
- ii. To assist Consumers Cooperative Federation of Thailand in formulating training and merchandising policy for consumers cooperative movement in the country and to work out 3 standard assortments for different kinds of shops and guidance of managements of cooperative societies.

Background

On a request from the Cooperative League of Thailand and Cooperative Promotion Department in the Ministry of Agriculture, the Consumer Specialist from ICA ROEC had in February 1983 conducted a study and consultancy mission for the strengthening of consumer cooperative movement in Thailand. The report has made various recommendations for the strengthening of consumer cooperative movement in Thailand. The proposed activity is by way of a follow-up on the recommendations made.

Actual target group

- National Consumer Federation,
- Consumers Cooperative Societies,
- Functionaries in consumers cooperative societies,
- The Consumer.

Follow-up

It is expected that steps will be taken by the Consumer Federation and the concerned authorities to strengthen consumer cooperative performance in the country.

06.03 Name of activity : Strategy for development of Consumers
Cooperative Movement in Indonesia.

Venue : Indonesia

Duration : 2 weeks

Objectives

- i. To study the existing system for distribution of consumer goods particularly in urban areas.
- ii. To recommend a strategy for development of urban consumer cooperative movement in Indonesia.
- iii. To propose a viable and effective structure for consumer cooperative movement and its linkage with agricultural movement.

Background

There are presently no separate consumers cooperative societies in Indonesia. Over 500 multipurpose cooperatives (KSU) have been organised in big cities and towns, and among other activities, they are also operating retail shops for distribution of consumers goods. In many government departments and other public undertakings, employees have organised themselves into loan and thrift societies which are also handling distribution of consumer goods. At some places women have organised themselves into multipurpose societies and they, among other activities, are also operating retail consumers goods shops. Again, there are nearly 300 Market vendors cooperatives (KOPPAS) in urban areas, who have been provided with managerial grants and working capital loans by the government. Some of the employees societies, like civil servants, Postal Department, Police Department and Naval Department are rendering good service to their members. But there is no coordination among various groups of societies and each group is planning to set up their own wholesale and secondary society. There is duplicating of efforts and wastage of limited resources of the movement.

There is an urgent need to evolve a strategy for an effective and strong urban consumers cooperative movement in Indonesia.

It is proposed to carry out a study and consultancy mission in Indonesia with a view to assist the movement evolve an appropriate strategy for the development of a strong and effective consumers cooperative movement.

Actual target group

- Multipurpose cooperative societies in urban areas.
- Consumers cooperatives.
- The consuming public in urban areas.

Follow-up

A series of workshops and consultations will have to be worked out in Indonesia to arrive at a commonly acceptable programme for Consumer Cooperative Development. The findings of the study will help efforts in this direction.

06.04 Name of activity : National level follow-up on Strengthening of NCOs and the Top Level Cooperative Leaders Conference.

In consultation with the national organisations concerned various follow-up activity like discussions, technical meetings, and symposia will be supported to work towards stronger NCOs and better relationship with governments with a view to strengthening the cooperatives to be self-reliant and democratic.

06.05 Name of activity : Encouraging the Production and Application of Audio Visual Aids in Education and Training Programmes.

Venue : ICA Regional Office, New Delhi.

Objective

The main purpose of this activity is to encourage the production and use of audio-visual aids and training material in cooperative education and training programmes.

Background

It has been found through various discussions that trainers and educators involved in cooperative education and training are more subject-oriented rather than having an aptitude to apply teaching and training methods in their contacts with the audience group. At times the delivery tends to be uni-directional i.e. lecture method with some off-hand questions and answer sessions. In order to attract and hold attention of the audience it has been established that use of proper teaching aids and training materials is essential.

A number of training opportunities were provided by the ICA and other external agencies to impart training and skills in the use of audio visual aids, but the ultimate result has been that lecture method continued to be used.

Direct target group

Cooperative trainers and educators.

Actual target group

Cooperative employees and general membership of cooperatives at the primary level.

06.06 Name of activity : Encouraging and Helping Develop the Audiovisual Units at NCOs and NCTCs in the Region

Objective

The main purpose of this activity is to encourage the development of audio-visual aids units at the NCOs and NCTCs in order to consolidate the equipment and their utilisation in a systematic order and to provide software production facilities to trainers and educators.

Background

Education sections and NCTCs have already acquired a variety of audiovisual equipments and a variety of software e.g., films, slides, tapes and graphic material. Trainers and educators also have been producing a variety of audiovisual aids. All these equipments and materials are not centralised in a majority of places. In order to make these equipments and materials available to the users, it is felt necessary that audiovisual aids units and media resource units be organised at national levels.

Such feelings and observations have been expressed at various meetings and conferences.

Actual Target Group

Cooperative employees, general membership of primary cooperatives and members of general public.

Direct Target Group

Trainers, educators and extension workers, and heads of education and training departments and institutions.

06.07

Name of activity : Encouraging and Helping Develop the
Training and Educational Materials in the Region

Objective

The main objective of this activity is to provide encouragement and initiative to NCOs, NCTCs and Extension Divisions to make use of the existing educational and training material and adaptation of available material in cooperative education and training programmes. The material produced by trainers and educators is also to be made known on a wider scale.

Background

It has been found that trainers and educators make use of various kinds of material in their activities. Most of the material is of great nature and is not structured to qualify the objectives of any training and education programme. Efforts have been made recently, through the efforts of the ICA and the ILO, to streamline the training material and to adapt the material to suit the local needs.

Many instructors and trainers are also ignorant of the existing of relevant material. Copies of some are difficult to obtain. Clearing house services are rather inadequate. Efforts should, therefore, be made to consolidate efforts on materials available within the Movement and elsewhere and adjust it to meet the requirements. An awareness about this aspect has to be created among the trainers and educators.

Actual Target Group

Cooperative membership of primary cooperatives.

Direct Target Group

Trainers, educators, extension workers, heads of cooperative education units and of NCTCs etc.

06.08 Name of activity : Encouraging and Helping Develop the Training/
Education Material Production Units in the
Region

Objective

The main aim of this activity is to encourage the NCOs and NCTCs to initiate action to develop Material Production Units in order to facilitate production of training material.

Background

NCOs and NCTCs often produce their training and education materials in different ways, in contents and shapes. There is no uniformity and standardisation in material production. Several agencies are engaged in production of such material thus involving waste of energy, resources and efforts. In a majority of movements, the material is produced by using the most conventional methods and equipments e.g., stencilling and occasionally printing. Some of the movements have recently gone ahead with the establishment of their own production units - a more systematic approach to the entire concept of production of training material. A professional approach has been accepted. Indonesia and Sri Lanka had the benefit of this systematic approach through their technical projects. The results have been satisfactory.

Actual Target Group

Cooperative employees and general membership of primary cooperatives.

Direct Target Group

Trainers, educators and extension workers and Heads of NCOs and NCTCs, and Government Departments.

This activities involves the following steps :

- Reference to audio-visual study findings
- Reference to various recommendations and discussions
- Reference to Sri Lanka and Indonesia experiences
- (Brief informatory papers to be circulated among the movements in the Region)
- Advising on needed equipments and expertise in developing Material Production Units

06.09 Name of Activity : Support to NCCO/National Level Training Institutions on National Programmes for Trainers - Techniques and Methodologies of Training.

Objective/Background

Trainers at all levels need to be exposed to more effective techniques and methodologies of training. Several selected Trainers from member countries have been exposed to new techniques at several International and Regional Seminars/Workshops. It is now necessary to use them already trained to train their colleagues in each country. Support from ICA would accelerate this process.

Actual Target Group

Functionaries in Cooperatives and Members of Cooperatives - better service through Cooperatives.

Direct Target Group

Trainers in training institutions starting from National Level.

Follow-up

Systematic follow up will have to be carried out within each system by the NCCO/National Level Training Institutions to evaluate the use of new techniques and their impact.

07. CONSULTANCIES AND ALLIED SERVICES

07.01 Name of activity : Technical Assistance to Training Programmes
Workshops

Objective

To assist training programmes of member movements by providing them technical assistance (expertise).

Background

Member movements however feel that national workshops on cooperative retail management carried out by them in collaboration with ICA ROEC were found very useful by management and employees of consumers cooperatives. Hence they want that ICA ROEC should continue to provide them with at least technical assistance in the form of expertise for carrying out such programmes as they do not have adequate expertise in the field of consumer cooperation for their countries. Consultancies will be undertaken on the basis of specific requests.

Actual Target Group

- (i) National apex cooperative organisations
- (ii) Consumers Cooperative Societies.

07.02 Name of activity : Consultancy Service in the fields of Inventory Control, Financial Management and Store Operations.

Objective

- (i) To improve working of cooperative supermarkets.
- (ii) To introduce proper procedures and systems in cooperative supermarkets so as to improve their managerial and operational efficiency.

Background

Consequent upon rapid socio economic developments in many countries of the Region, the retail distributive system in some of these countries is also undergoing significant changes. Many modern supermarkets and department stores are being established by the private sector in big cities and towns. Cooperative movements are also modernising some of their shops and putting up a few supermarkets and convenient stores. Requests for consultancy services in the field of inventory management, financial management, store operations and monitoring of business are being received from the managements of some of the newly organised supermarkets from countries of the region. Consultancies will be undertaken on the basis of specific requests.

Actual Target Group

Cooperative supermarkets
 The consuming public
 Cooperative movement in the country.

Direct Target Group

Cooperative supermarkets.

07.03

Name of activity : Providing General Professional Support to the Inhouse Training and Education Activities (Continuing basis)

Objective

The main purpose of this activity is to provide technical and professional support to all training and education programmes of the ICA Regional Office, and to develop some training material for the use of trainers and educators.

Background

In all training and education programmes of the ICA RO there is always a component of training methodology, training aids and training material development. This professional support is to be provided from within the office itself. It also includes some ad hoc training activities of other organisations which need support e.g., NCUI's NCCE, and representation at some similar workshops and meetings e.g., CEMAS or ILO-MATCOM etc. This also includes development of some educational and training materials of a wider interest and application.

Actual Target Group

National organisations and training centres in the Region.

Direct Target Group

ICA officials, national level cooperative trainers and educators.

07.04 Consultancies on Library, Documentation and Information ServicesOverall Consultancy Support

As a continuing activity the consultancies shall be provided to member organisations/institutions in the Region of South-East Asia to promote their libraries, documentation and information centres. Services will be provided on the following manners.

Specific Technical Supporti. To provide on the spot guidance

Physical development of libraries-lay out, etc., information sources development, development of reference and documentation services, imparting practical skills of classification, cataloguing, indexing, etc.

ii. Human Resource Development

To help in conducting technical workshops and courses. Inservice training, etc.

iii. To help in developing "national cooperative libraries, documentation and information centres" and advising on the planning and implementation of a network of cooperative libraries, documentation and information centres in the member countries.

Consultancies shall be provided as and when such request is received by ICA ROEC from its member organisations.

07.05

In-Service Training Programme for Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers

Venue : ICA ROEC Library, New Delhi

Duration : 4-6 weeks

Number of Fellowship : One

Objectives

- (i) To impart the advance skills of cooperative librarianship, documentation and information services.
- (ii) To educate and motivate the trainee to initiate and develop a "National Cooperative Library, documentation and information centre".
- (iii)- To impart the skills to initiate, execute and promote a national network of Cooperative Libraries, Documentation and Information Services and Systems in his/her country.

Background

While continuing to carry out educational activities such as courses and workshops to train persons in the field of library, documentation and information work, there is a need to provide special advance training to selected librarians and documentation officers in the Region of South-East Asia, who could act as key person in different countries in developing national libraries, documentation and information centres. These persons could also be useful in imparting training and skills to others working in the field of library, documentation and information services. A fellowship programme of inservice training will be useful to achieve the objectives.

Result and Follow-up

The Librarians and Documentation Officers trained under the fellowship programme are expected to :

- i. develop a national cooperative library, documentation and information centre.
- ii. to assist the member organisations to develop the network of cooperative library, documentation and information system and services in their respective countries.
- iii. to impart skill to the working and potential librarians in the country.

The trained person will also be used as resource persons/consultants in training activities of the ICA ROEC. The inservice training programme may also be expanded in future with the collaboration of the member movements and involving the trained persons and libraries equipped to undertake such activities.

08. Publications & Publicity

08.01 Publications 1985-86

1. Cooperatives and Youth - Report of the Open Asian Conference, Thailand, and selected Working Papers.
2. Increasing Production and Productivity of Agricultural and Livestock Products through Cooperatives and Rationalisation of Distribution Process - Report of the Regional Seminar and Papers.
3. Stock Management and Regional Warehousing - Report of the Regional Seminar and selected papers.
4. Involvement of Small Farmers in Cooperatives for Increasing Food Production - Report and Papers.
5. Strengthening of Cooperative Role in Rural Distribution - Report of the Regional Seminar and selected papers.
6. Report of the Sub-Regional Workshop on Techniques of Audio-Visual Instruction.
7. Enhancing Women's Involvement in Cooperatives - Report and Papers.
8. Cooperative Services - Publication dealing with typical aspects of the movement will be published under this series.
9. A special Souvenir will be brought out to commemorate Silver Jubilee.
10. ICA Regional Bulletin - Four issues.
11. Report on Activities 1985 and publicity pamphlets.
12. Speeches on Cooperation - Important speeches on matters of cooperative relevance and interest will be brought out under this series.

08.02 Publicity Programme for Cooperative Development

The year 1985-86 being the Silver Jubilee Year of the ICA ROEC, special publicity programme should be undertaken to make cooperators and general public aware of the contributions made by the ICA ROEC to the cooperative development in the Region, and to create a more favourable climate for cooperative development work. In addition to publishing articles in the cooperative press, it is proposed to bring out special supplements in the national news papers of different countries of the Region. These supplements can be arranged in collaboration with our member movements. Special radio and T.V. programmes will also be arranged.

751/8/84

***ICA Sub-Committee for Agriculture
for South-East Asia***

19th Meeting

Venue Bangkok, Thailand

Date November 6, 1984



***International Cooperative Alliance, Regional Office
and Education Centre for South-East Asia, "Bonow
House", 43 Friends' Colony, New Delhi-110065, India***

MINUTES OF THE NINETEENTH MEETING OF THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE FOR
AGRICULTURE FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA. BANGKOK, THAILAND : NOV. 6, 1984

The 19th Meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee for Agriculture for South-East Asia was held at Bangkok Palace Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand, in the forenoon of 6th November 1984.

Brig. Gen. A.S. Lozada, Member for the Philippines presided over the meeting.

The following were present:

1. Brig. Gen. A.S. Lozada, Chairman and Member for the Philippines
2. Mr. Trevor Poustie, Member for Australia
3. Mr. Quazi Abdus Salam, Member for Bangladesh
4. Mr. Eddiwan, Member for Indonesia
5. Mr. Shiro Futagami, Alternate Member for Japan
6. Mr. Ki Won Suh, Member for Korea
7. Mr. K.R. Somasundram, Member for Malaysia
8. Mr. M.R.B. Daswatte, Member for Sri Lanka
9. Mr. Chem Bamrungwong, Member for Thailand

Secretary : Mr. Lionel Gunawardana, Joint Director and Specialist in Agricultural Cooperation, ICA ROEC

Special Invitees

1. Mr. Bengt Kjeller, SCC
2. Mr. Folke Dubell, SCC

Observers

1. Mr. S.M. Salim, Bangladesh
2. Mr. M.M. Vyas, India
3. Mr. Subash Chandra, India
4. Mr. Moh. Yahya Suryanagara, Indonesia
5. Mr. Yong Duck Kim, Korea
6. Mr. R. Mathimagan, Malaysia
7. Mr. Haji Aziz Mond. Ibrahim, Malaysia
8. Mr. Agustin Kilayko, Philippines
9. Mr. A. Sanchez, Philippines
10. Mr. Modesto P. Sa-onoy, Philippines
11. Mr. Somkuan Suwanasilapa, Thailand
12. Mr. Danujchut Tawinprawat, Thailand
13. Mr. Ulf F. Bergstrom, Cooptrade Project

ICA ROEC Staff

1. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, Regional Director
2. Mr. M.K. Puri, Joint Director

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 : WELCOME BY THE HOST MOVEMENT

Mr. Chern Bamrungwong, Director General of the Cooperative Promotion Department and ICA Councillor from Thailand extended a warm welcome to the members on behalf of the host country and he wished the meeting all success.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 : ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Orig. Gen. A.S. Lozada was unanimously re-elected Chairman for a period of four years (upto next ICA Congress).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 : INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

i) Remarks by the Chairman: The Chairman, Orig. Gen. A.S. Lozada thanked the committee for re-electing him as Chairman. He thanked the Thai cooperative movement for the excellent arrangements made for the meeting and he hoped that with the active participation of the members the deliberations of the meeting would be fruitful.

ii) Remarks by the Regional Director: The Regional Director thanked the Thai movement for hosting the ICA meetings and for the hospitalities extended. He said that the sub-committee was the appropriate forum to discuss in detail the needs of the agricultural cooperation in the Region. He drew the attention of the sub-committee to the need for identifying the areas of need and for guidance in regard to appropriate strategies for development.

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

The minutes of the 18th meeting which were circulated among the members in advance were confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 : DISCUSSION ON SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES IN THE REGION

Country papers on significant developments of agricultural cooperatives were presented by the members.

Australia

- Agricultural cooperatives had their origins in the '30s - and were now facing possibility of take overs by multinationals in some situations.
- Smaller cooperatives were finding it increasingly difficult to maintain competent management.
- The younger generation seem more inclined to free market economy - which emphasises the need for more intensive approaches to cooperative education for members and would be members.

Bangladesh

- There are two types of agricultural cooperatives. The traditional multipurpose cooperatives and the Integrated Rural Development (IRDP) cooperatives. The Government has established a Committee to examine how best the activities of these two types of societies could be coordinated.

- A select committee was examining the cooperative laws with a view to formulating a new set of laws.

India

- The cooperative sector has contributed immensely to production of fertilizers. The two giant fertilizer cooperatives - Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) and Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO) - have functioned very successfully.
- Anand pattern of dairy cooperatives has functioned successfully in Gujarat. Dairy development of similar pattern is expanding in other states of India also.

Indonesia

- Under the government policy of supporting development of cooperatives as self-help and self-supporting organisations, the following steps have been taken.
- Village Unit Cooperatives (KUDs) which previously dealt mainly with agriculture sector have been expanded as multipurpose societies to serve the entire rural community.
- Operational areas of village unit cooperatives have been expanded from 3-5 villages to 10-25 villages.
- Functions of village unit cooperatives have been expanded to cover supply of credit, supply of production means, processing and marketing and other economic activities.

Japan

- Japan is assisting in the implementation of an agricultural cooperative project in Thailand. The project aims at strengthening agricultural cooperatives by employing a multi-functional system approach in order to increase agricultural production and improve economic and social well-being of members.
- Number of regular members of agricultural cooperatives has decreased from 6 million to 5.6 million during the last 21 years.
- Number of agricultural cooperatives has also declined due to amalgamation.
- The average membership in a cooperative has increased from 555 to 1282.
- Savings in agricultural cooperatives have increased from 31 billion yen in 1982 to 33 billion yen in 1983.
- Agricultural cooperatives have increased their share of marketing of vegetables, fruits, cattle and pigs. However, the increase in value of commodities handled is extremely slow. This is due to stagnant agricultural production and slow rise in their prices.
- The gross business profit has shown a recovery trend after the business slump in 1980. The business profit of 1983 increased by 26.3 per cent over 1982.

Korea

- Amalgamation of primary cooperatives which was financially weak was continued on a gradual basis, reducing the total number of primary cooperatives to 1469 in 1983.
- Since the mutual credit scheme was introduced in 1969 in primary cooperatives, the banking and credit business of the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (NACF) and primary cooperatives has contributed greatly to the development of rural credit and the farmers dependency on private sources for credit has reduced. Dependency on informal sources of credit by farmers was over 60% in 1971 and this has been reduced to 16.6% in 1983. The NACF's total deposit have been increased from 216 billion won in 1971 to 2310 billion won in 1983.
- Fertilizer supply was handled by cooperatives and private trade upto 1961. Since 1961 NACF has a monopoly in fertilizer supply. The prices of agricultural produce especially rice has increased more rapidly than the prices of fertilizers, thus benefiting the farmers.
- In 1983 the agricultural cooperative leaders training institute was established as a training institute exclusively engaged in training of member farmers. 1000 persons were trained at the institute in 1983 and it is expected to train 12,000 persons in 1984.

Philippines

- The Ministry of Agriculture was renamed as Ministry of Agriculture and Food (MAF). Fishery cooperatives also have been brought under this Ministry.

Some of the major policy developments that has affected cooperatives were:

- Currency fluctuation
The Government after devaluation of Philippine Pesos has adopted a floating exchange rate in April 1984.
- Expansion of the Ministry of Agriculture into Ministry of Agriculture and Food
The fishery development also comes under this Ministry.
- Balance agro-industrial development strategy
The Government has adopted a balanced agro-industrial development strategy. The primary objective of which is to foster increased inter-dependence between agriculture and industry, primarily, through a mutual reinforcements of investment in both sectors.
- National Conference on Cooperatives
A national cooperative conference was summoned immediately prior to the 5th Annual General Assembly of Cooperative Union of the Philippines in order to decide an overall policy for cooperative development.
The Conference made several policy recommendations. Some of them were:
 - i. Credit cooperatives and cooperative rural banks should be encouraged to take steps to establish a national cooperative banking system.
 - ii. The Cooperative Development Loan Fund under the Ministry of Agriculture and Food be expanded in terms of functions and resources.

iii. The Samahang Nayan programme launched in 1970's be reviewed and given priority to enable them to operate as effective economic organisation of farmers for agricultural production and related undertakings. Certain percentage of procurement of agricultural products (especially for exports) and inputs be allocated to agricultural cooperatives.

- Establishment of the Integrated National Cooperative Audit System

A system of audit on a regular basis; the accounts of cooperatives has been established by the Cooperative Union of the Philippines (CUP) in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

Sri Lanka

- The impact of new trade oriented economy in Sri Lanka is severely felt by the cooperatives. The Government has liberalised imports. Cooperatives no longer enjoy monopoly in distribution of essential commodities. A majority of the multipurpose cooperatives is finding it difficult to function under the competitive situation.
- The National Cooperative Council (NCC) organised a National Cooperative Congress at the beginning of the year. The Congress discussed the problem faced by the cooperatives under the present situation and how they would be strengthened to overcome these problems.
- Programmes for Cooperative Action by Small Farmers (PROCAS) implemented under the small farmers project by the Council in collaboration with the Royal Tropical Institute (RTI) of Netherlands, continued to function in Moneragela district for the benefit of small farmers.
- A team of Swedish Consultants conducted a Study in Sri Lanka and has recommended the establishment of short-term project to strengthen and develop dairy cooperatives. Two representatives from Sweden have already commenced a survey of the existing conditions in this sector prior to establishment of the project.

Thailand

- Amalgamation programme has been implemented during the last several years creating large agricultural cooperatives.
- In the Fifth 5-Years' Plan, agricultural cooperatives are regarded as most effective rural institutions for promotion of agricultural and rural development.
- According to above policy following steps are being taken:
 - i. Merging other existing rural institutions into agricultural cooperatives and providing opportunities for small farmers to participate in the development efforts.
 - ii. Reforming the administrative mechanisation of agencies concerned with rural development in order that the assistance could flow through only agricultural cooperatives in a coordinated manner.
 - iii. Promoting marketing activities of agricultural cooperatives and strengthening horizontal and vertical linkages.
 - iv. Encouraging Government and private financial institutions to provide credit facilities to farmers.

- Cooperative Development Projects Initiated

- i. Strengthening of training programmes of Cooperative Promotion Department and assisting in restructuring of cooperatives with poor financial conditions with the assistance of World Bank Loans.
- ii. Production Credit and Marketing Linkage Programme for Rice.
- iii. Agricultural Cooperative Promotion Project with the assistance from Japan. The project aims at strengthening of agricultural cooperatives by employing a multi-functional system approach in order to increase agricultural production and improve economic and social well being of rural people.
- iv. Rural income generating through Crafts and Rural Industry. The Project was formulated with the objective of encouraging housewives to engage in income generating activities specially handicrafts and cottage industries. The project was started in 1982 in Yasothorn Province covering 8 agricultural cooperatives with a target group of 400 housewives.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 : TALK ON "AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT
IN THAILAND - PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS"

A talk on "Agricultural Cooperative Movement in Thailand - Problems and Prospects" was given by Mr. Chern Bamrungwong, Director General of the Cooperative Promotion Department. The talk was followed by a discussion.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7 : MATTERS ARISING OUT OF THE DECISION
OF THE LAST MEETING

7.1 Regional Seminar on "Increasing Production and Productivity
of Agriculture and Livestock Industries through Cooperatives
and Rationalisation of Distribution Process"

The Secretary reported that the above seminar was held in Japan from 19th September to 8th October 1984 preceded by Study Visits in the Republic of Korea from 12th to 18th September 1984. 16 participants from India, Indonesia, the Rep. of Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand participated. The total costs of conducting the study visits in the Republic of Korea were borne by the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation and the National Livestock Cooperative Federation; and the local costs in Japan by the Institute for the Development of Agricultural Cooperation in Asia (IDACA).

7.2 Task forces of ex-participants of ICA Seminars

The Secretary reported that in the Philippines and Sri Lanka, meetings of ex-participants have been held to discuss methods of using the experiences gained by them by participating in the ICA educational activities. During the IDACA Re-Union Programme in Thailand also, a decision has been taken to form associations of ex-participants for using effectively their experiences in cooperative development activities.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8.1 : COOPERATIVE RICE MARKETING IN THAILAND

Information given in the agenda was noted.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8.2 : PROJECT PROPOSALS FROM THE PHILIPPINES

8.2.1 Development Programme Package for Farm Families
in the Compostela Valley, Mindano, Philippines

8.2.2 Agro-Fishery Cooperative Development in the Philippines

The sub-committee discussed the two project proposals of the Cooperative Union of the Philippines (CUP) formulated with the guidance from the ROEC:

- a) Development Programme Package for Farm Families
in the Compostela Valley, Mindano, Philippines
- b) Agro-Fishery Cooperative Development in the Philippines.

The sub-committee endorsed the Project proposals.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9 : NATIONAL SEMINAR ON AGRI. BUSINESS

It was decided to request the Cooperative Union of the Philippines for detailed information regarding the request. The sub-committee recommended that ICA should extend possible assistance in conducting the seminar/workshop.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10 : REQUESTS FOR CONSULTANCY AND TRAINING

Members were requested to send in specific requests to enable the ROEC to take appropriate action.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11 : ACTIVITIES OF THE ICA ROEC IN THE
FIELD OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

The Secretary briefly traced the history of the agricultural cooperative development in the Region during the recent past. He pointed out that agricultural cooperatives have been increasingly adopting the multipurpose character. Most of the countries have implemented programmes of amalgamation to create large and viable societies. He also pointed out that activities carried out by the ICA ROEC with the advice of the sub-committee has clearly followed the pattern of development and helped in these developments. He referred especially to the service done by the ROEC in transferring the experiences of Japan and the Republic of Korea to other countries in the Region.

The principal areas of need for continuing support were:

- Strengthening the organisational structure both at the primary level and in its federal structures.
- Improving managerial skills.
- Widening the services rendered to the members to include processing, marketing, farm guidance, better living guidance, etc.

- Enhancing the involvement of women and youth - working out special programmes for them.
- Developing special programmes and projects to support the small and marginal farmers.
- Assisting the agricultural cooperatives to render a multiplicity of services needed by its membership, so that it becomes the focal point of economic activity for the farmer.

The sub-committee decided to recommend the following activities to the Regional Council for approval:

1. Regional Seminar on "Processing of Agricultural Produce for increasing returns to farmers" (Japan).
2. Regional Seminar on "Role of Agricultural Cooperatives in creating subsidiary (including off-farm employment) occupation for farming families".
3. Regional Seminar on "Cooperative Dairy Development".
4. Field projects on Development of Rural Poor through Cooperatives.
5. National Consultancy Workshops on Formulation of Development Strategies for Primary Agricultural Cooperatives.
6. Follow-up Work on Small Farmer Involvement in Cooperatives in creating income generating activities.

Mr. Bengt Kjeller of the SCC told the sub-committee that the SCC will not be prepared to fund many seminars. The SCC would like other types of activities also to be undertaken by the ICA.

The sub-committee felt that the activities proposed were useful and decided to recommend them subject to availability of funds.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12 : VENUE AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the sub-committee would be held in India in 1985 prior to the ICA Council Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 13 : ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

No matter was brought up under this item.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 14 : VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair.

Sd/-
Lionel Gunawardana
Secretary, ICA Sub-Committee
for Agriculture for S-E Asia

vn/

766/12/1984

*ICA Sub-Committee for Agriculture
for South-East Asia*

19th Meeting

Venue Bangkok, Thailand

Date 6th November 1984



*International Cooperative Alliance, Regional Office
and Education Centre for South-East Asia, "Bonow
House", 43 Friends' Colony, New Delhi-110065, India*

NINETEENTH MEETING OF THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURE
FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA, BANGKOK (THAILAND), 6TH NOVEMBER 1984.

AGENDA NOTES

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Annexe

Minutes of the 18th Meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee
held in Tokyo (Japan) on 3rd November 1983.

NINETEENTH MEETING OF THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURE
FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA, BANGKOK (THAILAND), 6TH NOVEMBER 1984.

AGENDA ITEM NO.1 : WELCOME BY THE HOST MOVEMENT

1.1 A Council Member for Thailand will welcome the members of the Sub-committee on behalf of the Cooperative Movement of Thailand.

AGENDA ITEM NO.2 : ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN

AGENDA ITEM NO.3 : INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

- i. Remarks by the Chairman
- ii. Remarks by the Regional Director

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

4.1 The minutes of the last meeting held in Tokyo, Japan on 3rd November 1983 have been circulated to all members. A copy of the Minutes is annexed hereto for ready reference.

AGENDA ITEM NO.5 : DISCUSSION ON SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS OF
AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES IN THE REGION

5.1 The papers on significant developments of Agricultural Cooperatives in the Region will be circulated. Members are kindly requested to bring 50 copies for distribution.

AGENDA ITEM NO.6 : TALK ON "AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT
IN THAILAND - PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS"

6.1 A talk on the above subject will be delivered by a cooperative leader from Thailand. The talk will be followed by a discussion.

AGENDA ITEM NO.7 : MATTERS ARISING OUT OF THE DECISION OF THE LAST MEETING

7.1 A Regional Seminar on Increasing Production and Productivity of Agricultural and Livestock Industries through Cooperatives and Rationalisation of Distribution Process is scheduled to be held in Tokyo (Japan) from 19th September to 8th October 1984 preceded by study visits in the Republic of Korea from 12th to 18th September.

The objectives of the seminar are :-

- i. To discuss the effective methods of providing services by agricultural and livestock cooperatives to their members to assist them in increasing production and productivity and to learn from the Japanese experience,
- ii. To improve managerial skills of the participants in handling the services needed for increasing production and productivity, and
- iii. To evolve guidelines for the use of management personnel of agricultural and livestock cooperatives for effectively handling these services for wider dissemination in the Region.

Details of the seminar will be reported at the meeting.

7.2 Association of ex-participants of ICA seminars

The Sub-committee had recommended formation of associations of ex-participants of ICA seminars in each member country to exchange ideas among themselves for mutual benefit and for the benefit of the organisations they serve. Associations have been formed in the Philippines and Sri Lanka. At the IDACA Re-Union meeting held in Bangkok, Thailand, the IDACA ex-participants also discussed the desirability of forming such an association.

The Sub-committee also recommended formation of research cells in national level unions to undertake research work on different aspects of agricultural cooperation, organisation of cooperative forum by national unions to discuss cooperative questions and establishment of the in-service training system in agricultural cooperatives on cost sharing basis. These have been communicated to member organisations.

7.3 Publications brought out on the subject of
Agricultural Cooperation

- (i) Readings in Agricultural Cooperative Marketing (in press)
- (ii) Report of Regional Seminar on Integrated Cooperative Activities for Agricultural Development.

AGENDA ITEM NO.8.1 : COOPERATIVE RICE MARKETING IN THAILAND

A study of cooperative rice marketing in Thailand was conducted by the ICA ROEC. The report of the study is under preparation.

AGENDA ITEM NO.8.2 : PROJECT PROPOSALS FROM THE PHILIPPINES

8.2.1 Development Programme Package for Farm Families
in the Compostela Valley, Mindano, Philippines.

A project proposal for integrated agricultural cooperative development has been submitted to ICA ROEC by the Cooperative Union of the Philippines.

Primarily the project is ^{aimed} to increase the amount of capital available for marketing purposes in order to free the farmer-members from the clutches of the local traders and also to facilitate amalgamation of the cooperatives in the area to achieve economy of scale. It is also envisioned to implement better living activities for the cooperative members with active participation of women's groups.

8.2.2 Agro-Fishery Cooperative Development in the Philippines

A proposal for Agro-Fishery Development Project - Cagayan North Agro-Fishery Cooperative Inc. - has been submitted by the Cooperative Union of the Philippines to ICA ROEC.

The general objective of the project is to improve the economic welfare of the people in the Project area through cooperative development.

The specific objectives are :-

- (i) To help increase the purchasing power of the farmers and fishermen by availing to them the benefits of economic of scale in the procurement of their consumers and production requirements; and by providing them at reasonable cost the benefits of transportation, warehousing, cold storage, and processing facilities for their products.
- (ii) To help increase the income and productivity of the farmers and fishermen by providing with marketing facilities to maximise the prices of their products.
- (iii) To help improve the living conditions of farmers and fishermen through better nutrition, health and hygiene.

AGENDA ITEM NO.9 : NATIONAL SEMINAR ON AGRI. BUSINESS

9.1 The Cooperative Union of the Philippines has requested assistance for conducting a national seminar on Agri. Business.

AGENDA ITEM NO.10 : REQUESTS FOR CONSULTANCY AND TRAINING

10.1 The Cooperative Union of the Philippines also has requested for training scholarship and technical consultancy services in agriculture and fisheries. Details regarding these requests will be reported at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO.11 : ACTIVITIES OF THE ICA ROEC IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

11.1 Agricultural Cooperative Development in the Region

Almost all the cooperative movements in the developing countries in the Region were started in the early 20th century and they began as credit movements. Later, cooperatives began to branch off to other economic activities in addition to credit.

Since independence, the governments have come forward to help the movement actively and to regard the cooperatives as an instrument for social and economic development.

Gradually the cooperatives in the Region entered the fields of supply of agricultural inputs and marketing.

At the later stages, in 1970s, ^{the} Agricultural Cooperatives increasingly realised that credit, supply and marketing services would not bring about the desired result of improving the living conditions of the rural people unless farmer members were properly and adequately guided in the planning of their production activities to suit the market demands; imparted technical advice to their members in the production process, in the use of credit and agricultural inputs and ⁱⁿ the preparation of the produce for the market. This resulted in more and more cooperatives starting to provide farm guidance services to their farmer members or to coordinate with the agricultural extension departments of the governments in the provision of guidance services.

With the expansion of the areas of activities of cooperatives they realised that unless they enlarged their size to achieve economies of scale and strengthened their management systems, they would not be able to face the stiff competition encountered from the private sector and be able to render effective services to the membership. To face this situation amalgamation programme to create viable units were undertaken. The large units thus created increasingly acquired a multipurpose character in their functioning.

The most recent activity the agricultural cooperatives have entered into, is the better living guidance rendered in order to assist farming families in the rational use of their income, in saving for future and for investment and in hygienic and healthy living. Activities in the field of farming guidance and better living guidance, however, are still earned on in a very limited scale.

11.2 Activities of the Regional Office

The activities in the field of agriculture of the ICA ROEC have followed the development needs of the Region. In the early period of its functioning, educational activities in the field of agriculture were concentrated on credit and marketing. Subsequently, activities were carried out to encourage formation of large and viable units and strengthening of management. In the years that followed the educational activities were mostly designed to strengthen the multipurpose character of primary agricultural cooperatives and their role in modernising agriculture and increasing production. More recently particular attention has been given to introducing better living activities and involvement of small farmers in agricultural cooperatives.

ICA Sub-Committee for Agriculture for South-East Asia has been a useful forum to discuss the services needed from the ICA Regional Office in the field of agricultural cooperation and for it to receive guidance from the leaders of the movements.

11.3 Present Needs

Presently most of the agricultural cooperatives are of multipurpose type. In the present stage of development particular attention should be paid to promotion of subsidiary (including off-farm) income generating activities of farm families, developing marketing (including processing) activities, while also giving special attention to developing linkages between primaries and their federations so necessary for their proper functioning specially for providing marketing services. Steps need to be taken for consolidating the progress achieved by primary cooperatives and their further strengthening.

It is generally accepted that living standards of farming families cannot be brought up to reasonably high levels comparable to that of city workers, if their earnings solely depend on farm income. It has to be supplemented by subsidiary and off-farm incomes. Farming families have to be assisted by cooperatives by creating income generating activities.

Provision of efficient marketing and processing services which are necessary to enable the farmer members to receive value added benefits and reasonable returns for their produce need to be ensured. Proper linkages with the higher tier federations needed specially for providing effective marketing and processing services should be built-up.

Progress so far achieved by the primary cooperatives have to be consolidated and their functioning further strengthened to enable them to provide a complete package of services needed by the farming families. Strategies for such a course of action need to be drawn up. A net work of primary society based development projects should be initiated to put into practice the strategies so formulated. These development projects should not be "capital intensive" and "attention intensive" projects functioning in artificially induced conditions that would not be replicable under normal conditions. They should be projects supported by local resources with the participation of the membership and their families to the fullest possible extent based on priorities determined by them. Such projects can be expected to have a demonstrative effect and the possibility of wide replication.

The principal areas in which a need exists for continuing support are :

- Strengthening the organisational structure both at the primary level and in its federal structures.
- Improving managerial skills.
- Widening the services rendered to the members to include processing, marketing, farm guidance, better living guidance, etc. also.
- Enhancing the involvement of women and youth - working out special programmes for them.
- Developing special programmes and projects to support the small and marginal farmers.
- Assisting the agricultural cooperatives to render a multiplicity of services needed by its membership, so that it becomes the focal point of economic activity for the farmer.

The following activities are envisaged in this sector :

- (i) At Regional and Sub-Regional level - Seminars, Experts Consultations, Technical Meetings to discuss matters relating to such areas of need e.g. Fish Farming, Dairy Development, Developing Micro level projects for the small and marginal farmers.
- (ii) National Level support for developing more dynamic programmes in this sector & also in supporting micro level projects for improving living standards.
- (iii) Supporting national level efforts for enhancing the involvement of women and youth.
- (iv) Supporting national efforts to strengthen the structure of this sector so that there is a better relationship between the primaries and the federal institutions.
- (v) Support national effort to develop processing and marketing.

11.4 Proposed activities for 1985-86

- (1) Regional Seminar on the Role of Agricultural Cooperatives in creating subsidiary (including off-farm employment) occupations for farming families.

Venue : Japan (tentative)
Duration : 3 weeks

Objectives

- to identify avenues of subsidiary (including off-farm) employment for the members of farming families including women and youth to enhance their incomes.
- to evolve suitable methods of assisting farming families in increasing self employment opportunities.
- to examine ways and means of assisting farm families securing off-farm employment specially in off-seasons, and
- to examine the possibilities of cooperatives establishing by themselves avenues of subsidiary employment for farming families.

Background

It is now generally accepted that living standards of farming families cannot be brought up to reasonably high levels comparable to that of city workers, if their earnings solely depend on farm incomes. It has to be supplemented by subsidiary and off-farm incomes. Farming families have to be assisted by cooperatives by creating income generating activities.

Direct target group

- Small farmer leaders
- Women cooperative leaders
- Youth cooperative leaders
- Managers of agricultural cooperatives
- Senior government officers of cooperative departments charged with agricultural cooperative development.

Actual target group

- Small farmers and their family members.

Results and follow-up

The seminar would result in creating an awareness among the cooperative leaders ⁱⁿ the need for subsidiary and off-farm incomes for farming families if they are to improve their living conditions. It will identify avenues of such incomes and evolve methods of assisting the farming families in creating and/or obtaining subsidiary off-farm employment and identify areas in which cooperatives themselves could undertake employment creating ventures.

The findings of the seminar will be widely disseminated to agricultural cooperatives and they will be encouraged to take suitable action to play an active role in assisting their member families in engaging in subsidiary (including off-farm) employment to enhance their income.

(2) Regional Seminar on Cooperative Dairy Development

Venue : India (tentative)
 Duration : 2 weeks

Objectives

- to review the situation of dairy cooperative development in the Region.
- to examine organisation, management and operational problems and suggest solutions.
- to examine different patterns of cooperative dairy development with a view to suggesting suitable patterns for conditions prevailing in different countries in the Region.
- to examine milk processing and marketing activities of cooperatives and suggest innovations where necessary.

Background

There is a great need for increasing milk production in the Region. Dairy cooperatives have a very important role to play in this field. There is an increasing realisation of the potentialities of the coop method in assisting in the development of the dairy industry. Time is opportune to examine various aspects of cooperative/dairy development with a view to evolving guidelines for cooperative dairy development.

Direct target group

- Presidents, Board members and Managers of milk cooperatives.
- Senior officials of government cooperative departments charged with dairy cooperative development.

Actual target group

- Primary milk producers.

Results and follow-up

The seminar will examine various problems in cooperative dairy development and suggest solutions. It will evolve guidelines for development and strengthening of dairy cooperatives so as to

enable them to make positive and effective contributions to dairy development. The seminar will suggest suitable cooperative patterns of dairy development. It will examine marketing and processing aspects and suggest innovations where needed.

The recommendations of the seminar will be disseminated to member organisations and dairy cooperatives through the participants and other channels and their implementation would be encouraged.

(3) An outline for a Field Project on Development of Rural Poor through Cooperatives.

Objectives

- to study the situation of rural poor in a selected area and its relations with existing cooperatives. (possibility of adaptation and use of CEMAS FED Approach will be examined).
- to explore the possibilities of developing income generating activities for the selected households (including for women and youth).
- to help improving their social economic and cultural standards through education and other means through cooperatives/group efforts.

Background

According to the ICA ROEC plan for 1984-85, follow-up work on involvement of the poor including small and marginal farmers and agricultural labourers in agricultural cooperatives for increasing food production and ⁱⁿ increasing their incomes through creation of avenues for off-farm incomes, would be undertaken in selected countries.

The first phase of the follow-up work would be bench-mark surveys in the selected area to ascertain the existing economic situation and the potential for development. Based on the information gathered and with active involvement of the target groups and society level workers a plan for development of

agriculture and subsidiary occupations would be formulated. The project approaches developed in the Regional Seminar on Involvement of Small Farmers in Cooperatives for Increasing Food Production, Outline for field action (project) proposals developed in Gandhi Nagar and Pune Workshops on CEMAS Field Education Development (FED) Approach and the studies made by the ICA on cooperatives and the poor would be used in formulating the development plan.

The second phase of the follow-up would consist of observations of the implementation of the plan. Based on the actual experience of implementing the development plan, techniques for involving the poor in the cooperatives for increasing food production and increasing their incomes through creating subsidiary occupations would be documented for use by other cooperatives.

Actual target group

Poor farm families, agricultural labourers and unemployed youth of selected villages predominantly inhabited by rural poor (adopted villages and member families by selected cooperatives).

Direct target group

- Field educators and other cooperative workers in selected areas.

Brief description of activity

A guideline for field workers to be prepared.

- Training of field workers and education of local leaders.
- Situation study (sample of rural families).
- Problem analysis - assistance in problem solution (group action) and cooperative assistance.
- Monitoring and evaluation.
- Revision of project approaches and guidelines for field workers.
- Introduction of guidelines in on-going field projects (in India).

(4) National Consultancy Workshops on Formulation of Development Strategies for Primary Agricultural Cooperatives.

Objectives

- to examine management problems of primary agricultural cooperatives.
- to determine action to be taken by primary agricultural cooperatives to assist the rural farming families in the socio-economic development and the support needed by them from the federal organisations.
- to determine effective methods of taking such action by primary agricultural cooperatives and extending needed support by the federal organisations, and
- to formulate guidelines for formulating and implementing primary agricultural society based development projects to bring about overall economic and social development of the rural farming population.

Background

Progress so far achieved by the primary cooperatives have to be consolidated and their functioning further strengthened to enable them to provide complete package of services needed by the farming families. Strategies for such a course of action need to be drawn up. A network of primary society based development projects should be initiated to put into practice the strategies so formulated. These development projects should not be "capital intensive" and "attention intensive" projects functioning in artificially induced conditions that would not be replicable under normal conditions. They should be projects supported by local resources with the participation of the membership and their families to the fullest possible extent based on priorities determined by them. Such projects can be expected to have a demonstrative effect and the possibility of wide replication.

Direct target group

- Presidents and Board Members of primary agricultural cooperatives and their federations.
- Managers of primary agricultural cooperatives and their federations.
- Government officials of cooperative departments charged with agricultural cooperative development.

Actual target group

- Small farmers and their families.

Results and follow-up

The workshop will determine action needed to be taken by primary agricultural cooperatives in different fields of activities for bringing about economic and social development of rural farming families and most effective methods of taking these actions and support needed by them from the federations. It will **evolve** guidelines for formulating and implementing economic and social development projects with local resources and local participation that could be widely applied to primary agricultural cooperatives.

These projects will be implemented in a net work of selected primary agricultural cooperatives in the Region with active support of the national and regional federations. The ICA ROEC will extend consultative support in this regard.

Follow-up work

Follow-up work on small farmer involvement in cooperatives, cooperative activities in creating income generating activities and initiation of primary society based development projects will be undertaken in two countries.

AGENDA ITEM NO.12 : VENUE AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

AGENDA ITEM NO.13 : ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

AGENDA ITEM NO.14 : VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR

755.9.1984

Lionel Gunawardana
Secretary, ICA Sub-committee
for Agriculture for S-E Asia

International Cooperative Alliance
Regional Office & Education Centre
for South-East Asia
"Bonow House", 43 Friends Colony
New Delhi - 110065

MINUTES of the 18th Meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee for Agriculture
for South-East Asia, held in Tokyo, Japan, on 3rd/4th November 1983.

The 18th Meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee for Agriculture for South-East Asia was held at the Institute for the Development of Agricultural Cooperation in Asia (IDACA), Tokyo, in the afternoon of 3rd November and the forenoon of 4th November 1983.

Brig. Gen. A.S. Lozada, Member for the Philippines, was in the chair.

The following were present at the meeting:

Members

1. Brig. Gen. A.S. Lozada, Chairman & Member for the Philippines
2. Mr. Trevor Poustie, Member for Australia
3. Mr. Quazi Abdus Salam, Member for Bangladesh
4. Mr. B.J. Heerjee, Member for India
5. Mr. Eddison, Member for Indonesia
6. Mr. Iwao Yamaguchi, Member for Japan
7. Mr. Byoung Joon Suh, Member for Korea
8. Mrs. Armi Zainuddin, Member for Malaysia
9. Mr. M.P.R. Dussatte, Member for Sri Lanka
10. Col. Surin Chelpraserd, Member for Thailand

Secretary : Mr. Lionel Lunnwardene, Joint Director & Specialist
in Agricultural Cooperation, ICA ROEC

Special Invitees

1. Mr. Bengt Kjeller, SEC, Stockholm
2. Mr. Malte Jonsson, ICA Head Office, Geneva

Observers

1. Mr. Shiro Futagami, Japan
2. Mr. K. Fujimoto, Japan
3. Mr. H. Nishida, Japan
4. Mr. M.M. Vyas, India

ICA ROEC Staff

1. Mr. R.B. Rajaquru, Regional Director
2. Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education)

In attendance

Mr. Prem Kumar, Personal Assistant to Regional Director, ICA ROEC

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 : WELCOME BY THE HOST MOVEMENT

Mr. Iwao Yamaguchi, Senior Executive Director of the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives of Japan, extended a warm welcome to the members on behalf of the host country. He said that he was very pleased that IDACA was celebrating its 20th anniversary and on that special occasion it was a privilege and a pleasure for them to have the members of the Agriculture Sub-Committee for their meeting and that he would like to extend a hearty welcome to them. He added also that the meeting was held on a day that was very important to Japan - namely the Day of Culture which was being celebrated all over Japan to commemorate the birthday of the Meiji Emperor who took early initiatives to transform feudal Japan into a modern society. Japan had since commemorated this special day with the wish that Japan played a useful role in the modern society. He hoped that through cooperation and deeper friendship among themselves it would be able to build a stronger cooperative movement. He wished the meeting all success.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 : ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN

Brig. Gen. A.S. Lozada of the Philippines was elected Chairman at the meeting to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. R.G. Tiwari's ceasing to be a member of the sub-committee.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 : INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

i. REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

The newly elected Chairman Brig. Gen. Lozada said that he would like to join the Japanese hosts in the celebrations of their Special Day of Culture. He wished the Japanese people the best of health and prosperity. With their cooperation he hoped the meeting would be fruitful and profitable. He expressed the hope that with the active participation of the delegates from the various nations of the Region bringing with them their very rich and practical experiences in the field of agricultural cooperatives, the deliberations would be very fruitful and profitable.

ii. REMARKS BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

The Regional Director thanked the Japanese hosts for the very nice hospitality extended and the excellent arrangements made in IDACA which was celebrating its 20th anniversary. He said that the ICA was trying to get some kind of focus in respect of increased agricultural production and productivity and he most earnestly urged that due consideration be given to the various items that had been included in the agenda for discussion and also any other item that members would like to discuss taking into consideration the need for organising cooperative effort to maintain increased production and increased productivity. He drew attention also to the need for increasing emphasis and focus on the small and marginal farmers, if we were to increase production and productivity. He suggested that due consideration be given to the possibility of initiating project approaches in this sector, as these would provide the necessary testing ground for more rapid expansion later.

He also emphasised the need for integrated approaches as they have been found to be more effective. He mentioned that taking into consideration the state of the cooperatives, the small and marginal farmer and agriculture as a whole, there was a need for each member organisation to draw up their perspective plans and the programmes to achieve the objectives at least cost. In this connection, he was happy that the Japanese friends were introducing a paper based on their experience in planning and programming, and he was sure that that would be most educative. He also hoped that the inspiration provided by the Japanese experience will help the other member movements to play a more positive role in agricultural development, rather than the traditional residual role dependent entirely on government plans and programmes. He urged that discussions be held on how to strengthen both the primary organisations and the other structures in the agricultural sector including the banking system to make their work more effective. He said that the committee could use the present opportunity to give a new orientation to the approaches for agricultural cooperative development so that the secretariat could develop suitable programmes to meet the new situation.

iii. REMARKS BY MR. BENGT KJELLER

Mr. Kjeller from the SCC said that he was happy to be with them at the meeting and his main interest was to listen to their views and opinions. His personal view was that generally farmers were not organised and there was a need for them to get organised if they were to make the cooperatives truly representative of farmer interests. Farmers unions could be formed within the cooperatives or outside. Perhaps this was something that could be examined. There was however the need for cooperatives to become truly representative of farmer interests rather than being only instruments to carry out government programmes.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 : CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 17TH MEETING

The minutes of the 17th meeting which were circulated in advance among the members were confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 : SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES IN THE REGION

Country papers on significant developments of agricultural cooperatives were circulated.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 : PERSPECTIVE PLANNING IN AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES

A talk on "Perspective Planning in Agricultural Cooperatives in Japan" was given by Mr. H. Nishido, Chief of International Section, International Department, Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives. The talk was followed by a discussion. The meeting emphasized the need for perspective planning in agricultural cooperatives.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7 : PROMOTION OF SMALL AND MARGINAL FARMER INVOLVEMENT
IN FOOD PRODUCTION THROUGH COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES

A paper on the above subject was presented by the secretariat. The meeting discussed the ways of promoting small and marginal farmer involvement in increasing food production through cooperative activities. Activities that were being carried out in different countries were discussed. The meeting recommended that pilot projects be started in the member countries in selected areas as demonstration projects which could be multiplied to cover other areas subsequently.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 : RESEARCH STUDIES

The sub-committee discussed the need to undertake research work on various aspects of agricultural cooperation. It recommended that research cells be established specially by national level unions and federations in countries where such cells do not exist. Such cells would be able to undertake research studies on a regular basis by itself and also in collaboration with ICA and other organisations.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9 : SUGGESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION
BY MEMBER MOVEMENTS

Cooperative Forums

The sub-committee recommended the establishment of cooperative forums in the member countries by cooperative unions where cooperative leaders, senior governmental and cooperative employees, experts in the field of agricultural cooperation, universities and other educational institutions could be invited to discuss periodically important cooperative questions and review the progress of the movement. Conclusions and recommendations of such forums would help cooperative organisations and governments in formulating their policies.

Association of ex-participants of ICA Seminars

The sub-committee recommended formation, in each member country, of association of ex-participants of Regional Seminars on Agricultural Cooperation held by the ICA and other organisations. These associations can hold meetings of ex-participants from time to time to exchange ideas for mutual benefit and benefit of those organisations they serve.

In-service Training for Employees of Agricultural Cooperatives

The sub-committee recommended that the ICA should initiate a system of giving opportunities to employees of agricultural cooperatives to receive in-service training in developed cooperatives within or outside the country. The scheme may be implemented on a cost sharing basis.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10 : EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED AND PUBLICATIONS
BROUGHT OUT BY THE ICA ROEC IN THE FIELD OF
AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

The sub-committee noted the following activities carried out by the ICA ROEC in the field of Agricultural Cooperation:

- i. Regional Seminar on Multipurpose Agricultural Cooperatives with special reference to the activities of Agricultural Cooperative Women's Associations, Tokyo, 1-11 Sept. 1982.
- ii. Regional Seminar on Integrated Cooperative Activities for Agricultural Development, Seoul, 1-12 August, 1982.
- iii. National Seminar on Agricultural Cooperative Credit, Colombo, 21-26 February 1982.

The sub-committee also noted the publication brought out by the ROEC on Regional Seminar on Multipurpose Agricultural Cooperatives with special reference to Activities of Women's Associations, Tokyo, Japan, 1982 (mimeo).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11 : EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES PLANNED IN THE
FIELD OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

The sub-committee approved the following activities that were proposed to be carried out by the ICA ROEC in 1984-85:

- i. Regional Seminar on "Increasing Production and Productivity of Agricultural and Livestock Product through Cooperatives and Rationalisation of Distribution Process", in collaboration with CUAC and IDACA.
- ii. Regional Seminar on Involvement of Small Farmers in Agricultural Cooperatives for increasing Food Production.

Publications to be brought out

- i. Readings in Cooperative Marketing
- ii. Report of the Regional Seminar on Integrated Cooperative Activities for Agricultural Development, Rep. of Korea
- iii. Agricultural Cooperative Movement in Japan.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12 : PUBLICATION ON AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE
MOVEMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

The Secretary informed the meeting that the ICA ROEC was negotiating with the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation of Korea to bring out a publication on the Agricultural Cooperative Movement of the Republic of Korea.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 13 : PROPOSAL FOR LAUNCHING A PROJECT FOR AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT & WELFARE OF FARMING FAMILIES

The sub-committee approved the proposal for launching a Project for Agricultural Cooperative Development and Welfare of the Farming Families in the Philippines.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 14 : RESEARCH STUDY ON COOPERATIVES AND THE POOR

The Secretary informed that the ICA ROEC had done some work in Thailand and Sri Lanka in this regard and it was intended to continue this work by carrying out further studies in both countries.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 15 : VENUE AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the sub-committee would be held in Thailand in 1984 prior to the ICA Council Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 16 : ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF CHAIR

No matter was brought up under this item.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 17 : VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Sd/-

Lionel Gunawardana
Secretary, ICA Sub-Committee
for Agriculture for S-E Asia

*ICA Sub-Committee for Fisheries
for South-East Asia*

14th Meeting

Venue Bangkok, Thailand

Date November 6, 1984



*International Cooperative Alliance, Regional Office
and Education Centre for South-East Asia, "Bonow
House", 43 Friends' Colony, New Delhi-110065, India*

MINUTES OF THE FOURTEENTH MEETING OF THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE FOR FISHERIES FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA, BANGKOK, THAILAND : NOV. 6, 1984

The 14th Meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee for Fisheries for South-East Asia was held at Bangkok Palace Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand, in the afternoon of 6th November 1984.

Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim from Malaysia was in the chair.

The following were present:

1. Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim, Chairman and Member for Malaysia
2. Mr. Quazi Abdus Salam, Member for Bangladesh
3. Mr. Subhash Chandra, Member for India
4. Mr. Eddiwan, Member for Indonesia
5. Mr. Seong Woo Hong, Member for Korea
6. Mr. Arcadio S. Lozada, Member for Philippines
7. Mr. M.R.B. Daswatte, Member for Sri Lanka
8. Mr. Chern Bamrungwong, Member for Thailand

Secretary : Mr. Lionel Gunawardana, Joint Director and Specialist in Agricultural Cooperation, ICA ROEC

Special Invitees

1. Mr. Bengt Kjeller, SCC

Observers

1. Mr. Dong Hoi Kim, Korea
2. Mr. R. Mathimagan, Malaysia
3. Mr. K.R. Somasundram, Malaysia
4. Mr. Alfredo V. Sanchez, Philippines

ICA ROEC Staff

1. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, Regional Director
2. Dr. Dharm Vir, Joint Director
3. Mr. M.K. Puri, Joint Director

In attendance

1. Mr. Prem Kumar, Personal Assistant to Regional Director, ICA ROEC

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 : WELCOME BY THE HOST MOVEMENT

Mr. Chern Bamrungwong, Member for Thailand, welcomed the members on behalf of the Thai Cooperative Movement.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 : ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN

The sub-committee elected Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim, Chairman, for the next four years.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 : INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

i. Remarks by the Chairman: The Chairman thanked the members for the trust placed on him by re-electing him and welcomed all present to the meeting. He was happy that he and the sub-committee was able to have a very healthy working relationship with the Regional Director, the Secretary and the ROEC and he was hopeful that with the support of all he would be able to render a useful service in the field of Cooperative Fishery Development.

ii. Remarks by the Regional Director: The Regional Director congratulated the Chairman on his re-election as Chairman in Asia and also as the Vice-Chairman of the ICA Fishery Committee in Hamburg. He maintained that in many situations there was yet much to be done for fishermen, who were in many countries, amongst the very poor in each country. The responsibility devolving on the cooperatives was therefore very heavy and he was hopeful that the deliberations would help in developing suitable strategies for accelerated development.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 : CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 13TH MEETING

The minutes of the 13th Meeting held in Tokyo, Japan, on 3rd November 1984 were confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 : DISCUSSION ON SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS OF FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN THE REGION

At the request of the Chairman, each member present made a brief statement on the significant developments of fishery cooperatives in his country.

India

- Insurance scheme for fishermen initiated by the National Federation of Fishermen Cooperatives Ltd. was rapidly expanding. The Government was subsidizing the premium.
- The Federation had started marketing of fish in a limited way.
- Fish seed production was another area which was receiving attention of the Federation. Packing of seeds was still done in the traditional way. This needed to be improved by introducing modern methods of packaging.

Indonesia

- The Fishermen were either organised into separate cooperatives or as functional groups in Village Unit Cooperatives (KUD).
- The Government had shown an increasing interest in guiding fishermen most of whom live below poverty line. The Minister of Trade and Cooperatives had issued a "decision letter" to promote guidance and assistance to fishermen through cooperatives.

- Mechanisation of fishing industry, specially inshore fishery was being encouraged. Inboard engine boats increased from 51,056 in 1981 to 58,500 in 1982-83.
- Some of the steps taken to improve marketing and processing activities were:
 - i. establishment of fish auction centres by cooperatives,
 - ii. cooperation between fishermen cooperatives and private canning factories for supply of Lemuru fish (Indonesian sardines) in order to eliminate middlemen in Bali Province,
 - iii. cooperation between fishermen cooperatives and state enterprises for fish export in Maluku province, and
 - iv. setting up of a cold storage plant to support shrimp export in Central Java Province.

Korea

- Fishing fleet has been expanded and fishing techniques innovated.
- Motorization of fishing vessels had made good progress. 4,349 motorized vessels (31,409 G/T) in 1962 had increased to 69,338 vessels (806,019 G/T) in 1983. An average tonnage per vessel of 3.6 G/T in 1962 rose to 9.4 G/T in 1983.
- The value of fish export increased from US \$56,702 in 1962 to US \$907 million in 1983.
- The average annual household income of the fishery families increased from Won 193,200 in 1970 to Won 4,109,000 in 1983.
- In an effort to ensure planned development among the member fishery cooperatives, the National Federation provided managerial consultant services to fishery cooperatives. In 1983, the Federation provided such services to 5 fishery cooperatives.
- The Fishery Federation started a Video Production Unit and produced 13 video tapes for supplying to member cooperatives to support their education programmes. The total business turnover of the Federation in 1983 was 120,856 million Won equal to US \$121 million. The amount of marine products marketed by the Federation in 1983 was 269,358 tonnes which was nearly 14% above the previous year's figure.
- Insurance policies sold in 1983 amounted to 520,166 million Won (658 million US Dollars) and the insurance premium received was 11,906 million Won (14.9 million US Dollars).

Philippines

- Indicative Five Years development Plan was formulated in a seminar-workshop held in collaboration with the ICA ROEC. This plan seeks to provide direction, effectiveness and cooperation as a way of life for the fishery sector.
- The Ministry of Agriculture had been re-named as Ministry of Agriculture and Food (MAF).

- The Bureau of Fishery and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) which was under the Ministry of Natural Resources has been transferred to Ministry of Agriculture and Food. The Fishery Industry Development Council (FIDC) has been abolished and its functions, property, funds and records have been transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture and Food.
- The Philippines Fishery Development Authority (PFDA), which develop fishery facilities, cold storage, fish lending, etc. has been brought under the Ministry of Agriculture and Food.
- These developments would help in coordinating activities for fishery development and it is hoped that it would help in the implementation of the indicative Five Year Plan of the Cooperatives.

Sri Lanka

- The Sri Lanka Cooperative Fisheries Federation Ltd. has introduced better living activities in several primary fishery cooperatives. They are showing encouraging results.
- The Fishery Federation has taken steps to foster fresh water inland fishery. The Ministry of Fisheries is assisting the Federation in these development activities.
- A team of Swedish Consultants conducted a Study in Sri Lanka and recommended the establishment of short-term projects to develop fishery cooperatives. The representatives from Sweden had commenced a survey of existing conditions in this sector.

Thailand

- The number of fishery cooperatives increased from four in 1975 to 18 in 1983. Income from credit business increased from $\text{฿ } 5,000$ in 1981 to $\text{฿ } 1,796,000$ in 1983, and income from marketing business increased from $\text{฿ } 478,300$ in 1981 to $\text{฿ } 155,439,000$ in 1983.
- The fishery cooperatives have gradually expanded activities and are now engaged in collection of fish products and by-products, provision of diesel fuel, ice and salt, sale of consumer goods, provision of credit and other banking facilities, improvement of canals and digging of new ones, and provision of information and training to members in new technology of fish production.
- Some of the fishery development projects that have been initiated are:
 - i. improvement of existing shrimp and fish farms under 55,000 rai of land in the eastern coast,
 - ii. culture of giant prawns and fresh water fish in lake Songkhla in Pathalung province,
 - iii. fish cage culture project with 3,000 cages, an average of 4 cages per member in Central plain provinces along Chao-Phya river, and
 - iv. merging of fishery farm groups and fishermen culture groups into fishery and culture cooperatives.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 : TALK ON "FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN THAILAND - PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS"

A talk on "Fishery Cooperatives in Thailand - Problems and Prospects" was given by Mr. Chern Bamrungwong, Director General, Cooperative Promotion Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives. Copies of the talk were made available to all the members and others present at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7 : SUB-REGIONAL SEMINAR ON FISHERY COOPERATIVES, COLOMBO, SRI LANKA

The information given in the agenda was noted.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 : REGIONAL SEMINAR ON FISHERY COOPERATIVES FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIAN COUNTRIES, JAPAN

The Secretary informed the meeting that this seminar, which was held annually, was conducted by the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations (ZENGYOREN) of Japan. Fourteen participants attended the seminar from the Region and the major subjects dealt with were management, marketing and credit. The sub-committee recorded its thanks to the ZENGYOREN for holding this seminar annually.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9 : PROGRESS OF INSURANCE SCHEMES FOR FISHERMEN IN INDIA

Mr. Subhash Chandra, Member for India, gave an account of the Insurance Scheme, the National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperative Ltd. had implemented for fishermen in India with the assistance of the Government of India. He said the Indian Government as a result of representation made by the Federation was subsidizing the premium. The scheme would benefit thousands of poor fishermen in India. He offered to assist by way of providing further information to any movement interested in initiating such insurance schemes. He thanked the ICA ROEC for the opportunity afforded to him by the Regional Office to participate in the Regional Seminar conducted by it in the Republic of Korea with study visits in Japan. The insurance scheme implemented in India was formulated on what he learnt in the Republic of Korea during the course of the ICA Seminar.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10 : FISHERY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

10.1 Agro-Fishery Cooperative Development in the Philippines

The sub-committee discussed the Cagayan North Integrated Agro-Fishery Cooperative Project submitted by the Cooperative Union of the Philippines and endorsed it to the ICA ROEC for securing necessary assistance. The Secretary said that revision of certain parts of the proposal had been suggested to the Cooperative Union of the Philippines and the revision was awaited.

10.2 Assistance for follow-up of the recommendations of the National Seminar-Workshop held in the Philippines

The sub-committee decided that the Cooperative Union of the Philippines should be requested to send more detailed information for the assistance for follow-up of the recommendations of the National Seminar-Workshop held in the Philippines in 1983 and also for consultancy services.

10.3 Pilot Project for Development of Inland Fisheries in Sri Lanka

The Secretary explained that the project which was submitted by Fishery Federation of Sri Lanka to ICA ROEC was in turn submitted to ICA Headquarters for securing assistance. The Headquarters referred this to the ICA Fisheries Committee for a feasibility study. The Chairman of the Fisheries Committee had requested the FAO and the FAO had requested that the project should be recommended by the Government of Sri Lanka as a priority project. Now the Fishery Federation of Sri Lanka was negotiating with the government. Long period has passed since this was referred to Sri Lanka government and it was very difficult to get governments to recommend such small cooperative projects as priority projects.

The sub-committee was of the view that steps should be taken to avoid long delays and that simpler procedures should be adopted in locating suitable donors.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11 : ACTIVITIES OF THE ICA ROEC IN FISHERY COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT

The programme of activities proposed were endorsed by the Committee.

Ways and means of increasing regional collaboration was discussed and a suggestion was made that assistance to cooperatives like the Japanese - Thai support programme should be extended to other countries too. It was felt that bi-lateral discussions could be initiated between the countries in need and Japan and Korea and the ROEC would help where possible in the discussions and subsequent implementation.

Though a suggestion was made that the Region should be self-reliant in this sector, it was the view of the committee that fishery cooperatives were dealing with some of the poorest and weakest sectors of the populations and consequently would require greater technical assistance and support from the developed movements both within and outside the Region. Some of the areas of need referred to technology, know how, various aspects in connection with inland fishery development, marketing and processing, manufacture of fishery equipment etc.

The committee was of the view that the ICA ROEC should make available lists of organisations to which the movements could turn to for technical support, but it was generally felt that requests for assistance should be sent through the ICA for better acceptance.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12 : ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF CHAIR

No matter was raised under this item.

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

It was agreed that the next meeting of the sub-committee should be held along with the Regional Council Meeting which would be held in India in 1985.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 14 : VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair.

Sd/-
Lionel Gunawardana
Secretary, ICA Sub-Committee
for Fisheries for S-E Asia

*ICA Sub-Committee for Fisheries
for South-East Asia*

14th Meeting

Venue Bangkok, Thailand

Date 6th November 1984



*International Cooperative Alliance, Regional Office
and Education Centre for South-East Asia, "Bonow
House", 43 Friends' Colony, New Delhi-110065, India*

FOURTEENTH MEETING OF THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE FOR FISHERIES
FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA, BANGKOK, THAILAND : 6TH NOVEMBER 1984

AGENDA NOTES

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Annexe

Minutes of the 13th Meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee
held in Tokyo, Japan, on 3rd November 1983.

FOURTEENTH MEETING OF THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE FOR FISHERIES
FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA, BANGKOK, THAILAND , 6TH NOVEMBER 1984

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 : WELCOME BY THE HOST MOVEMENT

1.1 A Council member for Thailand will welcome the members of the Sub-Committee on behalf of the Cooperative Movement of Thailand.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 : ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 : INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

- i. Remarks by the Chairman
- ii. Remarks by the Regional Director

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 : CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 13TH MEETING

4.1 The Minutes of the last meeting held in Tokyo, Japan, on 3rd November 1983 have been circulated to all members. A copy of the Minutes is annexed hereto for ready reference.

3.2 Action taken on the Minutes is given under the relevant agenda items of these notes.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 : DISCUSSION ON SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS
OF FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN THE REGION

5.1 The papers on significant developments of Fishery Cooperatives in the Region will be circulated. Members are kindly requested to bring 50 copies of their country papers for distribution.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 : TALK ON "FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN
THAILAND - PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS"

6.1 A brief talk on "Fishery Cooperatives in Thailand - Problems and Prospects", will be given by a Cooperator from Thailand.

Talk will be followed by discussion.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7 : SUB-REGIONAL SEMINAR ON FISHERY
COOPERATIVES, COLOMBO, SRI LANKA

7.1 The Sub-Regional Seminar on Fishery Cooperatives was held by the ICA Regional Office and Education Centre for South-East Asia in collaboration with the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka and Sri Lanka Fisheries Cooperative Federation from 29th May to 8th June 1984 in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

7.2 The seminar was inaugurated by Hon. Minister of Fisheries, Government of Sri Lanka. The Minister addressing the inaugural session said that the cooperatives among fishermen are the most suitable organisations to assist them. The fishery cooperatives together with the Government and other private efforts should strive to develop the fishing industry. He explained the efforts made by the Sri Lanka Government in developing fishery industry and the services and facilities that are being provided to fishermen. These, he said, include not only assistance to improve the fishery industry but also welfare activities to improve the living conditions of fishermen and their families. He emphasised the need and importance of developing inland fishing that provide a cheaper source of fish.

7.3 The Director of the seminar, in his address to the inaugural session explained the educational activities carried out by the ICA Regional Office in the field of fishery cooperation. He pointed out that as a result of the experiences and knowledge gained by the participants in these educational activities, various new developmental activities have been initiated by the fishery cooperatives in the countries of the Region. He cited the examples of Insurance Scheme for Fishermen launched by the National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperative in India, and Better Living Activities of Sri Lanka Fishery Cooperatives.

7.4 Seventeen participants from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand participated in the seminar. Two resource persons from Japan and Malaysia gave talks at the seminar in addition to those from Sri Lanka.

7.5 The subjects discussed in the seminar included organisation and development of fishery cooperatives; supply of credit; fishing gear and other requisite of fishing families; and better living activities including supplementary income generating activities promoted by fishery cooperatives.

7.6 Study visits were arranged to several cooperative fishery societies and government schemes for development of inland fisheries. During the study visit, in addition to observing the management and operational aspects of the societies the participants got an opportunity of learning about the better living activities such as nursery schools, income generating and saving promotion activities of these societies.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 : REGIONAL SEMINAR ON FISHERY COOPERATIVES
FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIAN COUNTRIES, JAPAN

8.1 A Regional Seminar on Fishery Cooperatives, 6th in the series, is scheduled to be held in Tokyo from August 23 to September 6, 1984. An oral report of the seminar will be made at the sub-committee meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9 : PROGRESS OF INSURANCE SCHEMES
FOR FISHERMEN IN INDIA

9.1 Verbal reports will be made at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10 : FISHERY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

10.1 Agro-Fishery Cooperative Development in the Philippines

A proposal for Agro-Fishery Development Project - Cagayan North Agro-Fishery Cooperative, Inc. - has been submitted by the Cooperative Union of the Philippines to ICA ROEC.

The general objective of the project is to improve the economic welfare of the people in the Project area through cooperative development.

The specific objectives are :

- (i) To help increase the purchasing power of the farmers and fishermen by availing to them the benefits of economies of scale in the procurement of their consumers' and production requirements; and by providing them at reasonable cost the benefits of transportation, warehousing, cold storage, and processing facilities for their products.
- (ii) To help increase the income and productivity of the farmers and fishermen by providing with marketing facilities to maximise the prices of their products.
- (iii) To help improve the living conditions of farmers and fishermen through better nutrition, health and hygiene.

10.2 The Cooperative Union of the Philippines has also requested assistance for follow-up of the recommendations of the national seminar-workshop held in the Philippines in 1983 and assistance in way of training scholarships and consultancy services. Details have been requested and will be verbally reported at the meeting.

10.3 Pilot Project for Development of
Inland Fisheries in Sri Lanka

Verbal report will be made at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11 : ACTIVITIES OF THE ICA ROEC IN
FISHERY COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT

11.1 Development of Fishery Cooperatives

The growth of fishery cooperatives is uneven in the countries of the Region. Japan and the Republic of Korea have developed fishery cooperatives. Several other countries in the Region have fairly successful fishery cooperatives while in others fishery cooperative development is in ^{its} early stages.

The goal of the Regional Office in the field of fishery cooperatives is to assist the member movements in evolving strategies for organising strong and viable fishery cooperative structures capable of assisting the members in the production and marketing of fish and providing services to enhance the welfare of their families.

The ICA Sub-Committee for South-East Asia has been the forum for discussing the needs of the fishery cooperatives in the Region and receiving guidance for the activities of the Regional Office in the field.

Activities of the ICA Regional Office in the fishery cooperatives have been rather limited. It has held one Regional Seminar, one Sub-Regional Seminar and several national seminars, and conducted some studies. These activities were designed to assist the member movements in organising and developing fishery cooperatives. The Japanese fishery cooperative movement for the past several years has been conducting a Regional Seminar annually which the other movements have found useful.

The present need in the field of fishery cooperatives while continuing efforts to bring more and more fishermen into the cooperative fold by organising and developing fishery cooperatives ^{is} to pay special

attention to development of marketing (and processing) by cooperatives and to introduce better living activities to enhance the welfare of the fishing families.

Another area that needs attention is the development of inland fishing production. Inland fishing offers a cheaper source of fish compared to marine fishing. Capital requirement is much less. Most of the countries have great potential for development of inland fisheries. Cooperatives should pay special attention to this area.

The sub-committee may like to discuss various aspects on which activities may be organised.

Proposed Activities

11.2 Sub-Regional Workshop on Fish Farming and Prawn Breeding

Venue open
Duration : 14 days

Objectives:

- to examine the contribution of fishery cooperatives in fish farming and prawn breeding and their potentiality,
- to evolve guidelines for introducing these activities in fishery cooperatives, and
- to impart skills needed specially at management level in these fields.

Background

Fish farming and prawn breeding is receiving increasing attention of the governments of the Region in their attempts to increase fish production. The fishery cooperatives can contribute a great deal to this effort. There is a need to examine this area and evolve guidelines to strengthen and expand cooperative activities in this field and to impart skills needed specially at ^{the} management level for effectively carrying out such activities.

Direct Target Group

Presidents, Board members and Managers of
Marine and Inland Fishery Cooperatives

Ultimate Target Group

Fishermen

Results and Follow-up

The workshop will examine the potentialities of existing cooperatives to undertake fish farming and prawn breeding activities and also whether there is a need to organise special cooperatives for this purpose. It will evolve guidelines for cooperatives to initiate, expand and strengthen ~~xx~~ activities in this field and will impart skills needed specially at a management level.

The participants, through member organisations and fishery cooperatives would implement the recommendations of the workshop.

11.3 Other subjects on which Regional Seminars may be held:

- (i) Better Living Activities through Fishery Cooperatives
- (ii) Marketing of Fish and Fishery Products.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12 : ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION
OF THE CHAIR

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

AGENDA ITEM NO. 14 : VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR

Lionel Gunawardana
Secretary, ICA Sub-Committee
for Fisheries for S-E Asia

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754/9/84

International Cooperative Alliance
Regional Office & Education Centre
for South-East Asia
"Bonow House", 43 Friends Colony
New Delhi - 110065

December 19, 1983

MINUTES of the 13th Meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee for Fisheries
for South-East Asia held in Tokyo, Japan, on 3rd November 1983

The 13th Meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee for Fisheries for South-East Asia was held at the Institute for the Development of Agricultural Cooperation in Asia (IDACA), Tokyo, on 3rd November 1983 at 9.00 a.m.

Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim from Malaysia was in the chair.

The following were present:

1. Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim, Chairman and Member for Malaysia
2. Mr. Trevor Poustie, Australia
3. Mr. Quazi Abdus Salam, Bangladesh
4. Mr. M.J. Shah, India
5. Mr. Eddiwan, Indonesia
6. Mr. Jirozaemon Saito, Japan
7. Mr. Byoung Joon Suh, Korea
8. Mr. Arcadio S. Lozada, Philippines
9. Mr. Joseph Edward, Singapore
10. Mr. M.R.B. Daswatte, Sri Lanka
11. Col. Surin Cholpraserd, Thailand

Secretary : Mr. Lionel Gunawarjana, Joint Director and
Specialist in Agricultural Cooperation, ICA ROEC

Observers:

1. Mr. M.M. Vyas, India
2. Mr. Mh. Yahya Suryanagara, Indonesia
3. Mr. Reizo Hamazaki, Japan
4. Mr. Kiyokazu Nakagawa, Japan
5. Mrs. Arni Zainuddin, Malaysia
6. Mr. Chong Thin Huatt, Malaysia
7. Mr. Alfredo V. Sanchez, Philippines
8. Mr. Anan Chamnankit, Thailand
9. Mr. M. Matsuhira, Japan

Special Invitees

1. Mr. Bengt Kheller, SCC, Stockholm
2. Mr. Malte Jonsson, ICA Headquarters, Geneva

ICA ROEC Staff

1. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, Regional Director
2. Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education)
3. Mr. M.K. Puri, Joint Director (TA)
4. Mr. Ulf Bergstrom, Trade Adviser

In attendance

1. Mr. Prem Kumar, Personal Assistant to Regional Director, ICA ROEC
2. Ms. Takahashi, Japan

Before the start of the meeting the Regional Director explained that the opening of the Fishery Sub-Committee Meeting would be in the form of an informal formal opening of the Regional Council Meeting. It would be good for the Regional Councillors themselves to sit in the first meeting. He expressed his happiness that all the Regional Councillors and other members were able to participate in the informal formal meeting to inaugurate the Regional Council Meeting. On behalf of the ICA he welcomed the members and others to the meeting and hoped that under the able guidance of the Chairman of the Fisheries Sub-Committee, Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim, the discussions would be fruitful.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 : WELCOME BY THE HOST MOVEMENT

Mr. Jirozaemon Saito, Vice President, Zengyo-ren, and Chairman of the ICA Fishery Committee welcomed the members on behalf of the Japanese Cooperative Movement. He wished the deliberations all success. He said that the maintenance of close relationships between the sub-committee and the main committee would lead to the development of the fishery cooperatives in the South-East Asian Region.

Mr. Saito presented a brief report on the meeting of the Fishery Committee held in Praha, Czechoslovakia, on 29th September 1983. Following is a summary of his report.

There were 27 participants from 13 countries. Representatives from the ICA Head Office and Regional Offices, in New Delhi and Abidjan, ILO and FAO were also present.

Member countries presented reports on activities of the Fishery Cooperatives in their respective countries. This was followed by discussions specially on education and training activities. The meeting confirmed that the Fishery Cooperative Bulletin would continue to be issued four times in a year.

The meeting adopted a resolution calling upon the ICA to contribute necessary working funds to the Fishery Committee.

Mr. Saito explained to the meeting the need to strengthen the activities in the field of agriculture and fishery. Mr. Saito said that according to the cooperative development policy of the ICA, it had placed top priority on food production. Most important activity of the ICA, therefore, should be to contribute to the solution of the food problem. In that context Mr. Saito explained to the committee the important role played by agriculture and fishery cooperatives. He stressed the need to develop fishery cooperatives in the developing countries for which the Fishery Committee had made considerable efforts. He said that the strengthening of the auxiliary committees would lead to the strengthening of the ICA itself.

The meeting also adopted a second resolution calling upon the ICA to strengthen its activities in the field of fisheries in the African Region. A suggestion was made that a fishery sub-committee be established in the African Regions following the good example of South-East Asia.

Mr. Reizo Hamazaki, Managing Director of the National Federation of Fishery Cooperative Associations welcomed the members and observers on behalf of Japan and wished the meeting every success.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 : INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

i. REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman of the Fishery Sub-Committee welcomed the members and others present. He said he was happy that all committee members were present at the meeting. He said that the fishery cooperatives were playing a very important role in the economic progress of each country. Many of them were facing difficulties. Therefore, the fishing cooperative sector has to be protected. The developed countries which were better off need to assist the developing countries in moving towards development in this sector efficiently. He thanked the National Federation of Fishery Cooperative Associations of Japan and Fisheries Federation of Korea for training cooperative leaders from the fishery cooperative sector. He said the sub-committee should discuss the ways and means of developing fishery cooperatives in the Region. He suggested that a Regional Conference might be summoned to discuss fully the steps to be taken for fishery cooperative development in the Region.

ii. REMARKS BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

The Regional Director said that he was happy of the opportunity of having Mr. Saito in the meeting because Mr. Saito was able to communicate to the meeting some of the decisions that were made at the Central Committee Meeting at Praha. He was happy that he also brought to the notice of the sub-committee the need for considering stronger links between the committee and the auxiliary committee at the centre. That was one of the ways in which the functioning of the sub-committee could be strengthened and also a way of getting support, expertise and advice through the auxiliary committee. He would also like to agree with the Chairman of the sub-committee that there was a need to consider what should be done in the sector of fisheries. In the countries of the Region, there was very little linkages between the fishery sector of the cooperatives and the general stream of cooperatives. That was one of the biggest weaknesses in many of the countries - the subject of fishery cooperatives was undertaken by a separate ministry. In many situations the cooperative national organisations were themselves not directly having negotiations and liaison with the ministry that was concerned with fisheries. The ways the cooperatives in the mainstream could establish better linkages with other sector like fisheries should be examined. He said that in the Philippines an attempt was made by the Cooperative Union of the Philippines (CUP) to adopt a coordinating approach under the umbrella of the CUP for a very meaningful discussion and he was sure following from those discussions things would eventually lead to better development of fishery cooperatives. That kind of approach might help to strengthen and give greater stature to the national organisation and also would focus attention of all others concerned with the particular sector of development to the needs for coordinated action and could also help to identify a role for the cooperatives in the development of fisheries.

iii. REMARKS BY MR. MALTE JONSSON

Mr. Malte Jonsson said that he was very glad to be among so many old friends. He was representing the ICA Headquarters and Ms. Baulier, the Interim Director had asked him to convey her greetings. He said they were drafting a work programme which will be presented to the Central Committee Meeting and to the Congress in Hamburg next year. This work programme would outline the service the secretariat should give to the member organisations. The Regional Council and the Regional Offices would play an important role in this regard. An area of concern for the sub-committees was how a meaningful relationship between the ICA Auxiliary Committees and the sub-committees, could be maintained. He would request that this matter be given some consideration. There was a lot of challenging tasks in front of them and he hoped that solution could be found to strengthen the ICA as an international organisation. He wished the meeting all success.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 : CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF 12TH MEETING

The minutes of the 12th Meeting held in Manila, Philippines on 9th November 1982 were confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 : DISCUSSION ON SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS OF FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN THE REGION

At the request of the Chairman, each member present made a brief statement on the significant developments of fishery cooperatives in their respective countries. A summary of the reports is given below:

Australia

More than 80% of Australia's fishing industry is handled and controlled through cooperatives. In New South Wales Cooperatives handle the total catches while other States have some private operators.

Bangladesh

The fishery cooperatives have made considerable contribution to introduction of innovation in fishing industry by introducing improved varieties of fishing nets and gears.

The apex fishery cooperative society has taken steps to increase mechanisation in fishery industry.

Apex fishery cooperative society has become the biggest single importer and distributor of fishing material such as nylon twine, nylon rope, synthetic floats and marine diesel engines.

Indonesia

Earlier fishermen had to become members of multipurpose village unit cooperative (KUD) and perform their activities as functional units of fishermen with those societies. The different economic interest of members some time led to problems. Now, separate societies for fishermen - Fishermen Village Unit Cooperatives (KUD - MINA) are organised.

The Ministry of Cooperatives and Trade has issued instructions and follow-up action has been taken by the Director General of Fisheries and the Director General of Cooperatives for guiding the fishermen through "Village Unit Cooperatives for Fishermen" with the objectives of:

- (a) to improve the guidance to fishermen through the Fishermen's Cooperative by several government institutions,
- (b) to make clear descriptions about the functions of different levels of fishery cooperatives in giving services to fishermen.

In the year 1981 only 449 fishermen's cooperatives were operating, with a total of 94,000 members. The number of Fishermen's Cooperatives went upto 515 in 1982 with a membership of 120,000.

A separate Ministry of Cooperative Development with a separate Junior Minister for Animal Husbandry and Fishery has been created. This step together with the enactment of the law on exclusive economic zone which also regulate the fish catch and processing of other marine product is expected to have a positive impact on the development of fishery industry.

The mechanization of the fishery industry has progressed. Fishing boats with out-board or in-board motor engines with the capacity of 3 to 10 G.T., have increased from 51,056 in 1981 to 58,500 in 1982. The major part of the modernization has been done by the members of cooperatives.

As a result of the implementation of fish auction programme - More than 200 fish-auction centres are now being occupied by fishermen's cooperatives.

The Provincial Federation of Fishermen's Cooperative of Central Java has set-up a cold-storage plant to support shrimp export. To achieve more successful marketing through export trade is being undertaken in collaboration with a Japanese Corporation. This step has promoted and stabilized the shrimp price in the production areas, since middlemen and private exporters do not control the prices any more.

The Fishermen's Cooperatives also have entered the domestic trade of fresh and processed fish in more systematic way. However, the private sector still control the market due to their long experience in this field and the strong trade network they have established over the years.

To minimize the dependency on imported goods and to save more foreign exchange, the National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperatives have established a float plant with a capacity of 2,000,000 floats of different types per year.

Since 1983 the Government gives priority to Fishermen's Cooperatives to handle the supply of solar, diesel oil, kerosene and premium directly to the fishing community. For the first stage 11 fishery centres have been appointed to handle the supply, which has been carried out before by the private sector which charged prices higher than the fixed official prices.

The National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperatives has entered into a Cooperation with several private companies in the areas of fishing, net production, domestic distribution as well as export. By this way the National Federation is now in a position to supply different types of nets, ropes, floats and other fishing equipments to the local Fishermen's Cooperatives to meet the needs of their members.

In 1983, the Indonesian Cooperative Council on behalf of the National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperatives, have received a group of 30 representatives of Fishermen's Cooperatives from Malaysia, to study the fishermen's cooperative activities in Indonesia.

India

National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperatives of India (FISHCOPFED) formulated a scheme of Accident Insurance of Fishermen following the example of the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperatives of the Republic of Korea. The scheme in Korea was studied by the General Manager of the Federation when he attended the ICA Regional Seminar for Fishery Cooperatives held in Korea. In India, general insurance is nationalised and the entire general insurance business is done by the General Insurance Corporation of India through its four subsidiaries. The insurance scheme is being operated in collaboration with the United India Insurance Co. Ltd., which is one of the subsidiaries. This company has appointed the National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperatives of India as its agent for the scheme. Under the scheme a fisherman between the age of 10 to 65 years is provided an accident insurance cover of Rs.15,000/- against a nominal premium of Rs.12/- per year. In case of death or permanent disability on account of accident of a fisherman insured under the scheme his nominee is paid a sum of Rs.15,000/-. Further, in case of loss of one eye, one hand or one foot on account of accident the insured fisherman is paid Rs.7,500/-.

Republic of Korea

As of the end of June 1982, there were 8 provincial branch offices, 56 regional fisheries cooperatives, 14 fishing-type fisheries cooperatives, 2 fisheries manufacturer's cooperatives and 1,436 fishing village societies under the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperatives. A total of 133,700 fishermen were affiliated with the fishing village societies as members.

Currently, the Korea's fisheries cooperatives are running a total of 130 fish wholesale marketing centres which are composed of 171 local fish wholesale marketing centres (of which two centres are run by the Federation) managed by the regional fisheries' cooperatives and 10 Inland Fish Wholesale Marketing Centres operated by the Federation. A total of 1,651,000 tons of marine products were traded in 1982 at these local fish wholesale marketing centres, accounting for 77 per cent of total marine products landed by the coastal and off shore fishing industries. 73,084 tons of marine products were traded out to the retailers at the Federation's inland fish wholesale marketing centres.

Philippines

Fishery cooperatives are very few in the Philippines and they are in an early stage of development. The Cooperative Union of the Philippines in collaboration with the ICA ROEC and with the involvement of fishery development agencies of the country namely the Ministry of Natural Resources, Bureau of Cooperatives Development of the Ministry of Agriculture, the Fishery Industry Development Council, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, the Philippine Fisheries Development Authority under the Ministry of Natural Resources, held a Seminar-cum-Workshop and formulated a Plan for Cooperative Fishery Development.

The Cooperative Union of the Philippines is working out the necessary arrangements with the Bureau of Cooperatives Development of Ministry of Agriculture on the operationalisation of the Plan.

Sri Lanka

The registration, supervision and audit of fishery cooperatives were performed by the Cooperative Department until the beginning of 1982. The function of supervision of fishery cooperatives has been handed over to the Fishery Department since last year.

In response to the offer of technical assistance from the National Council of Agricultural Cooperatives of Hungary, the Sri Lanka Fisheries Cooperative Federation submitted a project report for the development of inland fisheries, through the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka to the ICA ROEC.

As a result of the studies made by the President of the Cooperative Fishery Federation of Sri Lanka when he attended the Fishery Seminar in Japan, women groups have been formed in some selected fishery cooperatives. These groups are carrying out activities of women and their households. The members of the women's groups engage in cottage industries which are suited for their different districts. Cottage industries for the making of dried fish, coir rope, lace and fruit processing (wine making) are undertaken by the women's groups to supplement their family income. These groups in some societies also have started pre-schools for children.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 : A FILM SHOW ON "FISH FARMING IN JAPAN"

A film show on "Fish Farming in Japan" arranged by the National Federation of Fishery Cooperative Association was shown at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 : PILOT PROJECT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF INLAND FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN SRI LANKA

The meeting was informed about the proposal for a pilot project for development of Inland Fisheries submitted by the Sri Lanka Fisheries Federation to the ICA for assistance. The ICA in consultation with the ICA Fisheries Committee was exploring the possibility of getting the FAO to conduct a feasibility study. To facilitate this, the Sri Lanka Fisheries Federation had been requested to obtain the approval of the Sri Lanka Government to this proposal. The delegate from Sri Lanka informed that they were negotiating with the government.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7 : INSURANCE SCHEME FOR FISHERMEN IN INDIA

The Secretary informed the meeting of the "accident insurance scheme" initiated by the National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperatives of India, following the example of the Republic of Korea. A brief note on the scheme was circulated. The meeting recommended that other countries which do not have such schemes should also initiate such insurance scheme.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 : STUDY ON WOMEN'S ASSOCIATIONS IN
FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN JAPAN

The Secretary informed the meeting that on the suggestion of the sub-committee, the ICA undertook a Study on Women's Associations in Fishery Cooperatives in Japan. The report had been brought out in printed form and sent to the member organisations.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9 : NATIONAL SEMINAR-CUM-WORKSHOP ON FISHERY
COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT IN THE PHILIPPINES

The information given in the agenda was noted.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10 : FOLLOW-UP OF THE FISHERY COOPERATIVE
DEVELOPMENT PLAN OF THE PHILIPPINES

The meeting discussed the request made by the Cooperative Union of the Philippines for assistance to implement the cooperative fishery development plan drawn by the Seminar-cum-Workshop on Fishery Cooperatives held by the CUP in collaboration with the ICA ROEC. It was decided to obtain more details about the proposal from the CUP and refer the request to the ICA Headquarters.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11 : REGIONAL SEMINAR ON FISHERY COOPERATIVES
FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIAN COUNTRIES, JAPAN

The meeting noted the holding of the Regional Seminar on Fishery Cooperatives by the National Federation of Fishery Cooperative Associations (ZENKYOREN) of Japan. It expressed its gratitude to the Japanese Fishery Cooperative Movement for holding the seminar annually.

The representative of ZENKYOREN made the following suggestions regarding the seminar: (1) They would like each of the members to confirm that the apex organisation, in their respective countries, was the representative of fishery cooperatives and the nomination of participants was to be done by that body. (2) To observe the conditions laid down for nomination of participants strictly and send the nominations in time. (3) To further develop the annual seminar in Japan, ways of sharing costs should be considered.

The Chairman suggested that in selecting candidates to the seminars, the limit could be relaxed a little specially in case of cooperative leaders.

The Regional Director said that the question of proper selection of participants to the various seminars, should be given serious consideration. There were situations where persons nominated were not fit for the particular course. Participating members of the committee should ensure that a training opportunity is not wasted and that the proper type of person is sent for training. As regards the age limit, he said if the person concerned was really competent the age limit may be relaxed. However, it was good to train younger people who could work for a longer period in the organisation. It was very necessary to evolve a system of sharing costs. That would increase the capacity to involve

more persons in the training programmes. The national organisation could develop a system by which the sharing could be done through a central pool of funds and allocations could be made to various items as and when activities come on.

He suggested that each country set up a small nucleus of about 7-10 people from among those who have gone through the Japanese training courses with a view to using their experiences to strengthen cooperative effort in this sector.

The chairman said that the meeting of the sub-committee held in Bali, Indonesia, was against sending government officials to Japan seminar. They were transferred to other Ministries and departments and the efforts by the ICA for their training were wasted. Therefore, it was agreed in the sub-committee that we must only select members of the fishermen cooperatives.

Mr. Saito said that ZENGYOREN was planning to organise the seminar next year also. However, it was not possible to increase the number of participants to over 15 because of the limited budget.

Mr. Lozada, Member for the Philippines said that in certain situations where governmental officials were working in the field of fishery cooperatives, the also needed to be trained and therefore suggested some flexibility in this regard.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12 : VENUE AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting of the sub-committee should be held along with the Regional Council Meeting which would be held in Thailand in 1984.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 13 : ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

Mr. Bengt Kjeller, representative of the SCC suggested that the Fishery Committee consider the possibility of approaching the question of cooperative fishery development on a long term basis, so that each country could draw up suitable plans to achieve the long term objectives. He also suggested that closer collaboration be established with the FAO, so that the development effort could be strengthened.

Mr. Malte Jonsson, ICA Headquarters, mentioned that they at the ICA Headquarters, in collaboration with the Regional Offices, were already exploring possibilities of closer collaboration with UN and its specialised agencies. It was necessary to get the governments in each country to agree to the proposal for UN agencies to work in their respective countries through cooperatives and other governmental organisations. He also mentioned that some UN agencies have a preference to work through NGO and that there was a liaison division at ICA Headquarters pursuing this matter.

The committee was of the view that having a Regional Conference on Fishery Cooperatives would be beneficial in mapping out long-term strategy for development.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 14 : VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair.

Sd/-
Lionel Gunawardena
Secretary, ICA Sub-Committee
for Fisheries for S-E Asia

22 November 1984

MINUTES OF THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE ICA COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER
COOPERATION FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA HELD AT BANGKOK ON 7TH NOVEMBER 1984

The Eighth Meeting of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia was held at Bangkok, Thailand, on 7th November 1984 under the Chairmanship of Mr. Snith Chittaporn.

The following were present

Members

1. Mr. Snith Chittaporn, Chairman and Member for Thailand
2. Mr. Quazi Abdus Salam, Member for Bangladesh
3. Mr. M. Yahya Suryanegara, Member for Indonesia
4. Mr. S. Fukuda, Member for Japan
5. Mr. Ki Won Suh, Member for Korea
6. Mr. Ismail Omar, Member for Malaysia
7. Mr. Alfredo V. Sanchez, Member for Philippines
8. Mr. M.R.F. Daswatte, Member for Sri Lanka
9. Mr. Roland Tay, Member for Singapore.

Secretary : Mr M.K.Puri, Joint Director & Specialist for
Consumer Cooperation, ICA ROEC

Special Invitees

1. Mr. Malte Jonsson, ICA Geneva
2. Mr. Bengt Kjeller, SCC, Stockholm

Observers

1. Mr. S.M. Salim, Bangladesh
2. Mr. M.M. Vyas, India
3. Mr. Eddiwan, Indonesia
4. Mr. S. Ohta, Japan
5. Mr. Yong Duck Kim, Korea
6. Mr. R. Mathimugan, Malaysia
7. Mr. K.R. Somasundram, Malaysia
8. Mr. A.S. Lozada, Philippines
9. Mr. A. Kilayko, Philippines
10. Mr. Anan Chamnankit, Thailand

ICA ROEC Staff

1. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, Regional Director
2. Dr. D. Vir, Joint Director
3. Mr. L. Gunawardana, Joint Director

In attendance

1. Mr. Prem Kumar, Personal Assistant to Regional Director, ICA ROEC

Agenda Item No. 1 : Welcome by the Host Movement

Mr. Snith Chittaporn, President of the National Federation of Consumers Coöperative Societies of Thailand, welcomed members of the Committee on behalf of the Cooperative Movement of Thailand and expressed his hope that the Committee would have fruitful deliberations at the meeting.

In the absence of Mr. Chong Thin Huatt former Chairman of the Committee, who expired on 21st June 1984 at Kuala Lumpur, the meeting was presided over by Mr. Snith Chittaporn, Vice Chairman of the Committee.

Mr. Snith Chittaporn paid tribute to late Mr. Chong Thin Huatt for his dedicated and meritorious services for consumers cooperative movements in the region and requested the members to stand up and observe one minute's silence in honour of the departed soul.

Agenda Item No. 2 : Introductory Remarks.

The Chairman thanked the ICA Regional Office for carrying out a consultancy mission for strengthening consumers cooperative movement in Thailand. He also thanked the Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union and Nada-Kobe Consumers Cooperative Society for providing facilities for on-the-job training to employees of consumers cooperatives from the region.

Mr. R.B.Rajaguru, ICA Regional Director said that during the last few years, the committee had been able to focus attention to very important areas like changing trends in retail distribution trade, changing consumers demands need for moderniations of shops, regional warehousing and the need for establishing strong national wholesale consumer societies. He also stressed upon the need for involving housewives in consumers cooperative movements and for developing the consumer protection aspect.

Mr. Bengt Kjeller from SCC said that he was very pleased to see that the meeting of the Consumer Committee was so well attended and that they have a very constructive agenda. He informed the committee that there is a growing interest in Sweden for supporting the growing consumer cooperative movement in Asia. The SCC was trying to involve consumers cooperative organisations in Sweden directly in development work. Consumers cooperative societies in Sweden are interested to establish direct contacts and communication with consumers cooperative organisations in Asia. He hoped that there would soon be direct collaboration between the consumers cooperatives in Sweden and the consumers cooperatives in Asian region.

Agenda Item No. 3 : Confirmation of Minutes of the last Meeting

The minutes of the 7th meeting of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for S.E.Asia held on 3rd November 1983 at Tokyo were confirmed.

Agenda Item No. 4 : Election of the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Committee

Mr. Smith Chittaporn, Thailand, and Mr. Alfredo V. Sanchez, Philippines, were unanimously elected Chairman and Vice Chairman respectively of the Committee for the next four years.

Agenda Item No. 5 : Matters arising out of the Minutes of the last meeting

5.1 Regional Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in Japan.

The Secretary reported that the Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union, in collaboration with the National Federation of University Coop Associations, would host a Regional Seminar on Consumers Cooperation in Japan from 20th August to 10th September 1985. They have agreed to accept upto 25 participants at the seminar.

5.2 Regional Seminar on Stock Management and Warehousing

The Secretary reported on the ICA Regional Seminar on Stock Management and Warehousing which was held in Bangkok in September 1984. It was attended by 15 participants from six countries. The Swedish Consumers Cooperative Movement and the Japanese Cooperative Movement had provided one resource person each. Both the resource persons had made very useful contribution at the seminar. The recommendations of the seminar had already been circulated to all member movements in the region.

The Committee placed on record their thanks and appreciation to the Swedish and the Japanese movements for their kind support and collaboration.

5.3 Regional Seminar on Rural Distribution through Cooperatives

The Secretary reported that the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation of Korea (NACF) has agreed to host a Regional Seminar on Rural Distribution through Cooperatives in Korea from 7th to 22nd April 1985. The Japanese movement (CUAC) have also agreed to host 5 days study visits for participants of the seminar in Japan so that they could also see the system in Japan. The movements were requested to sponsor their nominations well in time.

5.4 Preliminary Investigation regarding Regional Warehouses in Mindanao Island

The Secretary reported that the Preliminary Feasibility Study was carried out during June 1984 and the report was sent to the Cooperative Union of the Philippines and the Mindanao Cooperative Movement.

The study shows that it is possible to have a Regional Warehouse by consumers cooperatives in Region-X of the Mindanao, provided the requisite funds for the construction of the warehouse and equipment could be secured on reasonable terms and rate of interest. He informed that the Philippines was passing through a very severe economic crisis hence interest rates in the country were prohibitively high.

5.5 On-the-Job Training in Japan

The Committee placed on record their appreciation and thanks to the JCCU for continuing to provide facilities for on-the-job training to employees of cooperative supermarkets from the region. After discussions, it was agreed that the duration of the training period should not be reduced and it be retained as four weeks. In view of increasing demand from member movements for on-the-job training facilities the Committee requested the ICA Regional Office to explore the possibility of securing similar facilities from consumers cooperatives of other advanced countries like U.K, Sweden and USA.

Agenda Item No. 6 : Consumer Cooperative Movement in Thailand and its Future Planning

Mr Anan Chamnankit from Thailand presented a paper on "Consumers Cooperative Movement in Thailand and its Future Planning". Copies of the talk were made available to all the members and others present at the meeting.

Agenda Item No. 7 : Paper on Recent Developments in the field of Consumer Cooperation in Member Countries

At the request of the Chairman, each member made a brief statement regarding recent developments in the field of consumer cooperation in his country. Some of the important facts are mentioned below :-

- Singapore:
- NTUC Welcome Consumers Cooperative and SILOS have been amalgamated into one strong society under the name NTUC Fairprice Cooperative Limited. They are now operating 33 supermarkets.
 - Some of the shops are being modernised.
 - Three more outlets will be opened during the current year in the new housing complexes.
- Sri Lanka:
- 287 Multipurpose Cooperative Societies are handling distribution of consumer goods through 9000 retail outlets.
 - Most of the societies are facing serious problems as a result of open economy policy of the government.
 - Nearly 65% of the societies are running in loss.

- Philippines:
- The Metro Manila Consumers Cooperative Federation is now operative. It has identified a few items for joint buying.
 - Consumers Cooperatives in Metro Manila have increased their sales turnover and many societies which were earlier running at loss are operating in profit.
 - As a result of impact of the ICA Retail Management Workshops, there has been marked improvement in the working of many consumers cooperatives in the country.
- Malaysia
- The Malaysian Cooperative Supermarket Society continues to make good progress. Significant new developments are taking place because of initiative of Central Cooperative Bank.
 - Malaysian Cooperative Agencies Society (MCAS) has been renamed as Malaysian Consumers Cooperative Society.
 - The JCCU has agreed to render technical assistance to CUM and its member organisations in establishing supermarkets in Malaysia. The Nada-Kobe Consumers Cooperative Society in Japan have agreed to provide technical assistance to MCAS. MCAS is going into major expansion programme to build new consumers cooperatives.
 - MCAS has set up a mini supermarket and is planning to establish three more in near future.
- Korea :
- NACF is distributing consumer goods in rural areas through agricultural multipurpose societies. Consumer goods worth more than 280 million US Dollars were distributed through chain stores and women purchase centres in rural areas.
 - Women clubs in rural areas which were earlier concentrating on improvement of surroundings, rural savings and family planning programmes are now focusing their attention to distribution of consumer goods.
 - Mobile shops are becoming very popular for catering to remote villages.
 - In addition to five existing supermarkets in Seoul Metropolitan city, 15 more supermarkets are contemplated in Seoul during the next year.
- Japan :
- Membership of retail societies has increased to 8.5 million. More than 20% households have come within the fold of consumers cooperative movement.
 - Retail sales have increased to 5.6 billion US Dollars an. increase of 12.2% over the previous year against 4% by private chain stores.

Japan
(contd.)

- Total sales through joint buying has increased by 30%. It now constitutes 30% of total sales of the movement.

Indonesia

- Interest in consumers cooperatives is increasing.
- A supermarket has been set up in Bandung.
- It is contemplated to set up another supermarket in Jakarta.

India:

- Consumers cooperative societies now have 25,000 retail outlets in urban areas and their total turnover is estimated around Rs.36 billion.
- In rural areas, primary agricultural societies are handling distribution of consumer goods through 55,000 retail outlets. Total turnover estimated around Rs.20 billion.
- Government has launched a massive programme of public distribution system. Consumers cooperatives are preferred as main agency to carry out public distribution under government scheme.
- A Regional Warehouse has been set up at Madras in Tamil Nadu. More regional warehouses are contemplated at other places. 17

Agenda Item No. 8: ICA ROEC Work Programme for 1985-86 in the Field of Consumer Cooperation

Members of the Committee expressed great appreciation for the various activities and programmes carried out by the ICA ROEC in the field of consumer cooperation and they fully endorsed the general approach and various steps being followed for the promotion of consumers cooperative movement in the region. It was expressed that the activities and the programmes were according to their needs and priorities.

The programmes and activities proposed for 1985-86 were discussed and endorsed. The representative from the Philippines requested that in addition to the proposed programme, the Regional Office should also carry out a consultancy mission for the strengthening of consumers cooperative movement in the Philippines similar to the one carried out in Thailand in February 1984. He also stressed upon the need for continuing technical assistance and expertise for training programmes in retail management for employees of consumers cooperatives. He said that the ICA Workshops on Retail Management had made good impact and had resulted in improving working of many consumers cooperative societies in his country.

Mr. Bengt Kjeller from SCC remarked: The Consumer Committee has got a clear strategy and clear objectives. We like their programmes and activities for 1985-86. The SCC-ICA agreement is expiring in June 1985. What is now needed is proposal for a three year plan, from July 85 onwards. I think it would be very useful if some points regarding the long-term plan could also be discussed here and may be it could then be delegated to the chairman and the secretary to work out proposals for three years plan. Another point to be considered is the shifting of the location of the consumer activity. It has to be discussed. At least from the SCC point of view, we would like these activities to be carried out from a more central place which is determined by the work programme and cost effectiveness. We would also like to see as much of the cost shared by movements as possible. In some cases cooperatives have agreed to take care of office costs, secretarial cost and even housing costs.

Mr. Mathimugan from Malaysia said: This is one committee, as Mr. Kjeller has pointed out, which is matured both in terms of its objectives and activities. It is well organised and has worked out its strategy. It has reached a level where we are seeing more definite results. You can see from their programmes that have been worked out. This might be considered as a priority sector for the purpose of our own region. The need for a specialist in this sector is great.

The Secretary said: We are grateful to member organisations for their kind remarks about the activities of the committee. The next item on our agenda is Perspective Planning for the next 5 years and we have already requested member movements to identify areas where they would like to have assistance from the Regional Office. We should take up this item more seriously in view of the fact that SCC is now asking for a programme for the next three years.

Agenda Item No. 9 : To identify areas in the field of consumer cooperation which need special emphasis and to draw up a perspective plan by each country for the next five year

It was decided by the Committee that in view of lack of expertise with member movements to draft their perspective plan, the Secretary of the Committee together with a representative from Swedish Cooperative Centre and the JCCU should visit member movements and help them in drawing up their perspective plans for the next three years.

It was further recommended that the chairman, vice chairman and secretary of the committee should carefully examine all proposals for external assistance, at the national and regional level, for the promotion of consumers cooperative movement in the region.

Agenda Item No. 10 : To discuss about the urgent need to secure housewives support for consumers cooperatives

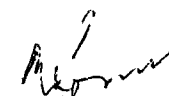
The Committee recommended to member movements to realise the urgent need for securing solid and genuine support of housewives for their consumers cooperatives. They should discuss about various various ways and means by which they could secure active participation and support of the housewives. It was further urged that this important aspect of enhancing member participation in the movement should receive due attention in their perspective plans.

Agenda Item No. 11: Any other item with permission of the Chair

No matter was raised by any member under this item.

Agenda Item No. 12 : Date and venue for the next meeting of the Committee

It was decided that the next meeting of the Committee be held in India along with the ICA Regional Council Meeting.


M. K. Puri
Secretary

ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation

New Delhi

22 November 1964

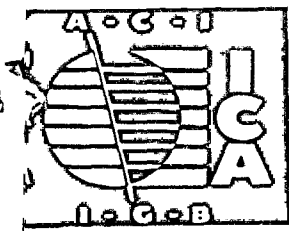
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ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia

— EIGHTH MEETING —

Venue — ,

Dates —



*International Cooperative Alliance, Regional Office
and Education Centre for South-East Asia, "Bonow
House", 43 Friends' Colony, New Delhi-110065, India*

EIGHTH MEETING OF THE ICA COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER COOPERATION
FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA, BANGKOK, THAILAND: 7TH NOVEMBER 1984

Date : 7th November 1984
Time : 9.00 A.M.
Venue : Bangkok Palace Hotel,
Bangkok, Thailand

A G E N D A

1. WELCOME BY THE HOST MOVEMENT
2. INTRODUCTORY REMARKS
3. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 7TH MEETING HELD ON
3RD NOVEMBER 1983 AT TOKYO
4. ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE
5. MATTERS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING
6. CONSUMER COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT IN THAILAND AND ITS FUTURE PLANNING
7. PAPER ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE FIELD OF CONSUMER COOPERATION
IN MEMBER COUNTRIES
8. TO DISCUSS ICA ROEC WORK PROGRAMME FOR 1985-86 IN THE FIELD OF
CONSUMER COOPERATION
9. TO IDENTIFY AREAS IN THE FIELD OF CONSUMER COOPERATION WHICH NEEDS
SPECIAL EMPHASIS AND TO DRAW UP A PERSPECTIVE PLAN BY EACH COUNTRY
FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS
10. TO DISCUSS ABOUT THE URGENT NEED TO SECURE HOUSEWIVES SUPPORT FOR
CONSUMERS COOPERATIVES
11. ANY OTHER ITEM WITH PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR
12. FIXATION OF DATE AND VENUE FOR THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE

Annexe

1. Minutes of the 7th Meeting
2. Note on the ICA ROEC Work Programme, 1985-86
3. Paper on Agenda Item No. 9

7/11 9am

11 September 1984

AGENDA ITEM No. 1. WELCOME BY THE HOST MOVEMENT

The President of the Consumers Cooperative Federation of Thailand will welcome members of the Committee on behalf of the Cooperative Movement of Thailand.

AGENDA ITEM No. 2. INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

The Vice-Chairman of the Committee will welcome the members and also move a resolution of condolence on the sad demise of Mr. Chong Thin Huatt who was former Chairman of the Committee. Mr. Chong Thin Huatt suddenly passed away on 21st June 1984 in Kuala Lumpur.

The Regional Director ICA ROEC and the representative of the Swedish Cooperative Centre will make some introductory remarks.

AGENDA ITEM No. 3. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 7TH MEETING HELD ON 3RD NOVEMBER 1983 AT TOKYO

The minutes of the meeting were circulated to all members. As no comments have been received from any member, the same may be treated as confirmed. A copy of the minutes has been attached to the Agenda for ready reference.

AGENDA ITEM No. 4. ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE

The provisions of the constitution of the Committee in regard to the election of Chairman and Vice Chairman are reproduced below :-

"The Committee shall elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman from amongst its members. Their term of office shall be for a period extending from one ICA Congress to the next such Congress or for a period of four years whichever is the shorter and the retiring officers shall be eligible for re-election. The period of office of any elected Chairman or Vice-Chairman within the period of two Congresses shall expire at the first Congress held after his election".

The next ICA Congress will be held at Hamburg on 11th October 1984. Hence election of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Committee has become due. Late Mr. Chong Thin Huatt of Malaysia has been Chairman of the Committee and Mr. Snith Chittaporn, President of the National Consumers Cooperative Federation of Thailand, is its Vice-Chairman. The members are requested to elect a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman for the next term.

AGENDA ITEM No. 5. MATTERS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES OF THE
LAST MEETING

Actions taken on decisions made at the last meeting are reported below :

5.1. Regional Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in Japan

The Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union has agreed to host a Regional Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in Japan, sometime in August 1985. This seminar will be conducted by the Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union in collaboration with the National Federation of University Cooperative Associations (NFUCA). The main objectives of the seminar will be as under :-

- to study supermarket operations in Japan
- to identify factors which have contributed success of the Japanese Consumers Cooperative Movement
- to study the distinguishing features of the Japanese Consumers Cooperative Movement
- to study role of Japanese Consumers Cooperative Movement in the field of consumer information, consumer education and consumer protection
- to study the working of university consumers cooperatives in Japan
- to study the role played by university cooperatives in improving welfare, cultural and educational activities for student community at the university campus.
- to study contributions made by university coops in Japan for the promotion and expansion of urban consumers cooperative movement.

Managers of consumers cooperatives, university cooperative stores, and policy makers in government departments connected with development of consumers cooperative movements will be invited to participate at the above seminar.

5.2. Regional Seminar on Stock Management and Warehousing

The Regional Seminar on Stock Management and Warehousing was organised in Bangkok from 17th September to 1st October 1984. It was attended by 16 participants from 6 countries namely India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand. The Republic of Korea who were invited to nominate one participant, could not avail of the offer.

5.3 Regional Seminar on Rural Distribution through Cooperatives

In the last meeting, the members of the committee had urged upon the ICA ROEC to arrange a Regional Seminar in Japan or Korea so as to observe and study their systems and experiences regarding distribution of consumer goods in rural areas through agricultural multipurpose cooperative societies. The members said that rural distribution was assuming urgent importance in most of the developing countries and their national governments expected cooperatives to play more active and meaningful role in this important task.

The National Agricultural Cooperative Federation of Korea has agreed to host a two weeks seminar in Korea in April 1985. The possibility for arranging study visits in Japan is also being negotiated with the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives in Japan. The main objectives of the above seminar will be as under :

- i. to discuss about the importance of rural distribution in the context of consumer protection needs of the developing countries;
- ii. to study cooperative systems in Korea and Japan for rural distribution and their experiences in this field;
- iii. to identify problem areas in rural distribution;
- iv. to discuss about organisational, managerial, financial, manpower and infrastructural needs of cooperative movements to undertake rural distribution efficiently.

Managers of village cooperatives, consumers cooperatives and their higher level organisations and policy makers in government departments connected with rural distribution will be invited to participate in the above seminar.

5.4 Preliminary Investigation regarding Regional Warehouse in Mindanao Island

The Preliminary Investigation Study to ascertain the feasibility of setting up a Regional Warehouse in Mindanao Island was carried out by the Specialist in Consumer Cooperation in ICA ROEC from 23rd June to 8th July 1984. The report of the study with its findings and recommendations was sent to the Cooperative Union of the Philippines in August 1984.

5.5 On the Job Training in Japan

The Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union has agreed to receive every year five full-time professional employees of consumers cooperatives from the region for on-the-job training in Japan, for a period of one month. The second batch of trainees consisting of 5 participants (Philippines 2, Thailand 2 and Malaysia 1) was sent in January 1984 and the third batch consisting of 5 participants (India 2, Thailand 2 and Korea 1) went to Japan in August 1984. The consumers cooperative movements in the region have shown keen interest in this programme as they find it very useful particularly for employees of cooperative supermarkets.

AGENDA ITEM No. 6. CONSUMER COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT IN THAILAND AND ITS FUTURE PLANNING

A guest speaker from the Consumer Cooperative Federation of Thailand will present a paper on "Consumers Cooperative Movement in Thailand and its Future Planning". A brief discussion may follow the presentation of the paper.

AGENDA ITEM No. 7. PAPER ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE FIELD OF CONSUMER COOPERATION IN MEMBER COUNTRIES

The members of the Committee have been requested to prepare written statements in regard to recent developments in the field of consumer cooperation in their respective countries.

The above documents will be circulated among members of the committee before the meeting. The members may like to hold discussion on "Recent Developments in the Field of Consumer Cooperation" in member countries. They may like to seek further clarification in regard to information circulated by member countries.

AGENDA ITEM No. 8. TO DISCUSS ICA ROEC WORK PROGRAMME FOR 1985-86 IN THE FIELD OF CONSUMER COOPERATION

The main objectives of ICA ROEC activities in the field of consumer cooperation and the work programme proposed for 1985-86 have been discussed in the enclosed note. In designing its approach to support the development of consumer cooperation in the region, the ICA ROEC has been guided by needs of the movements which their representatives have expressed in meetings of this committee from time to time or have been otherwise identified by cooperative leaders at various regional and national activities. The provisions of ICA policy document on Cooperative Development and priority areas identified by the Swedish Cooperative Centre have also been kept in view.

Members are requested to examine the overall approach and proposed programmes of activities for 1985-86 and to give their reactions and suggestions in the matter. The ICA ROEC is keen to ensure that their activities should serve real needs and priorities of the movements.

The members of the committee are also requested to intimate if they would like ICA ROEC to carry out or support any additional programmes in their respective countries or in the region, in the field of consumer cooperation, during 1985-86 and thereafter.

AGENDA ITEM No. 9. TO IDENTIFY AREAS IN THE FIELD OF CONSUMER COOPERATION WHICH NEEDS SPECIAL EMPHASIS AND TO DRAW UP A PERSPECTIVE PLAN BY EACH COUNTRY FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEAR

The above subject was included in the agenda of the last meeting, which was held in Tokyo. For want of time, discussion on the item had to be deferred. In view of importance of the subject, it was suggested by the Committee that a Special Technical Meeting should be arranged by the ICA ROEC at some central place in the region to discuss perspective plan for development of consumer cooperation of each country in detail and to find out in what manner the ICA ROEC could assist them in the implementation of their development programmes.

The ICA ROEC decided to convene this meeting in April 1984 at Kuala Lumpur, on an invitation from ANGKASA. But as the meeting was envisaged on self-financing basis, representatives of many countries regretted their inability to participate in the meeting due to financial stringencies. As such, the proposed Technical Meeting could not take place during the year.

Accordingly, the above item is again placed before the members of the committee for their consideration.

A discussion paper on the subject is attached with the agenda.

AGENDA ITEM No. 10. TO DISCUSS ABOUT THE URGENT NEED TO SECURE HOUSEWIVES SUPPORT FOR CONSUMERS COOPERATIVES

Consumers cooperative societies in the region are facing increasing competition from private trade. A large number of modern supermarkets and department stores are springing up every year in most of the large cities and flourishing towns. The private chain stores have financial and organisational support of large corporations, banks, insurance companies and import houses. It is difficult for consumers cooperatives

members'
house-
wives.

to match with well organised private sector in terms of their financial resources, technical innovations or marketing capabilities. Survival of consumer cooperatives would lie in their capacity for securing genuine and sincere support of their members and especially / The movements in the region have to consider seriously the ways and means to win confidence and support of housewives. In this regard they can learn a lot from experiences of the Japanese consumer cooperative movement. The movements shall have to play more active and meaningful role to safeguard interest of the consumer. It shall have to make concerted efforts to project its image as a consumer organisation and enhance its collaboration with other voluntary, democratic organisations which are working in their respective countries in the interests of the consumers. The managements of consumers cooperatives will have to make deliberate efforts to bring out in their operations the distinguishing features of consumers cooperatives as compared to private shops. A few years ago, ICA ROEC New Delhi also sponsored, with financial and technical assistance from the Swedish Cooperative Centre, a Project for consumer education through women members of consumers cooperative societies in Sri Lanka. This project has proved very effective in activating women involvement in their cooperatives.

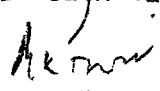
It is requested that members of the committee may seriously consider the urgent need for securing housewives support for consumers cooperative movements in the region. It is suggested that each movement should identify atleast 5 well managed and economically viable consumer cooperative societies, with broad based membership and a good performance record, where pilot projects could be formulated, in consultation with local managements so as to achieve active member participation and genuine support of housewives for consumer cooperative societies in their communities.

AGENDA ITEM No. 11. ANY OTHER ITEM WITH PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

If any other item is received from any member of the committee, the same may be discussed at the meeting with the permission of the chair.

AGENDA ITEM No. 12. FIXATION OF DATE AND VENUE FOR THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE

It is proposed that the next meeting of the Committee may be held along with the meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia.


M. K. Puri
Secretary

ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation
for South-East Asia

New Delhi
12 September 1984

All Members of the Committee
All National Level Apex Coop Consumers Organisations
All National Level Coop Apex Organisations
Director, ICA, Geneva Director, SCC, Stockholm
Chairman, ICA Consumer Committee, London

MINUTES OF THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE ICA COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER COOPERATION FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA HELD AT TOKYO ON 3RD NOVEMBER 1983

The Seventh Meeting of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia was held in Tokyo at the Institute for the Development of Agricultural Cooperation in Asia (IDACA) on 3rd November 1983, under the chairmanship of Mr. Chong Thin Huatt.

The following were present :-

Members

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Chong Thin Huatt | - Chairman and Member for Malaysia |
| 2. Mr. M.J. Shah | - Member for India (Alternate) |
| 3. Mr. M. Yahya Suryanagara | - Member for Indonesia |
| 4. Mr. Shigeru Fukuda | - Member for Japan |
| 5. Mrs Arni Zainudin | - Member for Malaysia (Alternate) |
| 6. Mr. Alfredo V. Sanchez | - Member for Philippines |
| 7. Mr. Joseph M. Eduard | - Member for Singapore |
| 8. Mr. Anan Chamnankit | - Member for Thailand |

Secretary: Mr. M.K. Puri, Joint Director & Specialist
in Consumer Cooperation, ICA RDEC

Special Invitees:

1. Mr. Malte Jonsson, Head Development Section, ICA, Geneva
2. Mr. Bengt Kjeller, Head Project Section, SCC, Stockholm
3. Mr. Kinichi Katsube, Managing Director, JCCU, Tokyo
4. Mr. Akira Kurimoto, International Relations Officer, JECU, Tokyo

Observers

1. Mr. Takashi Ebisawa - Japan
2. Mr. Susumu Ohta - Japan
3. Miss Michiko Hasebe - Japan
4. Mr. R. Mathimugan - Malaysia
5. Mr. Chong Wing Sun - Malaysia
6. Dr. R. Thillainathan - Malaysia
7. Mr. Anthony L. Narayanan - Malaysia

ICA RDEC Staff

1. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, Regional Director
2. Mr. Ulf F Bergstrom, Trade Adviser

Agenda Item No. 1 : Welcome by the host movement

Mr. K. Katsube, Managing Director of the Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union welcomed the members of the Committee on behalf of the cooperative movement of Japan and assured them of Japanese movement's keenness in sharing their experiences with member countries in the region. Mr. Katsube expressed his hope that deliberations of the Committee would contribute to the promotion and development of consumer cooperative movement in Asia.

Agenda Item No. 2 : Introductory Remarks

(a) Remarks by the Chairman : The Chairman extended a warm welcome to Mr. Kinichi Katsube, Managing Director of the Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union, Mr. Maite Jonsson, Chief of the Development Section of ICA at Geneva and Mr. Bengt Kjeller, Head of the Project Section in the Swedish Cooperative Centre Stockholm and thanked them for attending the meeting as special invitees. The Chairman also thanked members of the Committee and observers for their presence.

He informed members of the Committee that he was invited to attend the meeting of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation at Prague on 27th September 1983 and gave the members a brief account of the meeting.

The Chairman expressed his happiness over the fact that the ICA Auxiliary Committee on Consumer Cooperation had appreciated the activities of the ICA Regional Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia and said that the Committee had been providing useful direction to its member movements in working out their strategy for developing effective consumer cooperative movements in their respective countries.

He complimented the Secretariat of the Committee for preparing a very useful and detailed paper on Item No.7, pertaining to "Perspective Planning" for the next five years.

(b) Remarks by the Regional Director: The Regional Director, Mr R.B.Rajaguru said that consumer cooperatives in Japan were performing a very efficient and effective service both in the rural and urban areas. He expressed the hope that member movements would benefit from the Japanese experience in this field.

The Regional Director complimented the Committee for drawing attention of its member movements of the need to play more effective and vigorous role in looking after the interests of low-income and underprivileged consumers, both in urban and rural areas.

He said that the absence of an apex organisation of consumer cooperatives at the national level in some countries was a serious constraint in the way of further development of consumer cooperatives and primary societies functioning on their own, were finding it very difficult to fend for themselves while competing with private trade. He requested member movements to consider the feasibility of organising strong national wholesale societies in the countries where they do not already exist,

He said that the interest being shown by some member movements for setting up regional warehouses for streamlining the procurement and supply of goods to consumer cooperatives was a very welcome trend and he assured the members of the Committee that the ICA Regional Office would try to secure for them the necessary technical assistance for that purpose. He referred to the initiative already taken by the ICA Regional Office in this direction by carrying out a preliminary investigation study for setting up a national warehouse for consumers cooperatives in Thailand.

(c) Remarks by Mr. Malte Jonsson : Mr. Malte Jonsson informed members of the Committee that the ICA Executive was keen to create some kind of structured relationship between the ICA Auxiliaries and their respective Regional Committees. He informed the members that the ICA Executive Committee had recently convened a joint meeting of chairmen and secretaries of all auxiliary committees in this regard.

Informed members of the Committee that ICA Head Office was trying to establish a Data Bank and would be interested to collect up-to-date information about each sector of the cooperative movement in each country.

Mr. Jonsson said that the ICA Head Office would very much appreciate if member movements could inform them, from time to time, about the various projects being undertaken in their countries by different International Agencies in the field of technical assistance for cooperatives.

Mr. Malte Jonsson complimented the Committee for its efforts in promoting the development of effective consumers cooperative movements in countries of the region.

Agenda Item No. 3 : Confirmation of Minutes of the last meeting

The Minutes of the 6th Meeting of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia held on 9th November 1982 at Manila were confirmed.

Agenda Item No. 4 : Matters arising out of the minutes of the last meeting

4.1 SCC Seminar on Consumer Cooperation, Spring 1983

The Committee placed on record their appreciation and thanks to the Swedish Cooperative Centre Stockholm for arranging the 24th International Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in Sweden for the training of senior employees of consumers cooperatives from South-East Asian countries.

4.2 On-the-Job Training in Japan

The Committee placed on record their appreciation and thanks to the Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union for their offer to receive every year five full-time professional employees of consumer cooperatives from the region, for a period of one month, for on-the-job training in Japan.

4.3 Regional Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in Japan

The representative from Japan informed the Committee that the Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union was planning to host an ICA Regional Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in the year 1985.

The member from Japan said that it would not be possible for them to organise another separate seminar regarding University Consumers Cooperative Stores in Japan during the International Youth Year i.e. 1985. He informed that a study visit to the Tokyo University Consumers Cooperative Stores would be included in the programme of the Regional Seminar on Consumer Cooperation to be held in Japan in the same year.

4.4 Regional Seminar on Stock Management and Warehousing

The members of the Committee said that in the light of rapid developments that were taking place in the field of retail distribution the seminar on Stock Management and Warehousing, already provided in the work programme of the ICA Regional Office for the year 1983-84, should be arranged at an early date.

4.5 Preliminary Investigation regarding Regional Warehouse in Mindanao Island (Republic of the Philippines)

The Committee was informed that preliminary investigations for exploring the feasibility of a regional warehouse in Mindanao Island, in the Republic of the Philippines, would be taken up in the first quarter of 1984.

4.6 Distribution of Consumer Goods in Rural Areas through Coops

The Committee was informed that a provision had already been made in the work programme for 1983-84 to carry out the proposed study regarding distribution of consumer goods in rural areas through cooperatives in Japan and Korea and that it was hoped that the study would be completed before June 1984.

The members of the Committee urged upon the ICA Regional Office to arrange a regional seminar in Japan or Korea to observe and study their systems and experiences regarding distribution of consumer goods in rural areas through agricultural cooperative multipurpose societies. The members said that rural distribution was assuming urgent importance in most of the developing countries and their governments expected cooperatives to play a meaningful role in this important task.

Agenda Item No. 5 : Consumer Cooperative Movement in Japan

Mr. Akira Kurimoto, International Relations Officer of the Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union, presented a paper on Consumer Cooperative Movement in Japan and its future planning.

He first gave a brief account of the historical development of the consumer cooperative movement in Japan. He said that whereas agricultural cooperatives received assistance from government, consumers cooperatives did not get any such assistance and the movement, which had been completely ruined during the war, grew independently through its own efforts by the initiative and support of its members. He said that the leadership in consumers cooperative movement firmly believed in democratic management and continuous consultation with members.

Today, there were nearly eight million members, mostly housewives, within the fold of consumers cooperative movement and they enjoy true power to influence and direct the movement. The Women cooperators have been able to direct the movement's attention to problems of real importance to them in their daily life as consumers. There lies the secret of success of the movement. The women members took active part in campaigns for safer food, energy and environmental problems, medical and social security problems and cultural enhancement of their families. To-day, consumers cooperatives have become indispensable organisations to housewives in Japan as they have promoted a wide range of members' activities for safeguarding the living, health and culture, besides promoting the sale of merchandise through their coops.

He explained that membership in each society was organised in small neighbourhood groups of 8 to 12 members, known as "Han Groups". The main activities of 'Han Groups' were joint buying, exchange of opinions on their daily lives and operations of the store and society. In many cases, it was also the basis of electing representatives to the annual congress or to various committees of the society. 'Han Groups' have been organised in 40% of primary societies. There were about 323,000 such groups covering over 2 million members. He explained how 'Han Groups' had played a very important role in the development of the movement. He informed that despite business-slack and fierce competition from private trade, business turnover and share capital of consumers cooperatives have been making steady progress due to the support of housewives.

He said that consumers cooperatives in Japan were becoming important organisations not only for their members but also for the entire community wherever they operate as they had organised a large number of residents and have intensified their collaboration with other community based voluntary organisations. Mr. Akira Kurimoto informed that consumers cooperatives today attract wide attention of both government and public and are recognised as very important voluntary democratic organisations. The JCCU had come to be recognised as one of the biggest organisations in Japan representing housewives' opinions. The consumers cooperative movement was the real prime motive force behind the general consumer movement in Japan. He also informed about the significant role of the JCCU in building up a spontaneous peace movement in Japan.

In March 1983, there were 648 consumers cooperative societies, with 7.8 million members, operating 1848 retail outlets, with an annual turnover of over Yen 1356 billion. Though the market share of consumers cooperatives was only 1.7% yet they are exercising a significant influence on the lives of the people.

As regards future planning, Mr. Kurimoto informed that it is expected that membership of consumers cooperatives would reach 10 million by 1986, which would mean nearly 20% of total households in the country and that the turnover was expected to exceed Yen 2000 billion. The movement aims to gain stronger support of the community by giving its activities depth and variety, getting its business activities a stability and building up a high quality integration. The local societies

have to become deeply connected with their local community so as to become fully representative of their community.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Akira Kurimoto for making a very interesting and informative presentation about the Japanese Consumers Cooperative Movement.

Agenda Item No. 6 : Recent Developments in the field of Consumer Cooperation in countries of the Region.

At the request of the Chairman, each member made a brief statement on the significant developments in the field of consumer cooperation in country.

Thailand:

- There were 266 consumer cooperative societies with a membership of 453,750 in March 1983. They sold goods worth 2,357 million baht during the year. 194 societies earned a profit of 92 million baht and 50 societies suffered a loss of 4 million baht.
- The Cooperative Development Committee in the office of the Prime Minister has desired to give greater attention to the development of consumers cooperatives in the country and it has issued the following guidelines
 - (a) In order to improve the viability of consumers cooperatives, their number in a province should not exceed two. If necessary, they should open branch shops in the districts.
 - (b) Members should be encouraged to retain their dividend and patronage refund in their societies as interest bearing deposits.
 - (c) More training courses should be arranged for employees and board members of consumers cooperatives.
 - (d) The National Consumer Cooperative Federation should be strengthened to enable it to arrange procurement and supply of merchandise and consultancy service to retail societies.
- The Ministry of Education has decided to introduce the subject of Cooperation in Teachers' Training Colleges in the country.
- All Teachers' Training Colleges have been asked to organise consumers cooperative stores.
- Government has decided to assist CCFT in putting up a national warehouse for arranging supply of goods to primary societies
- Competition from private supermarkets and department stores in Bangkok city has been growing very fast and it is becoming difficult for cooperative supermarkets to compete with them.

Philippines

- Out of the old cooperative societies, only 498 were re-registered under the new act. About 200 new Consumers Cooperative Societies were registered by the Bureau of Cooperative Development till the beginning of the year. Thus there are about 700 consumer cooperatives in the country at the beginning of 1983. Most of them are very small in size and are in weak condition.
- The number of reporting societies with the Bureau was less than 200.
- Government and the Cooperative Union of the Philippines have embarked upon a programme to support and strengthen business capabilities and human resources of consumers cooperatives in the country.
- Viable consumers cooperative societies in Metro Manila have been federated into a Federation of Manila Consumers Cooperatives so as to find solutions to some of their common problems.
- There is demand for more training courses in cooperative retail management for employees of consumers cooperatives.
- There is a need for preparing a Manual on various aspect of retail management for employees of consumers cooperatives.

India

- The 6th Development Plan envisages a need to promote voluntary organisations in urban as well as rural areas so as to provide a measure of protection to consumers.
- From the point of view of maintaining stable price conditions in the country, an efficient managing of supplies of essential consumer goods is considered by the government a matter of crucial importance.
- The public distribution system forms an essential competent of the consumer protection programme in the country.
- A net-work of more than 320,000 fairprice shops have been developed under the public distribution system. About 30% of these fair price shops are being managed by the cooperative sector. In some of the States, distribution of consumer goods in rural areas has exclusively been assigned to cooperatives.

- Consumers cooperative sector in India has four tiers and it consists of 16000 primary societies, 600 wholesale consumer stores with 4,000 retail outlets (260 of which are department stores), 15 state level consumer cooperative federations and the National Federation of Consumer Cooperatives at the apex level. About 5,000 primary societies are functioning among industrial undertakings, railways or other establishments. Total membership at the primary level is about 7.25 million. The urban and rural societies together retail goods worth more than Rs. 20 billion in a year.
- Two years ago, a regional distribution centre was set up as a pilot project in Coimbatore covering 150 primary societies. A second regional distribution centre has been established in Madras. It covers about 350 primary societies. There are demands for more such regional distribution centres in other parts of the country.
- Both the Centre and the State governments have all along been providing financial and other support for the growth and development of consumers cooperative movement in the country. The government has so far contributed more than Rs.1,000 million for the promotion of consumers cooperatives. About 50% of the paid up capital of primary and central stores represents government's contribution. In addition to financial support, the centre and state governments have also helped the cooperatives in the matter of procurement of essential commodities.
- Since 1972, the distribution of controlled cloth, produced under a special scheme to help the weaker sections, has been entrusted to NCCF and its affiliates.
- The NCCF has developed a Consultancy and Promotional Cell to provide consultancy services to retail societies.
- The NCCF is planning to enter the field of production of manufactured consumer goods.

Japan

- In March 1983, there were 648 consumers cooperative societies, with 7.8 million members, operating 1848 retail outlets. Total business turnover at retail level amounted to Yen 1356 billion. Over 2 million members have been organised into 323,000 'Han Groups' in 40% of primary societies. Movement has been steadily making progress, both in respect of membership and business turnover.

During five years, from 1977 to 1982, the membership increased from 5.8 million to 7.8 million and business turnover from Yen 780 billion to Yen 1356 billion.

- Among the top 200 big retailing business organisations in Japan in 1982, as many as 7 were consumer cooperatives.
- It is important to notice the coming change in family structure in Japan. The increase in nuclear families and working women is causing changes in life style and consumer needs and shopping habits. Convenient shops with limited assortment and extended working hours are becoming more popular. In 1982, JCCU supplied Coop branded goods covering 4161 items worth Yen 99 billion to primary societies.
- Computerization in consumers cooperatives is advancing rapidly. Optical Character Reader (OCR) and Electronic Order System (EOS) have been introduced in major consumers cooperatives in the country. Some large cooperatives are also installing automatic sorting machines at their warehouses.
- Nada-Kobe the largest consumer coop in Japan has established an automatic distribution centre of 38,000 sq.m. area.
- JCCU is mobilising public opinion against relaxation of restrictions on additives

Singapore

- NTUC Welcome Consumers Cooperatives Limited and Singapore Employees Coop Ltd. merged together on 1st May to form one society under the name of NTUC Fairprice Shop Coop Ltd.
- The NTUC is operating 33 supermarkets, 4 home appliances show rooms, 2 self-service coffee shops, a printing workshop and a wholesale trading division.
- NTUC intends to expand its operations. The plan is to have at least one cooperative supermarket in each constituency in Singapore. NTUC Fairprice Shop now has 47 institutional members and over 52000 individual members. The founder member is NTU Congress. It has over S\$26 million in capital and reserves and its total turnover is expected to increase to S\$250 million. It has more than 1500 full time employees.

Malaysia

- Government has taken steps to streamline the administration of cooperatives in the country. All cooperatives were directed to convene their annual general meetings and update their accounts by June 1983.
- In order to overcome the shortage of auditors, the government has established an Institute of Cooperative Auditors.

- Government is bringing out one cooperative law applicable to all states in the country, including Sabha and Sarawak.
- The Malaysian Consumer Co-ops. Socy. (MCAS) is planning to establish a network of cooperative supermarkets in big cities and towns in the country, with support from the Central Cooperative Bank and Malaysian Cooperative Supermarket Society.
- MCAS is negotiating with the JCCU in Japan to seek technical collaboration and equity participation.
- MCAS is keen to establish business relations with NACF in South Korea.
- MCAS may be developed into a strong wholesale society at the national level.
- There is need for providing training facilities to managers and board members of consumers cooperatives in the country.

Indonesia

- There are no separate consumers cooperatives. Most of the cooperative societies are multipurpose and supply of consumer goods is one of the many functions with them.
- In cities 540 multipurpose cooperatives (KSU) provide consumer needs, savings and loans to their members.
- There are 274 market vendors cooperatives (KOPPAS) in urban areas.
- Government employees in many departments and undertakings have thrift and credit societies which also handle distribution of consumer goods.
- Some women cooperators have also organized multipurpose societies and are handling distribution of consumer goods.
- In rural areas essential and basic consumer goods are distributed through agricultural multipurpose societies, KUDS, PUSKUDS and Market Vendors Cooperatives (KOPPAS). In December 1982, there were 23,279 cooperative societies, including 5190 KUDS and PUSKUDS with membership of over 12 million of which 8.8 million are covered by KUDS.

Agenda Item No. 7 : To identify areas in the field of Consumer Cooperation which need special emphasis to draw up perspective plan for the next five years

The Committee decided that in view of the importance of the subject, the ICA Regional Office should convene a technical meeting of three to four days duration at some central place in the region, on self-financing basis in order to discuss in detail the perspective plan of each member country.

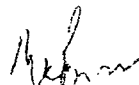
It was suggested that after ascertaining about future planning of each member country, the committee may be able to work out a meaningful work programme for itself for the next five years.

Agenda Item No. 8 : Any other item with the permission of the chair

The members of the Committee unanimously agreed to make an annual contribution at the rate of ₹Stg. 50 by each member movement to the ICA Regional Office New Delhi to cover the working expenses of this Committee.

Agenda Item No. 9 : Fixation of Date and Venue for the next meeting

It was decided that the next meeting of the Committee be held in Bangkok along with the ICA Regional Council meeting.



M. K. Puri
Secretary,

ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation

New Delhi

December 15, 1983

MAIN OBJECTIVES AND WORK PROGRAMME

(Consumer Cooperation)

BACKGROUND

The economy of most of the developing countries in the region is based on agriculture and bulk of their population lives in rural areas. It was hence quite natural and in the fitness of things that in national programmes of economic development high priority was given to such programmes as could improve rural economy and increase agricultural production. The Cooperatives were organized to assist in solving problems relating to agricultural development viz. supply of farm credit, distribution of farm inputs, dissemination of new farming techniques, agriculture extension and farm guidance, marketing and processing of agricultural produce. The development of consumers cooperatives remained a matter of low priority, though at the time of World War and in situations of shortages in supply of food and essential consumer goods, the organization of consumers cooperatives was temporarily encouraged in most of these countries and some of these cooperatives did prove their usefulness to their members and the community at large. However, the State interest in consumers cooperatives kept fluctuating and they received serious attention only during periods of emergencies or shortages.

The ICA Council for South-East Asia, in their meeting held in Tokyo in October 1973, stressed upon the need for developing effective consumers cooperative movements as an integral part of the distributive systems in countries of the region and the Council advised the ICA RDEC to convene an Open Asian Conference to consider this matter seriously. The Open Asian Conference on Consumer Cooperation, which was held at Kuala Lumpur in October 1974, took note of the unprecedented rise in prices of consumer goods in all countries of the region and of the increasing

difficulties of the consumer on account of the rising cost of living, Shortage of essential commodities, prevalence of adulteration and sub-standard goods, misleading and aggressive advertising by manufacturers and many other mal-practices in the distributive trade. The Conference recommended that concerted action should be taken for the promotion and development of consumers cooperative movements in all countries of the region.

The ever increasing and persistent high rate of inflation which has, in the wake of world oil crisis of 1973, come to stay as a recurring feature of the economy, The process of rapid urbanization and an increasing demand for access to supply of basic consumer goods and essential services by the consumer, once again, draw serious attention of National governments for developing consumers cooperatives as an integral part of the distributive system, on permanent basis. In most of the developing countries there are already a few well-managed consumers cooperatives which are rendering useful service to their members and community at large, but such instances are very few and these societies are working in isolation, without the guidance or support of any apex organization. In many countries of the region, the movements are not very clear about the strategy for developing strong and sound consumers cooperative which should be able to compete with the private trade and provide effective services to their members.

MAIN OBJECTIVES

In the context of the above situation, the following have been set out as the main objectives of all activities and work programmes of the ICA ROEC in the field of consumers cooperation:

- A. To help member movements develop strong and effective consumers cooperative movements in their respective countries.
- B. To assist member movements in formulating and implementing appropriate consumer policy and programmes in their respective countries.

- C. To strengthen cooperatives role in the distribution of consumer goods and essential services in rural area.
- D. To emphasize the need for members active participation, particularly of housewives members in the working of consumers cooperative societies.

APPROACH

The following measures are being taken towards the attainment of the above objectives. The stage of development of consumer cooperative movement is quite different from country to country. Hence the type and nature of work-programmes and activities in each countries will depend on their needs and situation.

(1). To guide member movements in evolving systematic and sound strategies and integrated action plans for developing effective consumers cooperative movements in their respective countries.

In a meeting held in Bangkok in 1978, the following aspects were particularly emphasized :

- Identify possible sources of leadership and support for urban consumers movement (Trade Unions, Housewives, Students, Teachers, Salaried groups, professionals)
- A broad base of viable retail societies is very necessary.
- Need for a viable business like organizational structure, avoid too many tiers.
- Emphasis on professional management
- Active and continuous consultation with housewives members very essential.
- Special distinguishing features of consumers cooperatives should be never lost sight of.
- Need for a strong and effective wholesale society as may arrange procurement of merchandise and provide leadership, management guidance, consultancy and other promotional services
- Collaboration with other democratic voluntary organizations which are working to safeguard interests of the consumer.

Activities and Programmes envisaged

- Training Workshops
- Technical assistance
- Consultancy Service

(3). Strengthening of the organizational structure of consumers cooperative movements:

In this connection, the following is being repeatedly stressed upon member movements :

- Have a large number of viable and effective retail societies at the primary level.
- Exclusively consumers cooperatives should be organised in urban areas only. In rural areas, the distribution of consumer goods should be entrusted to already existing agricultural multipurpose societies.
- Establish a strong and effective wholesale society which may assist in procurement of merchandise and provide other services to retail societies.
- Bring about a close collaboration between the retail and wholesale sectors of the movement. Try to integrate their activities towards common objectives as closely as possible.
- The wholesale sector has to win confidence of retail societies.
- Avoid duplicating of efforts and wastage of limited resources. Pool experiences and resources and make unified efforts to project a consolidated strong consumer cooperative movement in the country

Activities envisaged by ICA

- Consultancy service
- Technical meetings
- Technical assistance

Activities and Programmes envisaged

- Conferences of Cooperative leaders at the national and sub-national levels.
- Technical meetings of representatives of all such organizations and agencies who are connected with promotion of consumers cooperative movement in the country.
- Technical assistance.

(2) To improve managerial and operational efficiencies of retail societies so as to improve their economy and enhance their capacity to compete with private trade.

Training Workshops in Cooperative Retail Management are being arranged for senior employees and board members of consumers cooperatives. The following subjects are discussed at these Workshops:

- Economy of a retail shop
- Management of working capital
- Assortment, merchandising policies
- Significance of stock-turn in retail business.
- Inventory management.
- Leakage and Leakage control
- Controlling of operating expenses
- Economic and planned purchases
- Sales Planning and Sales action
- Budgeting and Budgetary control
- Concept of productivity
- Break-even analysis
- Personnel Management
- Consumer Contact
- Consumer Protection
- Controlling and monitoring of retail business
- Board-Manager relations
- Efficiency norms.

(4) To assist National Federations of Consumers Cooperatives develop their wholesaling and service functions :

- Coordinated and joint purchasing of merchandise
- Establishment of Regional Warehouse and Distribution Centres
- Introduction of quality control (food and non-food testing laboratories)
- Development of Coop brand goods
- Development of generic goods
- Development of guidance and consultancy services
- Joint activities for sales promotion, advertisement and publicity
- Development of efficiency norms
- Development of national policy for personnel management and staff development.
- Perspective planning for the movement.
- Collaboration with other voluntary organizations concerned with consumer welfare and interests.
- To promote consumer information.

Activities envisaged by ICA

- Consultancy Services
- Technical Meetings
- Technical Assistance
- Training Workshop

(5) To draw attention of member movement towards: (a) new innovations in retailing techniques and (b) changing trends in consumers demand and expectations, and to impress upon them the need for adjustments in their policies, operations and techniques.

The matter was discussed in the Consumer Committee meeting held in Manila in November 1982. Member movements attention was drawn towards emergence of a large number of private supermarkets and department stores in big cities and towns.

The movements were urged to take cognizance of these important developments and to bring about necessary adjustments in their techniques and operations. The need for expansion and modernisation of some existing shops, on selective basis, was stressed. New selling techniques and self-service is being introduced in some cooperative shops. New cooperative supermarkets and convenient stores are being established.

Activities envisaged by ICA

- Feasibility study for new supermarkets
- Training Workshops in Supermarket operations
- Consultancy Service
- Technical assistance.

(b) To impress upon member movements the need for perspective planning for the next 10 years.

A paper on the subject was circulated to all member movements in October, 1983 and they were requested to decide about the share of retail trade and the rate of growth that their consumer cooperative movement intends to achieve during the next 10 years. They were requested to consider the need for strengthening their infrastructure and to work out a blue print of their integrated action plan covering all aspects and areas of their operations.

Activities envisaged by ICA

- Technical meetings
- Technical assistance
- Consultancy.

(c) To assist member movements in formulating and implementing appropriate consumer policy and programme in their respective countries.

- Problems of consumers in developing countries
- Establishing of priorities.
- Access to basic goods and essential services.
- Rationalization of distribution system

National Cooperative Alliance

8

- Measures to check food adulteration and malpractices in retail trade
- Legislative measures for consumer protection and their enforcement.
- Organizing of consumers and voluntary organizations
- Consumer education (consumer rights)
- Consumer information
- Consumer protection measures
- Redress of consumer grievances
- Recognition and representation to consumers voluntary organization

Activities and Programmes envisaged

Discussion
Conferences
Technical Meetings
Consultancy,
Technical assistance

(8). To strengthen cooperatives' role in the distribution of consumer goods and essential services in rural areas.

Activities envisaged

- Studies of systems in Japan and Korea
- Regional Seminar
- National Seminars
- Technical Meetings
- Training Workshops
- Technical assistance.

(9). To emphasize the need for members active participation, particularly of housewives members in the working of consumers cooperatives.

Activities and Work Programme for 1985-86

1. Regional Seminar on Consumers Cooperation in Japan

On a request from member movements, the Japanese Consumer Cooperative Union has agreed to host a Regional Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in Japan in 1985. The Seminar shall discuss subjects concerning supermarket operations and the distinguishing features of the Japanese Consumers Cooperative Movement. At the suggestion of the ICA RDEC, the JCCU and the National Federation of University Coops in Japan have agreed to include in the course-content of the seminar, a few presentations about University Cooperative Stores in Japan and the role they have played for the promotion and expansion of citizens consumers cooperatives in Japan.

Venue:	Tokyo
Duration	Three weeks
<u>Participants</u>	24
Time	August 1985

2. Strategy for Development of Consumers Cooperative Movement in Malaysia

At present there is no clear perspective for development of effective consumers cooperative movement in Malaysia. There are three different government departments who are independently directing the development of consumers cooperatives in the country. There is no coordination between the activities of these agencies. The Department of Fisheries is organising consumers cooperative shops in fishing areas. They have established separate wholesale organisations at regional and national levels for arranging supply of merchandise to fishermen consumer cooperatives. The department has granted managerial grant and working capital loans to these cooperatives. The Farm Organizing Authority which is responsible for development of cooperatives in rural areas is encouraging distribution of consumer goods through rural cooperatives. The Director General of the Cooperative Department is encouraging promotion of consumers cooperatives in urban and semi urban areas. The Malaysian Cooperative

Agencies Society is considering a plan of organizing a net-work of cooperative supermarkets in a few big cities in the country. They have already entered into a collaboration with the Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union for technical consultancy and training of their employees.

The ANGKASA and the Cooperative Union of Malaysia have jointly requested ICA ROEC to study the existing situation in Malaysia and to assist them in evolving an appropriate strategy for the development of an effective and strong consumers cooperative movement in their country.

It is proposed to carry out two weeks study of the existing situation, which will be followed by a technical meeting of representatives from various departments and agencies who are connected with development of consumers cooperative movement in the country. The technical meeting, which may last for two days, will consider in detail the findings and recommendations of the study.

(Duration 2 weeks)

3. Technical Assistance to Consumers
Cooperative Federation in Thailand

ICA ROEC has carried out a study and consultancy mission in Thailand and made certain recommendations for strengthening of consumers cooperative movement in Thailand. As a follow-up of this study, the consumers cooperative federation has requested for technical assistance from ICA ROEC to evolve efficiency norms in respect of some of the key figures like stock-turn rate, trade margin, sales performance, labour productivity and operating expenses etc. They have also asked for guidance and assistance in working out standard assortments for different kinds of shops.

(Duration 2-3 weeks)

4. Strategy for development of Consumers
Cooperative Movement in Indonesia

There are presently no separate consumers cooperative societies in Indonesia. Over 500 multipurpose cooperatives (KSU) have been organized in big cities and towns and, among other activities, they are also operating retail shops for distribution of consumer's goods. In many government departments and other public undertakings, employees have organized themselves into loan and thrift societies which are also handling distribution of consumer's goods. At some places women have organized themselves into multipurpose societies and they, among other activities, are also operating retail consumer goods shops. Again, there are nearly 300 Market vendors cooperatives (KOPPAS) in urban areas, who have been provided with managerial grants and working-capital loans by the government. Some of the employees societies, like civil servants, Postal Department, Police Department and Naval Department are rendering good service to their members. But there is no coordination among various groups of societies and each group is planning to set up their own wholesales and secondary society. There is duplicating of efforts and wastage of limited resources of the movement.

There is an urgent need to evolve a strategy for an effective and strong urban consumers cooperative movement in Indonesia. Significant and rapid developments are taking place in the retail distributive system in urban areas in the country. Many large and modern supermarkets and department stores are being established by the private sector. The movement has to consider the need for organizing single-purpose exclusively consumer's cooperatives in urban areas. All kinds of cooperative consumer shops should pool their experience and resources and set up a strong apex organization which may look after procurement and supply of merchandise and other service functions like consultancy and management guidance.

It is proposed to carry out a study and consultancy mission in Indonesia with a view to assist the movement evolve an appropriate strategy for the development of a strong and effective consumers cooperative movement.

(Duration 2 - 3 weeks).

5. Technical Assistance to Training Programmes (Workshops)

We have received many requests from member movement for technical support, in the form of expertise, for their training programmes for employees of consumers cooperatives.

South Korea is interested to have training courses in retail management for senior employees of their newly organized consumers cooperatives.

Thailand is interested to modernise some of their shops and introduce self servicing. They have also set up some supermarkets with broad based memberships and want to have special training for employees of supermarkets.

The Philippines has expressed desire for support to training programmes covering inventory management, budgeting, budgetary control, monitoring of retail business and board-manager relations.

Indonesia has indicated their desire for training courses in retail management for employees of consumers shops in urban areas.

India has requested for technical support to their training programmes concerning modernization of shops, sales promotion, self-servicing and supermarket operations.

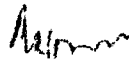
6. Consultancy Service in the fields of Inventory Control, Financial Management and Store Operations

Specific requests have been received from Thailand, Indonesia and Philippines for Consultancy Services to some of their consumers Cooperative Societies. Consultancy services have been asked for in fields of

inventory management, financial management, sales promotion, merchandising and stores operations. Some of these societies have recently entered into supermarket operations and stand in need of management guidance and technical assistance to streamline their operations.

It is proposed to provide consultancy service to some of these societies, depending upon the availability of man-power and financial resources in the Regional Office.

6th August 1984


M.K. Puri

755/9/84

8TH MEETING OF THE ICA COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER COOPERATION
FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA, TOKYO, 4 NOVEMBER, 1983

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9 : TO IDENTIFY AREAS IN THE FIELD OF CONSUMER COOPERATION
WHICH NEED SPECIAL EMPHASIS AND TO DRAW UP PERSPECTIVE
PLAN BY EACH COUNTRY FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS

1. The question of developing consumer cooperation in South-East Asia was previously considered by the ICA Council in its meeting held in Tokyo in October 1973. The Council recommended that the ways and means of promoting and developing consumer cooperation should be considered at an Open Asian Conference. This became all the more necessary in view of the unprecedented inflation which gripped the economies of most of the countries in the world in the wake of serious oil crisis.

2. In compliance to the above recommendation of the Council, the ICA Regional Office convened an Open Asian Conference on Consumer Cooperation at Kuala Lumpur, in October 1974. The Conference took note of the unprecedented rise in prices of consumer goods in most of the countries in the Region and of the increasing difficulties of the consumer on account of the rising cost of living, shortage of essential commodities, prevalence of adulterated and sub-standard goods, and many other mal-practices in the distributive trade. The Conference recommended that the consumers' cooperative movements should be activated to play a more active and vigorous role in arranging supply of consumer goods and other essential services at fair and reasonable prices. The conference recommended that concerted action should be taken for the promotion and development of consumer cooperative movement in South-East Asian countries. It further recommended that the ICA Regional Office should constitute a 'Working Party on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia', so as to develop and recommend policies and to coordinate activities in the field of consumer cooperation and consumer protection.

Consumer Committee For the Region

3. The proposal for forming a Working Party on Consumer Cooperation was examined by the ICA Regional Office and it recommended to the Council that in view of the vital importance of the subject, it would be desirable to constitute a 'Standing Committee' on Consumer Cooperation

for South-East Asia, rather than a mere 'Working Party'. The proposal along with a draft constitution of the proposed Committee was placed before the ICA Regional Council in their meeting held at Tehran in November 1976. The same was approved.

4. It is set out in the Constitution that the objects of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia shall be to promote consumer cooperation in the Region served by the ICA Regional Office for South-East Asia and more particularly :-

- a) to review periodically the progress made in the field of Consumer Cooperation;
- b) to recommend policies and common lines of action in the fields of Consumer Cooperation and Consumer Protection;
- c) to coordinate the activities of consumer cooperation in the Region;
- d) to promote the systematic dissemination of information among the cooperative consumer organisations in the Region with regard to their experience in the fields of retailing, warehousing, wholesaling, publicity, member-education, consumer protection and other fields.

5. The inaugural meeting of the Committee was held on 8th December 1977 at Bali (Indonesia). The meeting was attended by 17 persons from 10 countries. Mr. N. Nakabayashi, Chairman of the Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union (JCCU), was unanimously elected as the first Chairman of the Committee. He congratulated the ICA Regional Council on their decision to set up a separate Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia. He said that in view of the recent socio-economic changes and the persistently rising inflation it was only appropriate for the Cooperative leadership in the region to devote more serious attention for the development of consumer cooperation. He expressed the hope that the Committee would play a meaningful and beneficial role in the promotion and development of consumer cooperative movement in the Region. He assured the members that the Japanese Consumer Cooperative Movement would extend their active collaboration in the work of the Committee.

Main Problems

6. The representatives from various countries of the Region described the present situation of consumer cooperatives in their countries and the following were identified as some of the common main problems :-

- i. Lack of proper leadership. The promotion of consumer cooperation has not yet received due attention of the cooperative leadership or governments in most of the developing countries;
- ii. Non-viable retail structure at the base, sporadic and halted growth;
- iii. In the absence of a strong wholesale society or federation at the national level, the consumer cooperative retail societies are unable to compete with the well entrenched private trade;
- iv. Difficulties in securing services of competent and trained managers and other skilled staff;
- v. Lack of financial resources;
- vi. Stiff and unfair competition from private trade;

General Guidelines

7. The subject of evolving a suitable strategy for the development of effective consumer cooperative movements in countries of the region was discussed at length in the 2nd Meeting of the Committee, held in Bangkok in December 1978, under the Chairmanship of its President Mr. S. Nakabayashi. The Committee felt that whereas each country would have to work out its own strategy and plan of action, the following general guidelines should be kept in view :

- i. The retail units and primary societies should be effective and economically viable;
- ii. As no primary society, however strong, can meet the competition from private trade beyond a certain point, it was important that consumer cooperatives should organise a strong wholesale society at the national level to guide and support them. A very close collaboration and integration of activities between the wholesale and retail sectors of the movement will be necessary;

- iii. Consumers cooperative societies need qualified, trained and competent personnel to manage and conduct their affairs;
- iv. In order to meet the increasing competition from the private trade, a lesson should be drawn from the Japanese movement, where they have adopted various measures to win the genuine support of Housewives;
- v. It is very important to have effective involvement and participation of the members, on a continuous basis, in the day-to-day operations of consumer cooperative societies;
- vi. To be relevant to the community and, to become a mass movement, the consumers cooperatives in each country should develop close links with the general consumer movement in their country. By enhancing support to the general movement, the consumers cooperatives can hope to win popular support of the community;
- vii. The retailing has now become a capital intensive enterprise. There is therefore need for harnessing adequate capital resources. Consumer cooperatives should seek the support of other cooperative organisations e.g. insurance, housing and credit cooperatives;
- viii. The university students and teachers' cooperatives in Japan have played very vital and significant role in promoting and developing citizens consumers' cooperative societies in their country. They have provided leadership and managerial support. It will be useful to bring the youth and teachers within the fold of cooperative movement;
- ix. The leadership for promoting consumer cooperative movement in urban areas can be tapped from university students, teachers, housewives, women organisations, trade unions and retired citizens.

The Committee advised that the above points should be further discussed at national seminars and conferences in each country.

Strategy for Future Development

The ICA Regional Office & Education Centre organised a Regional Seminar on the "Development of Consumer Cooperation in South-East Asia", in Japan in September 1981. The seminar was attended by 19 participants from seven countries of the region. Most of the participants were managers or senior employees of cooperative societies. There were also a few

government officials concerned with the development of consumers' cooperatives in their respective countries.

The participants discussed about the future strategy for developing effective consumer cooperative movements in developing countries and made the following recommendations in this regard :-

- i. In most of the developing countries in the region, consumers cooperatives continue to make only a halting growth, in isolated pockets, on sporadic basis, despite the massive administrative, financial and legal support from the state. The cooperative leaders in developing countries should seriously discuss and evolve a clear perspective and a suitable strategy for developing effective and sound consumer cooperative movements, which can help the consumer cooperatives to grow to a state of maturity and strength, where they can withstand the competition from private trade and achieve the twin objectives of the movement i.e. (a) to supply consumer goods and essential services at fair prices and (b) to promote and protect the consumer's rights and interest to improve the quality of life for the consumer;
- ii. One of the important objectives of the consumer cooperative movement in every developing country should be to promote and protect consumers rights;
- iii. Consumers cooperative movement in each country should play a leading role in the general consumer movement and it should enhance its collaboration with consumers' councils and housewives associations;
- iv. No separate consumers cooperative societies should be organised in rural areas. Consumers in the rural areas should be served through the existing agricultural cooperative multipurpose societies;
- v. Strong and viable consumers cooperative societies, on multi-shop basis, should be organised in big cities and towns, in consultation with and with support of the housewives;
- vi. It is felt that retail level societies working at small margins cannot be viable without the support and assistance of a powerful wholesale organisation. Hence, the vital need for having a strong and powerful wholesale organisations at the national level is much emphasised;

- vii. The success and effectiveness of the movement will much depend on the volume of business it handles. The business can be created and expanded at the retail level only. But most of the existing cooperative retail shops are weak, non-viable or otherwise incapable of handling even the minimum required scale of business. A net-work of strong and viable retail societies, with broad based membership, which can generate sufficient business to make the wholesale society a competitive and effective trading unit in the market is necessary. The weak and unviable societies should be persuaded to amalgamate themselves so as to create a strong and viable structure at the retail level in each country.
- viii. Consumers cooperative societies should not concentrate on distribution of controlled and scarce commodities alone. Apart from being an uneconomic activity, it also tends to create among their employees an attitude of apathy and indifference towards the customers. Consumers cooperatives should develop their business in daily necessities, and supply goods of acceptable standards of safety and quality, in free competition with private trade.
- ix. Consumers' cooperatives should be developed in such a way as to emphasise their special features which distinguish them more clearly from the private traders, sustaining their independence and providing effective democratic control by the members.
- x. Consultation with members on continuous basis should be one of the basic policies of the management in consumer cooperatives. Members' opinion should be seriously heeded to and reflected in the management of the cooperative shops and policies of the board of directors.
- xi. In order to ascertain members' true opinions, reactions and suggestions about the working of their Coop, on a continuous basis, the managements of cooperatives should provide various avenues of meetings for the members, besides the annual general meeting. Numerous members activities around each shop and the working of small neighbourhood groups (Hans) of member-housewives in Japan are very much commended. This creates among the members a sense of belonging towards the Coop and it also creates a spirit of mutual solidarity among the members. The 'Hans' group have provided the movement with an effective mechanism for harnessing the tremendous energy force and influence of members for development of the movement.
- xii. The merchandising policy of consumer cooperatives should always be influenced and guided by member housewives. Consumer cooperatives should not deal in such commodities which are adulterated or otherwise injurious to the health of consumers.

- xiii. The cooperatives should endeavour to provide the consumer with as much of product knowledge as possible and assist him in making a judicious choice.
- xiv. The cooperatives should pay a special attention to continuous training of their sale staff who should be motivated to be always eager and sincere to serve and satisfy the customer.
- xv. The cooperative apex organisations should arrange to provide practical and problem-oriented training for employees of consumer cooperatives. The importance of on-the-job training is emphasised.
- xvi. As in Japan, students' cooperatives at university and college levels should be organised so as to attract young and educated section of the community in the movement. They can provide a dynamic leadership for the growth of the consumers cooperatives in urban areas.
- xvii. In the absence of adequate initiative on the part of ~~voluntary~~ voluntary cooperative leadership, governments in many countries have assumed the role of planning, formulating, administering and directing the work programmes of cooperative movements. The cooperative leadership should accept its responsibility and play a more vigorous and constructive role by reviewing the performance and discussing the problems of consumer cooperatives from time to time.
- xviii. The cooperative movement in each country, within the framework of the national economic development programme, formulate their perspective and strategic plans for the next five to 10 years, in consultation with their members and all other institutions and agencies who are concerned with their activities.

9. At an other ICA Regional Seminar held in Kuala Lumpur in May 1981, participants had, inter-alia, recommended that a time bound action programme should be worked out in each country for organising a net-work of strong and viable cooperative retail shops covering all big cities and towns in urban areas. It also emphasised that all kinds of cooperatives should also take the urgent need for providing consumer information and consumer education to their members. The seminar had recommended that the ICA should persuade the Swedish movement to provide technical and financial assistance for establishing at least one regional warehouse in the region.

10. At the 6th Meeting of the Consumer Committee, held in Manila in November 1982, members' attention was drawn towards the significant socio-economic changes that have taken place in developing countries of the region during the last decade and its impact on retail distributive trade of food-stuff and daily necessities, particularly in urban areas. It was pointed out that the emergence of a large number of private super markets in big cities and towns constituted an aggressive element of competition in the new situation. It was feared that these supermarkets because of the inherent appeal of one stop shopping, with their wide assortment, modern equipment, attractive display and competitive prices would take away much of the trade from the existing business, both cooperative and otherwise.

The cooperatives were, therefore asked to take cognizance of significant developments and to make necessary adjustments in their structure and techniques lest they lose their share of retail trade, which is already very minimal. The cooperatives were urged to consider seriously, without any loss of time, desirability of adjusting their structure and operations in order to meet squarely the changing situation: retrenchments of unviable shops, review of locations and assortments, development of larger units, professionalisation of management and strengthening of their infrastructure, particularly for procurement, warehousing and distribution of merchandise. The movements were urged to have a comprehensive review of their organisational, manpower and financial needs to cope with new situation and challenges.

CONSUMER PROTECTION

The 5th Meeting of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation discussed at length about the consumer policy for developing countries in South-East Asia. It was intended to evolve a broad consumer policy for the region. The attention of the members was focused on two vital areas in this field:-

The need to evolve an appropriate mechanism as may ensure the supply of basic needs and essential services to bulk of the people in urban and rural areas.

The need for the cooperatives to play a more active role in consumer education and information and in providing the consumer with the protection he needs.

Main Objectives

12. Consumer protection has an important bearing on economic growth and social welfare in developing countries. At the core of all consumer protection efforts, the main objectives have been to secure, at least, the following rights for the consumer:

- the right of access to basic needs and services;
- the right to safety;
- the right to be informed
- the right to choose,
- the right to be heard, and
- the right to protection against malpractices.

There is also now a growing recognition of the concept of consumer redress, whether by exercising legal rights or by less formal mechanism. Collectively, all consumer protection activities, regardless of their particular form, appear to define an environment which will enhance the quality of life for the consumer.

Specific Problems of Developing Countries

13. No doubt many of the problems of consumer protection are common in the developed and developing countries, still consumers in developing countries have some specific problems and altogether different priorities. The majority of the population in the developing countries live in rural areas. But the deficiencies in the existing distribution system make it difficult for rural consumers to reach the sources of supply of essential goods and services, of adequate safety and quality standards, at fair and reasonable prices.

The following are some of the major handicaps that lie at the heart of consumer protection in developing countries:

- a. Inadequacies of the infrastructure;
- b. Information gap;
- c. Inadequate quality;
- d. Imported inflationary pressures;
- e. Unfair commercial practices;
- f. Special problems of vulnerable groups

Establishing of priorities

14. In view of the limited resources that developing countries can presently devote for consumer protection activities, the question of establishing right priorities assumes particular importance. The large majority of population in developing countries, with a few exceptions, is composed of low-income groups, which mostly lives in rural areas. In their capacity as consumers of essential goods and services, these low-income groups have certain minimum requirements:

- (a) Access to supplies of essential goods and services, of adequate safety and quality standards, at fair and reasonable prices;
- (b) Protection from malpractices in the production, distribution and sale of goods and services;
- (c) Reliable information on availability, quality and prices;
- (d) Consumer Information and Education;
- (e) Possibility of seeking redress, when there are obvious abuses.

In the developing countries, it is a matter of national concern to create conditions in which the minimum requirements of the low-income consumers can be adequately satisfied. This is one of the most important aim of the economic and social policies of governments in the developing countries.

Responsibility of cooperatives

15. The cooperative movement had its birth in the awareness of the need for consumer protection. The main urge behind the Rochdale Consumer Programme was a desire to redress the social and economic injustice of the earlier western industrial society. Since its very inception, the cooperative movement has been acting as a watchdog of consumer's interests.

In their document on Consumer Programmes, the ICA's Consumer Committee has emphasised that the cooperatives should realise their particular responsibility to improve the situation for the consumers and the Committee has laid the following guidelines:

- i. The basic needs should be satisfied in all groups of society and especially of low-income groups. Cooperatives must work to fulfil this aim by making trade, production and distribution of goods still more functional to the benefit of consumers;
This can be helped by stimulating initiatives leading to establishing new cooperatives and strengthening the existing ones;
- ii. In future, the cooperatives must realise a certain responsibility to improve conditions for consumers. This might mean that cooperatives should not only deal with providing goods and services but also with the more "immaterial" part of the life.

- iii. The cooperatives should also stress and take responsibility for the need for education of consumers on how to save energy in consumption;
- iv. In the task of obtaining an improved situation for the consumer cooperatives should collaborate with other consumers organisations, with governments and with United Nations and similar organisations.

16. At the fifth meeting of the Consumer Committee, the representatives of the cooperative movements in the developing countries of the Region agreed that the supply of basic consumer goods and essential services to the low-income consumers in urban and rural areas is a matter of high priority in any programme of consumer protection in their countries. The movements were asked to examine carefully the dimension and complexity of the task involved and to gear themselves up to be able to play a meaningful and effective role in the discharge of this responsibility. They were further advised to convince their national governments and the consuming public that cooperatives are indeed the most suitable system to safeguard and serve the interest of consumers and that they have the requisite capability and infrastructure to play a meaningful role in this programme. In order to be able to carry out this onerous task in an efficient and effective manner, the cooperatives were requested to strengthen suitably their organisational, financial and manpower resources.

17. The Committee requested the member movements to consider further what other aspects of consumer protection activities need to be stressed, in order of priority, for improving situation for the consumer in their respective countries. They were also advised to explore how cooperatives in their countries could provide useful linkages with the government and other consumer organisations and trade unions in order to strengthen consumer protection activities and to further stimulate their interest in them.

Perspective Planning

18. It is observed from the preceding paragraphs that the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia has been, during the last 5 years, discussing important aspects regarding the development and promotion of consumers cooperative movements in the region and the role that cooperative movement as a whole can play for improving conditions and quality of life for the consumer, through consumer information, consumer education and various other consumers protection measures. It is hoped that while formulating their perspective plan for the next 5 years, member movements will keep in view these deliberations, insofar as they are relevant to their local situation.

19. The rapidly changing socio-economic conditions, consumers' expectations and the economics of retail operations, demand that a well spread net-work of effective cooperative retail outlets with wider assortment, competitive prices and pleasant environment be developed in each country. It is only through a viable and effective structure at the retail level that the consumer cooperative movement can become more competitive and further improve its services to the consumers. In the present set-up, independent retail level societies, operating at very small margins can never become viable. We have to restructure the organisational pattern of the consumer cooperative movement as may reflect the vision and understanding of the future needs and aims of the movement.

20. The movement in each country has to decide upon the share of retail trade and the rate of growth of consumer cooperative structure that it wishes to achieve during the next 10 years. Based on the overall target set for the movement as a whole and keeping in view the existing performance of various consumers cooperative societies and their retail units, the future sales targets should be fixed for each district and region in the country.

• 21. Based on the above sales targets for each geographical area, the movement may then decide upon the number and type of retail outlets to be organised in each region. The type of retail outlet will depend upon local demand, economics of operating various types of retail outlets, type of services it can offer and the availability of managerial and financial resources. Besides, opening of new retail outlets, the future plan should

also take into account the need for expansion and modernisation of the existing shops and closing of small and unprofitable ones. The movement shall also have to plan thoroughly for strengthening of its infrastructure, manpower and financial resources. The need for active participation and involvement of member-housewives cannot be over emphasized. The genuine support of the housewives is considered imperative for the survival of the consumer cooperative movements.

22. Again, in order to become a mass movement and relevant to the needs of the community, the consumers cooperative movements shall have to play a leading and vigorous role in the general consumer movement in its respective country. In future, the cooperatives must realise their responsibility to improve conditions and quality of life for the consumer. This would mean that cooperatives should not only deal with providing goods and services, but also with supplying of more "immaterial" part of the life. Consumers cooperatives shall have to be developed in such a way as to emphasise their special features which distinguish them more clearly from the private traders. The supply of basic consumer goods and essential services, particularly, to low-income consumers both in urban and rural areas should be a matter of high priority in any programme of consumer protection. Though the distribution of consumer goods in rural areas will generally be handled by the agricultural cooperative movement, the urban consumers cooperatives should also extend their full support and collaboration in this vital programme.

23. The members are requested to give their reactions and suggestions to the above observations and, keeping in view their local situation, to draw up a perspective plan for the development and promotion of consumer cooperative movement in their country.

13th September 1984
New Delhi

M. K. Puri
Secretary
ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation
for S.E. Asia