

ICA IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC



Annual Report 2002

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Message from the ICA Vice President

he year 2002 was an eventful year for the ICA in Asia-Pacific region. The ICA ROAP with its well-focused attention and concerted efforts achieved appreciable success not only in expanding functional and activity portfolio but also in strengthening its resource base by liquidating deficit that confronted it in 2001.

As many as 32 activities targeting different issues relating to cooperative development were undertaken by ICA ROAP to enable co-operatives.

The Asia-Pacific Co-operative Ministerial Conference organized in Kathmandu, Nepal – April 2002, taking the process of co-operative legislation and policy reforms, emphasized on the significance of formulation of well defined national policies on co-operative development to provide basis for reformation in co-operative legislation framework.

The 'Kathmandu Declaration', adopted by the conference reflects the common resolve of the governments and co-operative leadership on strengthening processes to facilitate adoption and implementation of appropriate legislation and policy for co-operatives in the new Millennium.

Other important issues deliberated by ICA ROAP through workshops and seminars conducted were 'Strategies for Image Building for Co-operatives' and 'Surveillance Systems of Co-operative Credit and Banking Institutions in Asia-Pacific'.

Specialised committees of ICA ROAP were also very active during the year under report. While the ICA Committee on University/College Cooperatives organized a one-day seminar on 'Problems faced by youth co-operatives' in Hanoi, Vietnam, the Committees on HRD and Health (APHCO) conducted workshops and seminars on a number of topical subjects. The ICA Regional Office and the Regional Women's Committee were able to finalise a 'Manual on



Leadership Development for Women in Co-operatives' and have undertaken the first 'Regional Trainers' Training in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia'. On the development side, the ICA ROAP undertook a project on strengthening agricultural cooperatives in the region with the support of AGRITERRA of Netherlands. Detailed studies will be undertaken in select countries aiming at an exhaustive consultation governments policy makers to develop strategies for development of agricultural co-operatives. This project along with the six months' management training for agricultural co-operatives supported by IDACA and MAFF of Japan will catalyse the process of development of agricultural co-operatives in the changed context. Similarly, a major project has been approved by the European Union to rehabilitate the earthquake affected artisans' co-operators in Bhuj district of Gujarat, India. This project will be carried out by the ICA DOMUS Trust. In the regard of co-operation among co-operatives, many co-operatives in the region are actively involved in stimulating the development of such co-operation, and some initial results have been achieved. For example, a trade project between co-operatives in Singapore, Canada, Britain and China has been established, the business volume reached 1.1 million US dollars in 2002. In addition, with the support and assistance of ICA ROAP, ACFSMC is carrying out the preparatory work for the forth-coming International Co-operative Trade Fair in Beijing, China. The success of the event will further promote cooperation and exchange among cooperatives in the region and set an example of utilizing the co-operative principles of ICA.

The year also saw a keen willingness of our member organizations to support ICA's activities, both technically and financially. Some of them are MAFF, IDACA and JCCU of Japan; NACF, Korea; NCUI and IFFCO, India; ANGKASA, Malaysia; SNCF, Singapore, All China Federation of Supply and Marketing Co-operatives, China and others. I am confident that more and more member organizations will come forward to support ICA ROAP activities, which will greatly benefit co-operatives in the Region.

All these achievements have been possible due to the hard work of ICA ROAP staff under the leadership of the Regional Director and the good directions given by our Standing Committee members. They deserve our appreciation.

In spite of all these achievements, a discomforting trend happened in the region during the year was the inability of some member organization to maintain their membership. Strength of ICA lies in its members. May I, therefore, earnestly call upon our member organizations for timely fulfillment of their membership obligations and extend greater support to ICA.

Mu Li

Vice President, ICA-Asia & the Pacific

Message from the ICA Regional Director

uring 2002, ICA ROAP achieved new milestones in its efforts to project and strengthen the Cooperative Movement as an instrument of socio-economic development of the people, particularly the people of limited means and the weaker sections. In spite of a good degree of diversification of co-operative enterprises in various spheres of national economies, particularly agriculture, consumers, small and micro-enterprises, finance and banking, the significantly changed environment due to globalisation and liberalisation, East-Asian crisis and operationalisation of WTO, has brought out new threats, challenges and new opportunities for cooperatives.

Responding to these changes, ICA ROAP intensified its advocacy efforts to impress upon both the Co-operative Movement and the Government for establishing relevant legislation and policy for co-operatives in the new millennium. The successful organization of 6th Co-operative Ministers' Conference in Kathmandu with the support of His Majesty's Government of Nepal, preceded by a Regional Consultation of Permanent Secretaries in the Governments and Chief Executive Officers of National Co-operative Organisations with the support of Government of Iran helped ICA ROAP in reaching a consensus on parameters of appropriate legislation policy for co-operative development in the new millennium.

The cumulative impact of such Ministerial Conferences and Regional Consultations held so far since 1990 has shown visible attitudinal change in the Governments to reorient their interventionist role into a supportive one to catalyse the process of transformation of state sponsored cooperatives into member based ones through legal and policy reforms.

The Key Result Areas (KRAs) of ICA ROAP in Asia Pacific region were (a) Co-operative Identity and Image; (b) International Co-operative Presence; (c) Co-operative Development; (d) Networking; and (e) Other Cross Cutting Issues (Gender, Youth,



Environment). Steps to materialize these KRAs included 31 different activities covering various sectors of cooperatives and implementation of the following specific projects in the year 2002.

- Policy Development and Legislation Project
- ICA-Japan Project for Strengthening Management of Agricultural Coops
- ICA-Japan Rural Women Leaders Training Project
- Consumer Co-operative Development Project
- Gender Integration Project

In order to enlarge our support and collaboration base, we initiated steps to identify new Development Partners. one of such partners was the AGRITERRA of Netherlands which approved a project to strengthen agricultural co-operatives. The project involves conducting of critical studies in select countries and formulate appropriate strategies to strengthen agricultural co-operatives, through extensive consultation with governments and policy makers. The project will be completed in 2003.

Other new partners will be Governments of India, Iran and Kuwait who have agreed to support us for organizing 7th Co-operative Ministers' Conference, Afghanistan interventions and Regional Consultation respectively.

Similarly efforts were also made to strengthen our relations with multilateral agencies like ADB, UN-ESCAP, AARDO, and FAO. We responded to various important requests from these agencies by participating in their events as follows:

- 35th Annual Meeting of Asian Development Bank, Shanghai, 8-11 May 2002.
- AARDO Seminar on Challenges to Small Sector, Kuala Lumpur, 13-18 May 2002.
- 3. 4th ESCAP Meeting, Bangkok, 18-23 November 2002.
- Mr. B.D. Sharma represented ICA ROAP in the 24th FAO Regional Conference in Kathmandu, 11-17 May 2002.

Besides the above, the most notable achievement was the liquidation of past deficit in ICA ROAP budget and to plan for surplus in coming year. This was due to the strict maintenance of cost effectiveness of our operations. This approach motivated us to complete our activities with a small contingent of ICA ROAP Staff Strenath of 8 persons including 3 persons on deputation/ secondment from JCCU (Japan), NCUI (India) and NACF (Korea). Efforts are also being made to broadbase the activities of Singapore Business Office by undertaking more and more activities relating to co-operative trade facilitation.

In order to provide a good working environment, the ICA Regional Office has moved to a new modern office in a better location, during November 2002.

A very positive and encouraging support from our Standing Committee members and member organizations has been an important factor in our achievements. However, the declining membership in the region has been very disheartening.

During the year seven organisations were terminated from the membership due to non-payment of subscription. But Co-operative Union of the Philippines decided to rejoin the ICA and made some partial payments. We have, therefore, to work out a specific strategy to arrest this trend in future.

Concluding, may I wish the cooperatives of the region and our development partners for a brighter and more vibrant 2003.

Shil Kwan Lee

Sixth Asia-Pacific Co-operative Ministers' Conference

ith the support and collaboration of His Majesty's Government of Nepal, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, and the National Cooperative Federation of Nepal, we have organised the 6th Asia-Pacific Co-operative Ministers' Conference, 3-7 April, 2002 at the Soaltee Crowne Plaza Hotel in Kathmandu. H.E. the Prime Minister of Nepal, Mr. Sher Bahadur Deuba inaugurated the conference. Mr. Ivano Barberini, the new ICA President, was also present at the conference.

A total of 196 delegates, apart from scores of observers, from 18 countries - Australia, Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Japan, Korea, Kuwait, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and the Czech Republic participated at this Conference. There also 8 international were organisations (Association of Asian Confederation of Credit Unions-ACCU), Canadian Co-operative Association-CCA, Food and Agriculture Organisation of the UN-FAO; International Labour Organisation-ILO, International Cooperative and Mutual Insurance Federation-ICMIF; Afro-Asian Rural Development Organisation-AARDO: International Confederation of Free Trade Unions-ICFTU; and the International Co-operative Alliance-ICA) attended the Conference.

The theme of the Conference was 'Establishing Relevant Policies and Legislation for Co-operatives in the New Millennium'. Speakers at the Conference included Mr. Mitsuhiro Miyakoshi, Hon'ble Parliamentary Secretary of the Government of Japan, Dr. R.B. Singh, FA, Dr. Tilak Rawal, Hon'ble Governor of the Central Bank of Nepal, Dr. Bhagwati Prasad, Chief Executive of the National Co-operative Union of India, Mr. PA. Kiriwandeniya, President of SANASA Federation of Co-operatives,



Inauguration of the Conference - Ivano Barberini, ICA President speaks. H.E. the Prime Minister of Nepal, Mr. Sher Bahadur Deuba seated on the dias.

Sri Lanka, Ms. Teresita M. de Leon, Regional Co-ordinator of ILO Coopnet/Coopreform programmes, Dr. Daniel Ish, CCA, Canada, and Ms. Akiko Yamauchi, JCCU, Japan.

Prior to the conference, a critical study on Co-operative Legislation and Policy Reforms for Co-operative Research and Development, was conducted by Mr. Ravi Shankar, Managing Director of National Co-operative Dairy Federation of India and Mr. Garry Cronan, Executive Director of Australian Centre for Co-operative Research and Development, which was discussed at a Regional

Consultation organised by the ICA in Tehran, Iran during July 2001. The findings of the study was thoroughly discussed at the conference.

An Expert Committee had met several times and discussed the study and also prepared a Draft Recommendation to be adopted by the conference.

A **'Kathmandu Declaration'** was issued by the Conference, which is given elsewhere in this report.

Past conferences were held in Sydney-Australia, Jakarta-Indonesia, Colombo-Sri Lanka, Chiangmai Thailand, and Beijing-China.



Delegates had a group photo with the Prime Minister of Nepal, ICA President and Vice President in the front row.

Shil Kwan Lee, ICA Regional Director is felicitated by Deepak Prakash Baskota, Chairman of National Co-operative Federation of Nepal. Also seen is Mrs. Lee

The Kathmandu Declaration

Recognizing that co-operatives are important people centric organisations imbued with social equity as also instruments for employment generation and wealth creation – particularly for the poor and marginalized in rapidly liberalizing and market driven economies;

Acknowledging the role played by co-operatives during the Asian financial crisis of 1997 when cooperatives amply demonstrated their resilience to thrive in times of crisis;

Noting that Governments of the Asia-Pacific Region have played a very important role to promote cooperatives but in the process there have often arisen major dependen-

cies, thereby limiting cooperatives from achieving their full potential, especially in developing countries;

Emphasizing that the pace of globalization has created a deep sense of urgency to formulate both public policy and other relevant sectoral policies that support development of member based cooperatives:

We the participants of the 6th Co-operative Ministers' Conference held in Kathmandu from April 3-7, 2002 recognize the importance of strengthening processes that facilitate adoption and implementation of appropriate legislation and policy for cooperatives in the new Millennium.



Kofi Annan, UN Secretary General with ICA President



Delegates at the Co-operative Ministers' Conference

Seminar on Strategies for Image Building for Co-operatives

e have organised a seminar with the support of National Co-operative Union of India and Indian Farmers Fertilizers Co-operative Ltd., in New Delhi on 17th-19th October on Strategies for Image Buildng for Co-operatives.

Mr. J.N.L. Srivastava, Secretary, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India inaugurated the seminar.

Speaking on the occasion Mr. Shill Kwan Lee, Regional Director, ICA Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific said that the International Cooperative Alliance is fully aware of the need to project a vibrant image of the co-operative sector as the cooperative sector is very strong in the Asia-Pacific region. He emphasized on the need to pay more attention to improve the general image of the cooperative sector so that achievements of the co-operative sector are given adequate focus. Elaborating on the future plans of ICA, he mentioned that the ICA plans to revive co-operatives in Afghanistan which have good potentials to emerge as a strong sector of the economy.



Shil Kwan Lee, ICA Regional Director lighting the lamp at the inaugural function

Welcoming the delegates, Dr. Bhagwati Prasad, Chief Executive, NCUI spoke on the strategy to project co-operative image among the general masses and the society at large. The Seminar was attended by the top leaders and Chief Executives of business and promotional national level co-operatives from countries like India, Iran, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam.



Delegates assemble for a group photograph



Mr. Lee addressing the seminar

Seminar on Surveillance Systems of **Co-operative Credit and Banking** Institutions in Asia-Pacific Region

Some of the delegates with artists who presented a cultural programme

Seminar on Surveillance Systems of Co-operative Credit and Banking Institutions in Asia-Pacific Region was held at Agricultural Co-operative College of Korea, Seoul from 14 to 16 November 2002. Twenty-six participants from India, South Korea, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Canada attended the seminar.

The seminar was inaugurated by Suk Hwi Park, Executive Vice-president of National Agricultural Co-operative Federation (NACF). Ms. Anne Gaboury, the new CEO of internatinal Developpement Desigrdins (DiD), Canada along with Mr. Pierre Giquere, Sr. Director of DiD araced the occasion with their presence.

Important inputs in the seminar were the country statements presented on current state of surveillance system of co-operative credit and banking institutions in Asia-Pacific by eminent resource persons.

During the two-days' intensive deliberations, the seminar examined limitations of existing surveillance systems and formulated important recommendations for creating effective surveillance system for cooperative credit and banking institutions. In this context, the seminar specified steps to be taken at the level of (a) government, (b) central bank of the country, (c) the co-operative federations, and (d) the co-operatives themselves.

The seminar was supported technically and financially by DiD of Canada, while NACF and Agricultural Co-operative College of Korea extended local organizational and logistic support.





Shil Kwan Lee, Regional Director with Suk Hwi Park, Executive Vice President of NACF

ICA-Japan Training Course for Strengthening Management of Agricultural Co-ops

he 16th ICA-Japan Training Course on "Strengthening Management of Agricultural Cooperatives in Asia" was held in India, Sri Lanka and Japan, from November 14, 2001 to April 21, 2002.

The programme was implemented by the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA) in collaboration with JA-Zenchu (Central Union of Agricultural Co-operatives of Japan) and the Institute for the Development of Agricultural Co-operation in Asia-Japan (IDACA). A generous financial assistance was provided to the ICA by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries [MAFF] of the Government of Japan to conduct the programme.

The main objective of the Training Course was to help improve the capabilities of managers in agricultural co-operatives. It was expected that the trained managers, by using projectoriented approaches, help the basic members at the grassroots level to enhance and sustain their farm income. It was also expected that agricultural co-operatives introduce and accelerate the agro-processing activities to add value to the primary products of their members.

The Course was inaugurated by Mr D.K. Bhatt, Marketing Director of the Indian Farmers' Fertiliser Co-operative Limited [IFFCO] at the Fertiliser Marketing Development Institute (FMDI) of IFFCO at Gurgaon. Mr B.D. Sharma, ICA Acting Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific, Mr. Kazuo Kodama, Minister, and Mr Mitsuaki Kinoshita, First Secretary in the Japanese Embassy in India, attended the Inaugural Session. A message received from Mr. Y. Nakaoka, Managing Director, IDACA, Tokyo, was read by the Programme Adviser at the inaugural session.

Mr Prem Kumar, Programme Adviser, ICA ROAP, was responsible for the successful conduct of the Training



Participants of the course with Dr. V. Kurien, eminent co-operator and chairman of National Co-operative Dairy Federation of India, at IRMA, Anand.

Course. The programme in Japan was held under the direction of Mr. Yoshitada Nakaoka, Managing Director of the IDACA.

The focus of studies was on the historical development of the Japanese Agricultural Co-operative Movement, innovations, management practices, and diversification and business promotion. As up to the end of the 16th Training Course, a total of 240 managers of agricultural co-operatives from 14 countries of Asia had attended

the training programmes. They prepared a total of 237 project proposals on topical subjects.



Course participants at a field visit to Kagoshima co-op

34th meeting of the ICA Committee on Agriculture

he 34th meeting of the ICA Committee on Agriculture was held at Soaltee Crowne Plaza in Kathmandu on April 02, 2002. Twenty-eight delegates/observers and three ICA officials participated at the meeting. Mr. D.P. Baskota chaired the meeting. Dr. S.K. Shrestha, Secretary at the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, His Majesty's Government

of Nepal, delivered the keynote address.

Mr. Wim Polman, FAO and Mr. J.C. Gautam of the Ministry of Agriculture and Co-operatives made interventions. The next meeting of the Committee was scheduled to be held at Cebu City in February 2003 in conjunction with the ICA Regional Assembly.

Training Course for Strengthening Women's Agricultural Co-operatives in Rural Areas

n association with its member organisation in Japan, the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives of Japan (JA-Zenchu) and IDACA, we have organised the 2nd ICA-Japan Training Course for "Strengthening Women's Agricultural Co-operatives in Rural Areas and Improvement of Farm Management and Rural Life" in Thailand and Japan. from 29 August to 4 October 2002. Eight participants - two each from Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam, attended the training course, funded by the Government of Japan in the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF).



Participants attending the training course



Participants during a field visit

Guest. Mr. Shigeri Fukamachi, Managing Director of IDACA and K. Sethumadhavan, Planning Officer of ICA ROAP addressed the closing session. A Certificate of Participation was awarded to each of the participants by IDACA.

The 10-day comparative field study visits, which was a component of the course, was held in Thailand from 29 August to 8 September 2002 in collaboration with the Co-operative Leagues of Thailand (CLT) and the Co-operative Promotion Department (CPD), Government of Thailand.

The main objective of the training course was to train women leaders in rural areas in developing countries by way of strengthening women's agricultural co-operatives, farm management, and improvement of rural life, and also to provide training for capacity-building of participants.

In view of the experience gained by

the participants through class room lectures, field study visits, mutual interaction, and their own work environment, the participants were able to develop brief outlines of their Action Plans which they would recommend to their organisations after their return to their home countries

The concluding session of the course was held on Thursday, 3 October 2002 with Mr. Isamu Akiyama, Deputy Director, Technical Co-operation Division, International Affairs Department, General Food Policy Bureau, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) as Chief



Women trainees visited social facilities in Thailand

Regional Consumer and Youth development activities

he 35th meeting of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for Asia and the Pacific met in Hanoi, Vietnam on July 19, 2002.

The meeting was inaugurated by Dr. Nguyen Ty, Chairman of Vietnam Cooperative Alliance, which hosted the meeting. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, ICA Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific also spoke the inaugural session while actively participating in the meeting.

35 delegates and several observers participated at this meeting. Mr. H. Tanaka, Chairman and Mr. K. Okayasu Vice Chairman, retired from the Committee and Mr. T. Fujioka has been elected as the new Chair. Mr. Mohd. Iqbal from Indonesia was reelected as Vice Chairperson and Mr. Poh Leong Sim from NTUC Fairprice, Singapore has been elected as the Second Vice Chairperson of the Committee. Mr. K. Okayasu was unanimously elected as an Advisor to the Committee.

During the meeting, activity plan for the year 2002 and proposed plans of activity for 2003 were discussed. Country presentations were also made by several delegates. It was decided to hold the next meeting of the Committee on 18th February, 2003 in Cebu, Philippines, in conjunction with the coming ICA Regional Assembly.

A FOLLOW-UP meeting of youth delegates, who participated at the 2001 Tokyo Youth Seminar was held in Hanoi, Vietnam, during 17-18 July, 2002.

Five delegates from Japan, Thailand, Philippines, China and Vietnam and 24 observers participated at this meeting. While making country presentations, the delegates mentioned that they are very eager to have more and more networking amongst themselves and emphasized



Delegates attending the consumer committee and youth meetings in Vietnam

the need for the consumer and other types of co-operatives to include the youth in the management team of cooperatives.

Mr. Nguyen Van Bien, Vice-Chairman of Vietnam Co-operative Alliance, inaugurated the meeting hosted by the Vietnam Co-operative Alliance. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, ICA Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific also spoke at the inaugural session and he also actively participated in the meeting. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee mentioned about the need for the youth to have very strong networking, as the youth today are leaders tomorrow.

Prof. Mohd Ali Hassan from Malaysia, offered to host the next Youth Seminar during August, 2003, and the delegates were very enthusiastic about the development. They requested the co-operative leaders present to sent more and more youth to this meeting, so that the youth could chalk out a strategy for their participation in co-operative activities in the region.

Mr. Phung Khanh Toan, youth leader from Vietnam detailed the youth related activities in Vietnam and emphasized the need for more and more youth to involve in the activities of co-operatives in the region and in Vietnam particularly.

After the meeting, many of the delegates joined in a study visit to Saigon Co-operative in Ho Chi Minh City, where they observed and appreciated the working of Saigon Co-operative, which is the Federation of consumer co-operatives in Ho-Chi Minh City and Saigon province.



The delegates attending the consumer committee and the youth meetings, visited a supermarket operated by Vietnam Cooperative Alliance.

Gender Activities: Leadership Development Training for Women



The training session in progress

he first ICA/ILO Coopnet Trainers' Training Programme for Leadership Development for Women was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 21-26 October, 2002.

ANGKASA, the National Co-operative Organisation of Malaysia, hosted the programme at its premises. ANGKASA also contributed towards the board and lodging costs of the participants and other expenses for the programme.

The training programme was a great

success, mainly due to the support provided by Ms. Rahaiah Baharen, Vice Chairperson of ANGKASA, who is also the Chairperson of ICA Regional Women's Committee, apart from representing the region at the global Gender Equality Committee. The training programme was inaugurated by Hon'ble Dr. Robia Kosai, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Co-operative Development, Government of Malaysia.

Twenty trainers from 5 countries participated at the programme. Mrs. Savitri Singh, Advisor-Gender Programme, ICA-ROAP, and Mr. Paul Sinnappan of the Credit Union Promotion Club of Malaysia have been the resource persons at the training programme.

The next sub-regional training programme is scheduled to be held in Pune, India, during June 2003.

Apart from this activity, the Regional Women's Committee Office bearers met a couple of times in Malaysia to plan and organise the 3rd Asia-Pacific Regional Women's Conference and the 3rd meeting of the Committee, to be held in Cebu, Philippines, during February, 2003.



A view of the delegates at the National Women's Forum organised by the JCCU during the year.

ICA ROAP Library and Information Centre

he ICA Regional Office and Education Center for South East Asia which was established at New Delhi in 1960, set up a small reference library to provide information and authentic references in matters related to Co-operative movement worldwide and to ICA member organizations.

The library collection grew to more than 20,000 volumes and more than 100-150 journals and newsletters received monthly, which cater to all sectors of co-operatives.

Since the library is recognised by the University Grants Commision of India and ICSSR for Co-operative Research, many researchers from India and abroad, especially our member organizations from Asia and Pacific, had the privilege of utilising these reference materials for their PhD/thesis work.

Services rendered by the library were:

- provide reference materials and subject literature to ICA ROAP technical projects;
- advisory services to co-operative scholars and organisations both national and international;
- exchange of information and documents with member organisations and co-operative training institutions in response to their specific requests;

dissemination of information to visitors /university students

The reference library had been converted to Co-operative Information Resource Center because of its utility as a "Clearing House of Knowledge" providing information through E-mail and Networking facility.

CIRC (Co-operative Information and Resource Centre) also serves as a marketing/sales agent for cooperative publications, published by ICA ROAP. These publications have been assigned ISBN to standardise their market world wide.

The Regional office library has finally found a permanent premises at No.9, Aradhna Enclave, New Delhi. The Library, which was not fully functional due to want of space has now been re-established and will continue to provide service to readers and member organisations.

There is a proposal to upgrade our CIRC to World Bank Depository Library or Regional Library in the current year, which will strengthen the collection on development reports, provide free public access to member countries to the World Bank's published information and make the information Center more digital with access to CD's and Videos etc.



The new premises of ICA Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific



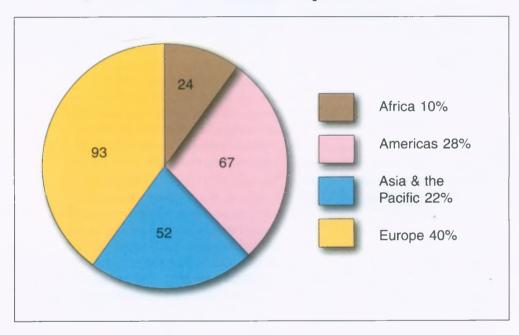
ICA ROAP staff during 2002

Our Partners

uring the year, the ICA Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific had the support of several regional and international partners, like MAFF (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of the Government of Japan, IDACA and JCCU of Japan; NACF, Korea; NCUI and IFFCO, India; ANGKASA, Malaysia; SNCF, Singapore, All China Federation of Supply and Marketing Co-operatives, China; the Canadian Co-operative Association - CCA, the Developpement international Desjardins - DiD, the AGRITERRA of Netherlands and the ILO Co-opnet, among others.

The European Union and the Government of India have also extended valuable support to our activities. These activities are being carried out by ICA Domus Trust.

ICA Membership 2002



ICA MEMBERSHIP (31 December 2002) 236 **Total ICA Member Organisations** National members 226 4 International members 6 Associate members ICA member organisations by country / Region Total number of countries within ICA membership 95 Africa 24 67 **Americas** 52 Asia & Pacific 93 Europe

ICA MEMBER ORGANISATIONS IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

- 1. Bangladesh Jatiya Samabaya Union (BJSU), Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- 2. All China Federation of Supply and Marketing Co-operatives (ACFSMC), Beijing China.
- 3. National Co-operative Union of India, New Delhi, India.
- National Co-operative Consumers' Federation (NCCF), New Delhi, India.
- Indian Farmers Fertiliser Co-op. Ltd, (IFFCO), New Delhi, India.
- National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation (NAFED), New Delhi, India.
- 7. National Co-operative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks' Federation, Mumbai, India.
- National Federation of State Co-operative Banks Ltd. Mumbai, India.
- 9. Krishak Bharati Co-operative Ltd. (KRIBHCO), NOIDA, Uttar Pradesh, India.
- National Co-operative Dairy Federation of India (NCDFI), Anand, India.
- 11. National Federation of Urban Co-operative Banks and Credit Societies, New Delhi, India.
- 12. Dewan Koperasi Indonesia (DEKOPIN), Jakarta, Indonesia
- 13. Central Organisation for Rual Co-operatives of Iran Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran.
- Central Union of Rural Agricultural Co-operatives of Iran Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran.
- 15. Iran Chamber of Co-operatives (ICC), Tehran, Islamic Rep. of Iran.
- 16. Central Union of Co-operative Societies in Israel, Tel Aviv, Israel.
- 17. Central Union of Agricultural Co-operatives (JA-ZENCHU), Tokyo, Japan.
- 19. Japanese Consumers Co-operative Union (JCCU) Tokyo, Japan.
- 20. National Federation of Fisheries' Co-operatives Associations (Zengyoren), Tokyo, Japan.
- 21. National Federation of Forest Owners' Co-operative Associations (Zenmori-ren), Tokyo Japan.
- 22. The Norinchukin Bank (Central Co-op Bank for Agriculture & Forestry), Tokyo, Japan.
- 23. National Federation of Agricultural Co-op. Associations (Zen-Noh), Tokyo, Japan.
- 24. IE-NO-HIKARI ASSOCIATION (Association for Education & Publications on Agricultural Co-ops), Tokyo, Japan.
- 25. National Mutual Insurance Federation of Agricultural Co-ops. (ZENKYOREN), Tokyo, Japan.
- 26. National Press & Information Federation of Agricultural Co-operatives, Tokyo, Japan.
- 27. Japanese Workers' Co-operative Union (JIGYODAN) Tokyo, Japan.

- 28. The National Federation of University Co-operative Associations (NAFUCA) of Japan.
- 29. National Federation of Workers and Consumers Insurance Co-operatives (ZENROSAI), Tokyo, Japan.
- 30. Union of Consumer Societies, Almaty, Kazakhstan.
- 31. National Agricultural Co-operative Federation, Seoul, Republic of Korea.
- 32. National Federation of Fisheries Co-operative Associations, Seoul, Republic of Korea.
- 33. National Credit Union Federation of Korea (NACUFOK) Seoul, Republic of Korea.
- 34. Korean Federation of Community Credit Co-operatives (KFCCC), Seoul, Rep. of Korea.
- 35. National Forestry Co-operatives Federation (NFCF) Seoul, Rep. of Korea.
- Union of Consumer Co-operative Societies, Safat, Kuwait.
- 37. National Co-operative Organisation of Malaysia (ANGKASA), Petaling Jaya, Malaysia.
- 38. National Land Finance Co-operative Society Ltd., Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- 39. Central Co-operative Society, Yangon, Myanmar.
- 40. National Co-operative Federation of Nepal Ltd. (NCF) Kathmandu, Nepal.
- 41. National Co-operative Union of Pakistan, Islamabad, Pakistan.
- 42. The Agricultural Co-operative Union, Palestine. (Via Israel).
- 43. National Confederation of Co-operatives Inc. (NATCCO) Quezon City , Philippines.
- 44. Singapore National Co-op Federation Ltd., Singapore
- 45. National Co-operative Council of Sri Lanka, Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- 46. Federation of Thrift & Credit Co-op Societies Ltd. (SANASA), Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- 47. Consumer Co-operative Societies' Federation (Sri Lanka), Colombo, Sri Lanka
- 48. Co-operative League of Thailand, Bangkok, Thailand.
- 49. Union of Consumer Societies, Turkmenistan
- 50. Vietnam Co-operatives Alliance (VCA), Hanoi, Vietnam.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

- 1. Australian Centre for Co-operative Research and Development (ACCORD), Sydney, Australia.
- 2. Institute for Indonesian Co-operative Development Studies (LSP 21), Jakarta, Indonesia.

INTERNATIONAL MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

1. Association of Asian Confederation of Credit Unions, (ACCU), Bangkok, Thailand.

STATEMENT ON THE NEW CO-OPERATIVE IDENTITY

Definition

A co-operative is an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly owned and democratically controlled enterprise.

Values

Co-operatives are based on the values of self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity and solidarity. In the tradition of their founders, co-operative members believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for others.

Principles

The co-operative principles are guidelines by which co-operatives put their values into practice. They are:

First Principle: Voluntary and Open membership

Co-operatives are voluntary organizations, open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of the membership, without gender, social, racial, political or religious discrimination.

Second Principle: Democratic Member Control

Co-operatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting their policies and making decisions. Men and women serving as elected representatives are accountable to the membership. In primary co-operatives, members have equal voting rights (one member, one vote) and co-operatives at other levels are also organized in a democratic manner.

Third Principle: Member Economic Participation

Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their co-operative. At least part of that capital is usually the common property of the co-operative. Members usually receive limited compensation, if any, on capital subscribed as a condition of membership. Members allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing their co-operative, possibly by setting up reserves, part of which at least would be indivisible; benefiting members in proportion to their transactions with the co-operative; and supporting other activities approved by the membership.

Fourth Principle: Autonomy and Independence

Co-operatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members. If they enter into agreements with other organizations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control by their members and maintain their co-operative autonomy.

Fifth Principle: Education, Training and Information

Co-operatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers, and employees, so they can contribute effectively to the development of their co-operatives. They inform the general public – particularly young people and opinion leaders – about the nature and benefits of co-operation.

Sixth Principle: Co-operation among Co-operatives

Co-operatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the co-operative movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures.

Seventh Principle: Concern for Community

Co-operatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies approved by their members.

ICA IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC : REPORT ON ACTIVITIES 2002(1200)



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A NEWS BULLETIN OF THE ICA REGIONAL OFFICE FOR ASIA & THE PACIFIC

6th Asia-Pacific Co-operative Ministers' Conference in Kathmandu, Nepal

The 6th Conference of Cooperative Ministers from Asia and the Pacific region will be convened in Kathmandu, Nepal during 3-7 April, 2002.

The conference is organized by the ICA Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, His Majesty's Government of Nepal and the National Cooperative Federation of Nepal. The venue of the Conference will be

Soaltee Crowne Plaza, Kathmandu.

The theme of the Conference will be "Establishing Relevant Legislation and Policy for Co-operatives in the New Millennium", on the basis of the second critical study conducted by the ICA ROAP.

A Regional Consultation was held in Iran during 2001 and the deliberations at that Consultation will form the basis of discussions at the Conference.

The host organization has been able to secure very good room rates for hotels in Kathmandu for the delegates.

The Soaltee Crowne Plaza, which is the venue, and the Blue Star Hotel are most convenient.

The delegates are expected to arrive on 2nd April and depart on 7th April, 2002.

The tentative agenda of the conference is given elsewhere.

The 16th ICA-Japan Training course on Strengthening Management of Agricultural Co-ops in Asia begins

The Sixteenth ICA-Japan Training Course on Strengthening Management of Agricultural Co-operatives in Asia started on 14th November 2001. The programme was implemented by the ICA in collaboration with JA-Zenchu and IDACA with generous financial assistance provided to the ICA by the

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), of the Government of Japan. The Course was held in the following two phases:

Phase-I: Home Country Assignments (Nov. 14, 2001-Jan. 06, 2002)

Programme held in India (Jan.7-Feb. 24, 2002)



Mr. D.K. Bhatt, Marketing Director delivering the inaugural address at the function at FMDI, Gurgaon. Also seen are (I to r) Mr. Prem Kumar, Advisor, ICA ROAP, Mr. Kazuo Kodama, Minister, and Mr. Mitsuaki Kinoshita, First Secretary in the Japanese Embassy in India, and Dr. G.C. Shrotriya, IFFCO

Comparative Field Study Visits in Sri Lanka (Feb. 25-Mar. 3, 2002)

Phase-II: Programme held in Japan at IDACA (Mar. 04-Apr. 21, 2002)

(Continued on page 2...)

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Seminar on Co-operative Banking in Asia and the Pacific

the ICA ROAP in collaboration with the SANASA Development . Bank, organized a Seminarcum-Workshop on Co-operative Banking in the Asia-Pacific Region, from 26-27 January, 2002, at the Galadari Hotel in Colombo, Sri Lanka. 47 delegates from India, Indonesia. Iran, Nepal, Singapore, and Sri Lanka participated at the seminar. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, Mr. B.D. Sharma and Mr. A.K. Taneja represented ICA ROAP. Mr. A.S. Jayawardena, Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka was the Chief guest, who also delivered the Key Note Address. In his address, he suggested that the co-operative banks to convert the 'welfarist' philosophy into a 'business entrepreneurial' philosophy, based on mobilization of people and amend the banking laws, so that the cooperative banks can function under appropriate self-regulations.

Delegates from India, Iran, Nepal, Singapore and Sri Lanka made country presentations.

Mr. Robby Tulus, former ICA Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific, presented a paper and on "Governance and the Identity of Financial Co-ops and Co-op Banks". On the basis of discussions on the paper several suggestions like establishing a legal framework for financial co-operatives, to have a law to protect co-operative identity and ownership for co-operative banking institutions, and to ensure effective



Shil Kwan Lee, ICA Regional Director for Asia-Pacific, speaking at the Seminar.



Inauguration of the Seminar (I to r) Lionel Samarasinghe (Chairman, NCC), P.A. Kiriwandeniya (Chairman, SANASA and Chair of ICA Regional Banking Association), A.S. Jayawardena (Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka), Shil Kwan Lee (Regional Director, ICA); and Robby Tulus (former Regional Director of ICA)

networking of financial cooperatives. Mr. P.A. Kiriwandeniya, Chairman of SANASA Bank also made a presentation on "Role of Cooperatives as a Micro Finance Institution". Ms.Kalyani Gunathilake, Senior Assistant Director of the Central Bank of India presented a

paper on "Capital Mobilization Strategies". The seminar made recommendations to establish an integrated package of co-operative institutional system for micro-finance, based on savings mobilization, credit dispensation, risk coverage and education.

16th ICA-Japan Training course ... contd. from page 1)

As in the past, fifteen participants were nominated by ICA Member-Organisations from eleven countries: Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam. Of these three of the participants are women.

The main objective of the Training Course is to help improve the capacities and capabilities of managers in agricultural co-operatives to help the basic members at the grassroots level to enhance and sustain their farm income. It is also expected that agricultural co-operatives introduce and accelerate the agro-processing activities to add value to the primary products of their members. This objective is sought to be achieved through intensive classroom teaching, skills development in producing and analysing development project proposals, exchange of experiences and study visits.

The India segment included three components i.e., Review of Management of Agricultural Cooperatives in Asia and comparative field study visits to national and local level co-operative organisations in Delhi and Gurgaon, held at the Fertiliser Marketing Development Institute (FMDI) of Indian Farmers' Fertiliser Co-operative Limited (IFFCO) from January 7-19, 2002;



MAFF representatives Hiroyuki Nakazawa and Kazunari Iwafuchi discussing a point at the ICA ROAP.



Participants of the course at the end of training at IRMA, with Dr. V. Kurien, Chairman, IRMA and National Co-op Dairy Federation (centre)

Management Leadership Development Module at the Institute of Rural Management [IRMA] at Anand, from January 20 - February 23, 2002; and the Wrap-Up Sessions held in New Delhi (February 23-24).

The third segment was on comparative field study visits to agricultural co-operatives and related institutions in Sri Lanka which was conducted from February 25 to March 3, 2002 with the active support and

collaboration of the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka (NCC-SL). The Course was inaugurated by Mr D.K. Bhatt, Marketing Director of the Indian Farmers' Fertiliser Cooperative Limited [IFFCO] at the Fertiliser Marketing Development Institute (FMDI) of IFFCO at Gurgaon.

The inaugural Session was attended by Mr B.D. Sharma, ICA Acting Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific, Mr. Kazuo Kodama, Minister, and Mr. Mitsuaki Kinoshita, First Secretary in the Japanese Embassy in India.

A message received from Mr. Y. Nakaoka, Managing Director, IDACA, Tokyo, was read at the inaugural session. Mr. Prem Kumar, Programme Adviser at the ICA ROAP, New Delhi, is responsible for the conduct of the programme.

During 16-19 January, two officials from the MAFF, Mr. Hiroyuki Nakazawa (General Affairs) and Mr.Kazunari Iwafuchi (Training Program for Overseas Participants), visited ICA ROAP, observed a session of the course at FMDI, Gurgaon and also visted the IFFCO adopted co-operative villages around Gurgaon.

The second part of the programme, under the overall guidance of Mr. Nakaoka, Managing Director, IDACA, will be held at IDACA, including extensive classroom work and study visits to agricultural co-operatives in and around Tokyo, Nagano and Kagoshima Prefectures in Japan.

Tentative Agenda of the 6th Asia-Pacific Ministers' Conference

Tuesday, the A	April 2, 2002	11.30-13.00	Presentation of Second Crital Study on Co-operative
	Arrival and registration		Policy and Legislation under taken by ICAROAP by
Wednesday, th	he April 3, 2002		Mr.Ravi Shankar and Mr. Garry Cronan
08.30-10.00	Registration	13.00-14.30	Lunch Break
10.00-11.30	Opening Ceremony, followed by Photo session.	14.30-15.30	Presentation of Case Studies:
11.30-12.00	Health Break.		 Parallel Co-op Law in India by Dr. Bhagwati Prasad, Chief Executive, NCUI, India
12.00-12.30	Presentation by Expert Committee		SANASA of Sri Lanka by Mr. P.A. Kriwandeniya,
10.00.10.15	Adoption of Conference Procedure & Agenda		Chairman, SANASA, Sri Lanka
12.30-12.45	Presentation of Draft Joint Declaration by Hon'ble Minister of	15.30-16.00	Health Break
	Agriculture & Coops, Nepal.	1600-16.30	Co-operative Law Making: An Indonesian Experience by
12.45-14.00	Lunch Break		Dr. Ibnoe Soedjono, Chairperson, Institute for Indonesian
14.00-15.30	Presentations by Guest Speakers: Fiscal Legislation including Tax Laws and Development of		Co-op Dev.Studies.
	Co-ops by Hon. Bala Sahib Vikhe Patil, Minister of State for	19.00-22.00	Dinner hosted by National Co-op Fed. of Nepal.
	Finance, Govt. of India.	Friday, the 5th Ap	oril, 2002
	Role of Agricultural Co-ops for the Co-existence of various	09.30-10.15	Presentation of UN Guidelines on Co-operative Law and
	types of Agriculture by H.E. Mitsuhiro Miyakoshi, Parliamen-		Policy by Ms. Teresita M. de Leon, Regional Coordinator,
	tary Secretary, Govt. of Japan.		ILO Coopnet/Coopreform.
	Impact of Globalisation on Farmers and Role of Co-ops by		Imperatives of Co-operative Policies by Dr. Don Ish, Expert
	Dr. R.B. Singh, Asstt.Director, FAO		on Legislation, CCA, Canada
	Perspectives for Co-op Banks in the New Millennium by Dr.	10.15-11.15	Statements by International Organisations
	Tilak Rawal, Hon'ble Governor, Central Bank of Nepal.	11.15-11.30	Health Break
15.30-16.00	Health Break	11.30-12.00	Briefing on methodology and logistical details of Breakout Session.
16.00-18.00	Presentation of country statements by Hon. Ministers/	12.00-13.00	Breakout Session - Formulation of Action Plans
16.30-17.00	National Co-op organisations. Health Break	13.00-14.30	Lunch Break
19.00-19.30	Signing of Joint Declaration (Venue: Megha-Malhar	14.30-16.00	Breakout Session continued.
13.00-13.00	Convention Hall).	16.00-16.30	Health Break
19.30-21.30	Welcome Dinner hosted by Ministry of Agriculture and Co-	16.30-17.00	Presentation and adoption of Conference Report
	ops, His Majesty's Government of Nepal.	17.00-17.30	Closing ceremony
Thursday the		Saturday, the 6th	April, 2002
Thursday, the	· ·		Field Visits
09.30-11.00	Presentation of Country Statements contd.	Sunday, 7th April,	2002
11.00-11.30	Health Break	,, ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	Departure of participants.

ICA is now a part of Global Government

Ivano Barberini

Ivano Barberini, the new President of International Co-operative Alliance (ICA) recently visited India. He was the chief guest at the valedictory ceremony of National Symposium and National Debate Competition on Co-operation from 27-28 December, 2001 organised by National Co-operative Union of India. Mr. Barberini is also President of Legacoop, Italy, and has over 40 years' experience in the co-operative movement. Despite his busy schedule, Mr. Barberini found time to interact with Mohan Mishra, Director (Publications and Public Relations), National Co-operative Union of India, on various global issues concerning the co-operatives. Some excerpts of the interview.

Q.1 The biggest challenge faced by the co-operative institution in the era of globalisation and liberalization is how to protect and preserve its identity as an autonomous, democratic and member-oriented enterprise? And how to sustain growth and development in this regard? What is your opinion?

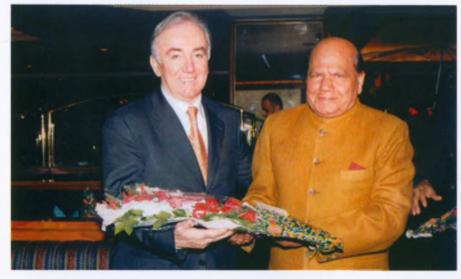
ANS. I fully agree that this is a very very big challenge for co-operatives. For more than 150 years, cooperatives had preserved their identity. As the market is changing rapidly, so now we are talking about globalisation. The problem is to change co-operative strategy, while preserving the co-operative basic values. We strongly have to preserve our identity, as it is important to compete in the market. In order to compete in the market, any enterprise needs strong identity, as it is the trust of customers as well as members which are the basis for strong identity. Entrepreneurial skills are the best way to compete in the market. In other words, the formula for possibility to survive as long time organization is to change your strategy when market changes while at the same time preserve your basic values.

Q.2 ICA, being the umbrella organization of world co-operative movement, was established in 1895. Over the years, the ICA had provided value-added services to its member organisation and worked consistently for their development? Your comment please.



ANS. We had the General Assembly Meeting in Seoul in the last week of October 2001 and we discussed about gloablisation, co-operation and peace. We also discussed the strategies in this regard. The main

objectives of the long-term strategies are - cultivating values for the members, improving member services and also to improve the sense of utility to the members. The ICA has decided to set up a task force to formulate new strategies to have better performance. I think the work is in progress now and the ICA has to manage the strategic issues at global level, regional level and the national level to have common view of global strategic issues and formulate an agreement concerning these matters. We have also to improve the relations among the members to promote understanding through bilateral meetings. I think it is very good for one organization to know what the other organization is doing. For instance, each country has a different law system. But while knowing what you are doing in India,



Dr. S.S. Sisodia, President, NCUI, receiving the ICA President

in Europe, in Italy, in France, etc., we have to try to work on a common law model. It is a very ambitious and difficult task but I think we can try to do it because it will be useful to have pillars of co-operative law everywhere.

Q.3 Is there any plans to have a global-co-operative law or model co-operative law which may be recommended for all member organizations?

ANS. I think it is a very difficult task because the co-operative law is part of the legislative system in each country. I think that building up pillars of co-operative law can be possible or at least we can try to do this. The ICA as a non-governmental organistion is now a part of global government and the global government is a necessity for facing global issues now.

We need to have a global government and there are some non-governmental organisations working in these fields. We think human relations development is a part of global government. The ICA has to develop relations with global organizations like the UN, ILO, FAO, etc. We have to improve our organization at global level involving national members. To promote development, we need strong support from national organizations.

ICA has not enough resources to promote development everywhere in the world, but referring to the national organistions it is possible to develop more energy, more synergy and more resources to reach the objective or development in countries and new areas of work.

We have to change or improve the regionalisation process of ICA. The regionalisation process started in 1992 and it became effective in 1994 but it is not complete. Now we are in the middle of the river. I think that each regional ICA office has to be more autonomous, more responsible and closer to the members and at the same time, we need strong



Dr. S.S. Sisodia, pressenting a memento to Mr. Barberini. Also seen is Mr. Janardhan Rao, Chairman of National Co-op Agriculture & Rural Dev.Banks' Federation

integration. So ICA has to be in the future, a worldwide organisation. It is an added value and we have to preserve these characteristics and strengthen the network while at the same time we have to be closer to members and be more useful to the members. We can build a strong network based on global ICA and regional ICA and national organisations.

The 'dot coop' is on the agenda in the future as a new Internet domain name to be used as a forum to highlight special issues. ICA has to preserve co-operative identity and cooperative values.

ICA has a good reputation and we have to ensure the active participation of the members. We have to promote development in the new and weaker areas, where co-op movement is not so developed and where we have to contribute as a democratic and social organization to fight poverty, unemployment, and to involve more youth and women in activities to win the trust of the people. The co-operative movement has immense possibilities and we have to develop these possibilities as soon as possible and in the best way.

Q.4 In order to bring the relevance of the apex co-op organizations like ICA or NCUI in focus, what are the important issues these apex institutions should address in terms of making membership attractive,

expanding and creating specialized services, etc.? Your comments please. ANS. Having past experience in Italy as the President of Legacoop which is like NCUI as an apex organisation, I think the best possibility to attract members is to create synergies among members and among various sectors. Our experience shows that this is possible and this is the good method. O.5 The biggest hurdle apex cooperative organisations face is financial constraint. Resource mobilization from various sources is not matching their activities. How these organisations can become financially independent and selfreliant? What is your opinion based on your global experience?

ANS. The real problem is that these kinds of organizations always have to face financial difficulties and financial constraints. I think they have to be autonomous, financially autonomous and depend first of all on the relations with the members. The members have to understand the utility of the organisations and pay a fee for their activities when their utility value is understood. The performance of an effective organisation is based on interaction with the members. We need to be independent from the control of state with regard to the interest of members.

Q.6 Do you agree that co-operatives should incorporate tools of latest information technology to provide

cost effective services to their members in this situation of changed business environment? What is your opinion about application of Information Technology in the context of India which needs to apply labour intensive techniques?

ANS. Information Technology is a very good tool for our organisation. If we have active members' participation, then this is a way to survive and step up the pace of economic development and become socially visible to achieve these goals. IT allows us easier contacts and easier relations with members and in other case there are the possibilities to develop new co-operatives, i.e. IT co-operatives. We have some interesting cases where young people involve themselves to promote and manage a site as Internet services.

I don't know about India enough to come up with some suggestions. I know that you have good engineers and good people to manage IT. This is a resource for you and in Europe many people talk about your skills in this field. IT is a revolution in the area of globalisation now and it is possible to manage a company 10,000 kms far from here and so and so on. But I think IT is a process and the global competition needs a creative spread of knowledge. IT creates and spreads knowledge so as to enhance the skills of the people. It has the capacity to create jobs. I think this is an important tool for India and for every country.

Q.7 How should co-operatives address the problem of environmental issues and hazards?

ANS. Environmental issues are very important because the co-operative movement has to show its distinctive identity in different ways to manage the modern paradoxes and the contradictions of our society. This creates both economic development and social purpose. I think the problems of environment are being discussed in our strategies and ICA is doing its best to focus on global environmental issues.

Q.8 In the current global economic situation, when there are lots of lay offs by the organisations and the trend of slow down of economy noticeable, what role co-operatives can play to overcome this crisis?

ANS. In the year 2001, we started with worldwide difficulties like natural calamity, the economic slowdown, and the crisis in U.S. I think co-operatives can definitely help to solve the problems. It is not possible to perform miracles, but we can contribute to fight the unemployment and create new jobs. This needs the respect and dignity of people. The dignity of people means doing the jobs and if we are able to create jobs, this improves employment prospects. This means that we are looking after the well being of the people and also embarking on the road to economic development.

Q.9 Recently we have go to know that the ICA is passing through some difficulties. How do you plan to overcome this crisis?

ANS. I think the financial problems of ICA are going to be solved because we have strong support from members. The problem is how to manage essential staff and skilled people. We have to manage the activities based on the possible resources we could garner. But another possibility is to involve national organizations in global activities. I had told before that we have to increase the possibility to create services to give support to ideas and activities of national organisations creating a network accordingly. For instance, we need better ideas and elaboration about co-operative legislation. The problem is of evoking interest of members in the common activities ensuring their active participation.

I feel that the solution is to have stronger regional organizations capable to have closer links with the members, and in this case, I think that if a member understands the utility and importance of the regional or global level ICA, this would certainly provide clues and answers to the crisis.



Co-op Movement in Italy

LEGACOOP

Nazionale delle Cooperative e Mutue) is the oldest Italian co-operative organization.

Legacoop promotes the development of co-operation and mutuality, economic and solidarity relations between member cooperatives and encourages the spreading of co-operative principles and values.

The member co-operatives of Legacoop are active in all regions and all productive sectors. They hold leading positions in sectors such as retailing, construction, food agriculture, services and manufacturing.

Member co-operatives have also founded important companies in the sectors of insurance, financing and credit.

Legacoop represents, assists and protects the co-operative movement and it is skilled in supervising the member co-operatives.

It guarantees the coordination and direction of strategies and policies; establishes and manages relations with ministries and the competent parliamentary commissions, and the political, economic and social forces.

International relations for the member cooperatives, relations with European Union institutions and managing industrial relations of the co-operatives are all referred to Legacoop.

The associative organization of Legacoop is divided into sector associations, which organize the co-operatives relevant to the different activities and in regional and provincial Legacoops, which are responsible for the territorial sector.

Legacoop is a member of ICA (International Co-operative Alliance).

ITALIAN CONSTITUTION

Art.45: "The Italian Republic recognizes the social function of cooperation with a mutual and non-profit character. The legislation promotes and favours its development by the most suitable means and it assures the control over its character and goals."

Professional Training for the Managers of Co-op Banks in Asia held at Colombo, Sri Lanka

The Training Programme was inaugurated by Mr. D. Boyagoda, Hon'ble Deputy Governor of Central Bank of Sri Lanka, on 15th March 2002 at 10.00 a.m. A copy of his inaugural address is enclosed

Dr. P.A. Kiriwandeniya, President of SANASA Development Bank, presided over the function. In his speech, he appreciated ICA ROAP for choosing SANASA for conducting the training programme on Mciro-Finance.

Eleven (11) participants from six countries - India, Korea, Nepal, the Philippines, Signapore and Sri Lanka participated programme. Three observers from Ireland, Scotland, and England also attended the training programme.



A view of the training session

D. Boyagoda, Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka was the chief guest at the inaugural session. In his address, he exhorted the participants to excel in their field of management, as only the fittest will survive in today's free market economy.

R.D. De Livera, Former General Manager of the People's Bank of Sri Lanka, Edgar Dias, Senior Manager, SANASA Development Bank, R.J. Herath, Director, SANASA Education Campus, C.D.S. Jayawardana, SANASA Development Bank, P.A. Kiriwandeniya, Chairman, SANASA, H. Palihakkara, Director General of



Participants posed for a photograph

SANASA Education Campus, P.V. Pathirana, Asstt.General Manager, People's Bank, Cyril Perera, SANASA Development Bank, Udaya Seneviratne, Director General, National Institute of Co-operative Development and Ms. Sirani of SANASA development bank were the major contributors for the training programme. Mr. A.K. Taneja, Program

Officer, spoke to the participants representing the ICA Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. Participants visited various places in and around Colombo for study visits, practical training and sight-seeing. On the last day of the programme, an evaluation was conducted and participants gave suggestions to improve the programme in future.



The ICA-ROAP, in collaboration with the Asia-Pacific Regional Office of International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, the National Trade Union Congress of Singapore and the National Co-operative Federation organised a preparatory workshop on a joint pilot Project on Organizing Informal Sector Through Co-operatives during 20-21 December in Kathmandu, Nepal. Seen in the picture are (I to r) B.D. Sharma, Deepak Prakash Bascota, Lakshman Mehta, Minister of State for Agriculture & Co-ops, Nepal, Laxman Basnet, ICFTU Leader from Nepal and Suzuki, Secretary General, ICFTU.

Sri Lanka's Consumer Co-ops groping for a new development plan

Tuku Ozawa alongwith Jiro Ito, who is the new Director (Special Programs) visited the Sri Lanka Consumer Co-operatives from 4-7 February 2002.

The Sri Lanka Consumer Co-op Societies Federation aims to change the consumers' life and modernize the consumer co-operative stores.

Most of the co-op stores at present in Sri Lanka are small stores of about



Co-op Supermarket display



A view of a simple consumer co-op store in Sri Lanka

20 square meters, where they sell sundry items for the daily use sundries, confectioneries and drinks.

The local private retailer has already established many supermarkets and operate as a chain.

Considering the change in the retailing business, the Consumer Cooperative Federation is currently remodeling the Negambo Co-op store to a supermarket, which will be the

biggest co-op store in Sri Lanka. They are also planning to set up branch stores of the supermarket doing direct operations, though some difficulties about the store operation, merchandise procurement and staff adoption etc. are expected.

However, in view of the big flow of foreign products to Sri Lanka, the economic growth, and the change of retail business in Sri Lanka, the federation can bring a breakthrough only with direct operation supermarket stores.

The consumer co-operative leaders of Sri Lanka are aware of the impending crisis and are looking for ways and means to improve the market share of consumer co-operative stores.

The Federation is sending a delegation of 10 senior store managers to Japan to visit co-operative stores and supermarkets, to study strategies and techniques of retail co-operative business in Japan.

– Juku Ozawa

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Staff changes at the ICA Regional Office

Shigehisa (Juku) Ozawa, who was working as Director (Special Programmes) at the ICA Regional Office, looking after Gender, Youth and Consumer activities, will complete his deputation end of March, 2002. The Japanese Consumers Co-operative Union (JCCU) has seconded Mr. Jiro Ito to replace Mr. Ozawa as Director (Special Programs). Mr. Ito will operate from the Singapore Business Office.



Mr. Jiro Ito



Ms. Savitri Singh

Also during March, 2002, the National Co-operative Union of India, which is the apex organisation of co-operatives in India, has deputed Ms. Savitri Singh to work at the ICA Regional Office as Gender Programme Advisor. She will assist Mr. Ito in gender related activities.

We are grateful to both JCCU and NCUI for supporting the ICA Regional Office by deputing personnel.



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Regional Youth meets In Hanoi for a follow-up on the Tokyo Youth seminar

A follow-up meeting of youth delegates, who participated at the 2001 Tokyo Youth Seminar was held in Hanoi, Vietnam, during 17-18 July, 2002.

Five delegates from Japan, Thailand, Philippines, China and Vietnam and 24 observers participated at this meeting. While making country presentations, the delegates mentioned that they are very eager to have more and more networking amongst themselves and emphasized the need for the consumer and other types of co-operatives to include the youth in the management team of co-operatives.

Mr. Nguyen Van Bien, Vice-Chairman of Vietnam Co-operative Alliance, inaugurated the meeting hosted by the Vietnam Co-operative Alliance. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, ICA Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific also spoke at the inaugural session and he also actively participated in the meeting. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee



VCA Chairman Dr. Gnuyen Ty was present during the whole series of meetings.



The youth posed for a photograph with the elders

mentioned about the need for the youth to have very strong networking, as the youth today are leaders tomorrow.

Prof. Mohd Ali Hassan from Malaysia, offered to host the next Youth Seminar during August, 2003, and the delegates were very enthusiastic about the development. They requested the co-operative leaders present to sent more and more youth to this meeting, so that the youth could chalk out a strategy for their participation in co-operative activities in the region.

Mr. Phung Khanh Toan, youth leader from Vietnam detailed the youth related activities in Vietnam and emphasized the need for more and more youth to involve in the activities of co-operatives in the region and in Vietnam particularly.

After the meeting, many of the delegates joined in a study visit to

Saigon Co-operative in Ho Chi Minh City, where they observed and appreciated the working of Saigon Co-operative, which is the Federation of consumer co-operatives in Ho-Chi Minh City and Saigon province.

- P. Nair

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ICA Consumer Sub-Committee on University/Campus Cooperatives meets in Vietnam

The 8th meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee on University/Campus Co-operatives met in Hanoi, Vietnam on July 17, 2002.

Mr. Nguyen Van Bien, Vice-Chairman of Vietnam Cooperative Alliance, inaugurated the meeting hosted by the Vietnam Co-operative Alliance. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, ICA Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific also spoke at the inaugural session and he also actively participated in the meeting.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee mentioned about the need for the committee members to have very strong networking, as the new university/campus co-operative leaders are to take over from the consumer co-operative leaders in the near future.

Twenty-seven delegates and observers from the Region participated at the meeting. Mr. K. Okayasu, Chairman of Committee retired and Mr. K. Ohno, Executive Director of National Federation of University Co-operative Associations was unanimously elected as Chairman. Prof. Mohd. Ali Hassan, Malaysia and Ms. Elizabeth G. Aquino



The delegates also visited a primary university co-operative in Hanoi.

of Metro Manila Federation of Consumer Co-operatives, were elected Vice Chairpersons unanimously. Mr. Mohd. Iqbal from Indonesia and Mr. Pooh Gee Swee, Singapore, retired and a vote of thanks was proposed for them. Mr. Nguyen Van Khanh of the Economic University of Vietnam presented the situation in respect of the university co-operatives in Vietnam.

Mr. Jiro Ito took over as the Secretary to the Committee, as Mr. Juku Ozawa completed his assignment and returned to his parent organizations, the JCCU. Mr. T. Kuriki from



Mr. K. Okayasu (left) and Mr. Jiro Ito, Secretary conducts the meeting. Speaking at the podium is Mr. H. Kohno, who took over as chairperson from Mr. Okayasu, who retired.

NFUCA was elected as the co-secretary to the Committee.

During the meeting, activity plan for the year 2002 and proposed plans of activity for 2003 were discussed. Country presentations were made by several delegates.

It was also decided to hold the next meeting of the Committee in August in Malaysia, in conjunction with the next Regional Youth Seminar proposed to be held there.

The delegates and observers were taken to a university co-operative in Hanoi and a super market of the VCA, also in Hanoi.

– P. Nair



Delegates visited the VCA supermarket in Hanoi

35th ICA Consumer Committee holds meeting in Hanoi, Vietnam

The 35th meeting of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for Asia and the Pacific in Hanoi, Vietnam on July 19, 2002.

The meeting was inaugurated by Dr. Nguyen Ty, Chairman of Vietnam Cooperative Alliance, which hosted the meeting. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, ICA Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific also spoke at the inaugural session and he also actively participated in the meeting.

35 delegates and several observers participated at this meeting. Mr. H. Tanaka, Chairman and Mr. K. Okayasu Vice Chairman, retired from



Mr. H. Tanaka, speaking at the meeting. He retired as the chairperson.

the Committee and Mr. T. Fujioka has been elected as the new Chair. Mr. Mohd. Iqbal from Indonesia was reelected as Vice Chairperson and Mr. Poh Leong Sim from NTUC Fairprice, Singapore has been elected as the Second Vice Chairperson of the Committee. Mr. K. Okayasu was unanimously elected as an Advisor to the Committee.

Mr. Jiro Ito took over as the Secretary to the Committee, as Mr. Juku Ozawa completed his assignment and returned to his parent organization, the JCCU.

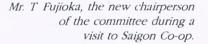


The delegates of the 35th meeting posed for a group photo

During the meeting, activity plan for the year 2002 and proposed plans of activity for 2003 were discussed. Country presentations were also made by several delegates.

It was decided to hold the next meeting of the Committee on 18th February, 2003 in Cebu, Philippines, in conjunction with the next ICA Regional Assembly.

- P. Nair







Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, ICA Regional Director, visits a supermarket operated by the Union of Consumer Co-operative Societies, which is our member organisation in Kuwait.

APHCO board meets in Tokyo and holds a Seminar

The eighth Board meeting of the of Asia-Pacific Health Co-operative Organization (APHCO) was held on 11th September 2002 at the conference room of Japanese Consumers' Co-operative Union (JCCU), Tokyo, Japan.

18 delegates from 7 countries (Japan, Korea, India, Malaysia, Nepal, Thailand & Sri Lanka) attended the meeting. The Health Co-operative Association of JCCU hosted the meeting.

Mr. Tetsuo Tanaka, Executive Director, Japanese Consumers' Cooperative Union inaugurated the meeting. The meeting discussed the agenda for the APHCO Seminar to be held at the same venue on 12th September 2002. A report on the activities of APHCO since the last meeting was presented by Mr. Jiro Ito, Secretary to APHCO. The secretary also presented the financial report for the year 2001.

Mr. Y. Takahashi, chairperson, presented a report on the IHCO (International Health Co-operative Organisation) board. Delegates presented country reports on their country situations.

It was agreed that the next General Assembly and board meeting will be held in Colombo, Sri Lanka during July 2003.

After the board meeting, a Regional Seminar on Co-operative Health and



APHCO board members poses for a group photo

Medical Care was held at the same venue on 12th September 2002. The objectives of the seminar were to share experiences in achieving proress and facing challenges in regard to training of medical doctors, with special reference to primary healthcare, and also to promote health/medical co-operative movement in the region, by training and rpoviding high level services to their members. Sixty seven participants from seven countries – India, Japan, Malaysia, Nepal, Korea, Thailand and Sri Lanka attended the seminar.

The papers presented at the seminar were as follows:

 Medical Education for the Primary Health-care – Latest International Trend" by Dr. Yasuki Fujinuma, Tokyo Hokuto Health Co-op., Japan.



Old person's Han group meets in a co-op hospital every third Thursday of the month. The delegates visited them.

- Principle of Home Medical Care: Case Study of an Intern of Home Medical Care" – by Dr. Machiko Inoue, North Tokyo Home-Medical Science Centre, Japan.
- 3. Ideal Doctor for Health Co-ops and the present situation of the Training for Doctors" by Dr. Vijay Deshmukh from India, Dr. Tan from Malaysia, Dr. Pradhan from Nepal.

Dr. Saroj Dhittal from Nepal presented a paper on "Train a Doctor who deserve to be a doctor of Health Coops – a Case Study of Nepal".

A workshop was held on the theme "Ideal Doctor of Medical Co-operative in Asia and the Pacific", facilitated by Dr. Toshinori Ozeki. All participants took part in the workshop. The seminar proceedings are under print.



The APHCO Seminar in progress

A. K. Taneja

Regional Seminar on 'Strategies for Image Building of Co-operatives'

With a view to enable cooperatives to assert 'Cooperative Advantage' at the market place, the ICA Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and the National Cooperative Union of India are jointly organizing a regional seminar on 'Strategies for Image Building of Cooperatives' from 17-19 October, 2002. The seminar will formulate practical and implemen-table pro-active strategy for image building of cooperatives. The participants of the seminar would include top leaders and chief executives of business and national promotional level cooperatives from Asia and the Pacific.

Subjects for discussions at the seminar will be:

- 1. co-operative values vis-à-vis effectiveness and competitiveness of co-operative business;
- 2. co-operative governance;
- 3. social audit as an instrument for image building;
- 4. media and co-operatives;
- building up networking and strategic alliances for cooperatives.

Eminent resource persons will be presenting papers on these subjects at the seminar.

The venue of the seminar will be Hotel Ashok, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi.

Stay arrangements for participants will be made in the same hotel.

The organizations invited to participate in the seminar are requested to send their nominations in the prescribed registration form at the earliest.

Those of you who would like to register on-line, can log on to our website www.icaroap.coop and then go on to the 'Events' sub-site, where on-line registration forms are available.

Regional Seminar on 'Surveillance System of Co-op Credit and Banking Institutions in Asia-Pacific'

ecognising the significance of effective surveillance system for co-operative credit and banking institutions in the context of globalised financial markets as an essential pre-condition for their success, the International Cooperative Alliance – Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ICA ROAP) in collaboration with Developpment international Designdins (DiD) of Canada, has convened a 'Seminar on Surveillance System of Co-operative Credit and Banking Institutions in Asia-Pacific' from 14 to 16 November, 2002 in Seoul, Republic of Korea.

The seminar is expected to develop important parameters of effective surveillance system and recommend suitable mechanism/institutional framework for the same. Delegates from co-operative credit and banking sector of Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Iran, Korea, Nepal, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam and also a few selected Central Banks in Asia-Pacific region have been invited to participate in the seminar.

Subjects for discussion

- 1. Current state of surveillance of co-operative credit and banking institutions its limitations.
- 2. Self-regulation and internal control systems are they effective?
- 3. Role of Central Bank in the Surveillance of credit and banking system.
- 4. Action plan for formulation of effective surveillance system for co-operative credit and banking institutions.

In addition, case studies from Korea, India and Sri Lanka could also be presented.

Venue

The venue of the seminar is: Agricultural Co-operative College 38-27, Wondang-dong, Deokyang-ku Koyang-si, Kyunggi-do 412-707 Republic of Korea. Tel.+82-31-960 4000/Fax: ++960 4136

Stay Arrangements

Stay arrangements for the participants have been made at:

Sangnam Institute of Management Yonsei University

134, Shinchon-dong, Seodaemoon-ku Seoul 120-749, Republic of Korea.

Room rate for one day is US\$70, including breakfast. If people want to share a room, it is possible to do so. Every room has two beds. In that case, US\$50 will be charged per night per person.

Please contact for reserving accommodation:

Mr. Hyung Jo International Co-operation Office National Agricultural Co-operative

75, 1-ka, Chungjeong-ro, Jung-ku Seoul City 100-707, Rep. Of Korea Tel. +82-2-397 5290/397 5281

Fax: +82-2-397 5290/722 967

E-mail: nacfico@nuri.net
Participation in the semina

Federation

Participation in the seminar is on self-financing basis. Participants are expected to arrive in Seoul on 13 Nov. and depart on 17 November, 2002.

You may also register on-line at www.icaroap.coop/events

Please register at the earliest.

SNCF celebrates 21st anniversary

The Singapore National Cooperative Federation (SNCF) has celebrated its 21st anniversary on 6 July 2002 at the NTUC Lifestyle World Downton East-Pasir Ris.

The 80th International Co-operative Day was also celebrated simultaneously.

Mr. Tan Kin Lian, Chairman of SNCF, mentioned that the SNCF, which is

the apex body of co-operatives in Singapore, with their 74 affiliates, have created a better life for more than 1.4 million members and the community.

SNCF affiliates provide extensive services such as thrift and loan, supermarkets, insurance, childcare, healthcare, eledercare and others.

The central message was 'A Better Life'.



Tough measures take NTUC Income ahead as Ne.1 Insurers in Singapore

NTUC Income's performance continues to power ahead. But in the current economic conditions it has had to take tough measures to stay at the top: policyholders have had to accept reduced bonuses and employees have had to accept a wage freeze. And Income will now run more like a normal company, by a board of directors, instead of a board of trustees.

The company's 2001 results show that it reached second position in the Singapore life insurance market, while maintaining its healthy lead for general insurance. The internet sales during 2001 were 4% and the company aim for this to reach 20% by the year 2005.

The main challenge was in investment – to manage the low interest rate environment and volatile stock market. One result of this was that the bonus on participating life insurance plans had to be lowered by about 20%. However, past bonuses declared will remain intact and the intention is to declare additional bonuses or adjust bonuses upwards in the future, if investment performance improves.

The total premium income for 2001 was 2.6 billion Singapore dollars. A



Chairman, NTUC Income

total of 866,000 life insurance polices were in force as at the end of 2001, which is 20% up from 2000.

NTUC Income is making changes to its governance. When NTUC Income was established in 1970, the Board of Trustees was created to give confidence to the public in placing their savings with a fledgling organization. The Trustees were people of high public standing and they also played a key role in guiding the board of directors and the management. The result has been three decades of robust growth. However, the times are changing. The Monetary Authority of Singapore has issued guidelines to strengthen the role of board of directors in the corporate sector. After consulting the founder member, NTUC, it was decided to change the management to corporate governance pattern and placed the responsibility of running the business on the board of directors. The board of trustees will now be dissolved

All this will pave way to improved performance by NTUC Income in the years to come.

-ICMF World No. 3 - August 2002

Your E-mail address!!

In the recent past, we have noticed that many of our member organisations in the region have different e-mail addresses for different office bearers.

This has been creating a problem for us while sending information/invitation for various ICA organised events.

We now request all member organisations in the region to let us know the e-mail address and the name/designation of person to whom these invitations and information should be sent to.

Please help us with providing the name(s) and e-mail addresses of persons who would be contact persons to the iCA.

Visit our web-sites www.icaroap.coop and www.directories.coop

Asia-Pacific HRD Seminar on School Co-ops hold in Malaysia

n HRD Seminar was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia 2-3 Sept., 2002, in conjunction with the meeting of the HRD and Research Committee meeting on 4 Sept., 2002.

It was hosted by ANGKASA, the National Co-operative Organisation of Malaysia. 40 participants from India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Sri Lanka and Thailand attended the seminar. Also students and teachers of secondary schools and junior colleges from Malaysia and Singapore participated in the seminar.

The seminar opened with addresses by H.E. Tan Sri Datuk Kasitah Gaddam, Minister of Land and cooperative development, and Royal Prof. Ungku Aziz, President, ANGKASA.

School Co-ops in Malaysia are very active. There are 1134 school co-ops registered co-ops in this country.

Their activities include various things, such as shop, canteen, photo-copying service, laundry service, parking and so on. School co-operative activity has aspect of social training. Students learn how to run a business and entrepreneurship from the activities



H.E. Tan Sri Datuk Kasitah Gaddam, Royal Prof. Ungku Aziz, Mdm. Rahaiah Baharen and others at the Seminar (above) and seminar participants (below)

with some support by their teachers. Participants learned a lot by the presentations and saw how active they are through study visit to 3 school co-ops.

– Jiro Ito



ICA-ROAP CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

Event	Dates	Venue
Regional Seminar on Strategies for Image Building of Co-ops Seminar on Co-operative Management	17-19 Oct. '02 20 Oct 2002	New Delhi, India HRD New Delhi, India
2nd ICA-Japan Training Course for Strengthening for Women in Agricultural Co-operatives in Rural Areas and Improvement of Farm Management and Rural Living	29 August- 04 Oct 2002	Thailand and Japan
Seminar on Surveillance System of Co-operative Credit and Banking Institutions in Asia-Pacific.	14 to 16 Nov., 2002	Seoul, Republic of Korea.
17th ICA-Japan Management Training Course for Senior Managers of Agricultural Co-operatives in Asia	26 Nov '02 to 19 Apr'03	India, Thailand and Japan
Regional Trainers' Training Workshop on Leadership Development Manual for Women	Oct. 2002	Malaysia
5th ICA Regional Assembly for Asia and the Pacific, Co-operative Forum, Co-op Research Forum, Regional Women's Forum and meetings of ICA Regional Specialised committees*	17-23 Feb.'03	Cebu, Philippines

IFFDC bags Indira Priyadarshini Vrikshamitra award

Indian Farm Forestry Co-operative Limited (IFFDC), promoted by our member organization, Indian Farmers Fertiliser Co-operative, bagged the prestigious national award 'Indira Priyadarshini Vrikshamitra' (friend of trees) for 1999 for its outstanding work of afforesting 26000 ha. of wasteland in the states of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

Dr. Virendra Kumar, Chairman, IFFDC, received the award from Mr. T.R. Balu, Minister of State for Environment and Forests, at a function on September 16,2002 in Bangalore. Five primary farm forestry co-operatives, Rakhyawal & Sangwa (Rajasthan), Katari and Madwa (UP) and Karaiya (MP) developed by IFFDC, have also been awarded this prestigious award in different years. IFFDC was registered under the Multistate Co-operative Societies Act on 22 October 1993. The ICEF/CIDA has funded a project on afforestation for Rs. 35 crores during 1995-2002 and the DFID of the Government of UK sanction a project on poverty alleviation for Rs. 47 crores (1999-2006).



Dr. V. Kumar, Chairman, IFFDC receiving the award from Mr.T.R. Balu, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Environment and Forests.

150 primary farm forestry cooperatives are members of IFFDC, with a total membership of 28287, of which 32% are women. A total of 26060 ha. wasteland has been transformed into green forests in the three states. Employment generation in activities like pit digging, maintenance and irrigation totaled 51,010,000 workdays. 895 self-help groups have been formed with a cumulative saving of more than

Rs.54,240,000/-. These groups have greatly helped in inculcating the habits of savings among the rural poor. Besides, 781 literacy groups are also functioning. IFFCO-IFFDC's experience over the last decade indicate that the involvement of local people through village level institutions like co-operatives can improve the productivity degraded land and enhance livelihood of people.

National Co-operative Housing Federation of India (NCHF) gets a new Chairman

The newly constituted board of directors of NCHF has unanimously elected Mr. Deep Chand Sharma, as its chairman at their meeting on August 5, 2002. Smt. Bhavnaben D. Chikhalia, Member of Parliament and Chairperson of Gujarat State Co-operative Housing Finance Corporation and Mr. S.T. Somashekar, President of Karnataka State Co-operative Housing Federation were elected as Vice Chairpersons at the same meeting.

Shri Sharma is a veteran co-operator and has been serving the Indian Cooperative Movement for more than



Mr. Deep Chand Sharma

six decades at various levels and capacities.

The National Co-operative Housing Federation of India is the national

level organization representing the entire co-operative housing sector in India. They have a membership of 92,000 housing co-operatives with an individual membership of 6,500,000. At the state (province) level, 26 apex co-operative housing federations are working, who have cumulatively loaned a sum of Rs. 6800 crores (6.8 billion) upto the end of March 2001.

- Dr. M.L. Khurana

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ICA-ROAP/NCUI Regional Seminar on Strategies for Image Building in Co-operatives

seminar was jointly organised by International Co-operative Alliance, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, National Co-operative Union of India and Indian Farmers Fertilizers Co-operative Ltd., in New Delhi on 17th-19th October. Inaugurating the seminar, Mr. J.N.L. Srivastava, Secretary, Department of Agriculture and Co-operation, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India said that there is no sector in the world which is as complete as co-operative sector. "In co-operative sector any activity, economic or otherwise can be started", he said.

Laying stress on the need of image building amongst the members and stake holders of the co-operatives so that public perception towards cooperatives becomes favourable, Srivastava said that the primary members of the co-operatives must be fully involved in the work of image building. Highlighting on the need for media to project a good image of the co-operative sector, Srivastava further said that despite paucity of funds, common efforts must be initiated in a joint manner so that an effective strategy for building strong rapport with media is formulated. Highlighting the factor of member apathy or



Shil Kwan Lee, ICA Regional Director for Asia-Pacific lighting the inaugural lamp.

indifference towards co-operatives, he further said that unless the members or owners feel that they are the biggest beneficiaries of the cooperative development programme, a good image of the co-operative sector cannot be projected.

Speaking on the occasion Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, Regional Director, ICA – Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific said that the International Cooperative Alliance is fully aware of the need to project a vibrant image of the co-operative sector as the cooperative sector is very strong in the Asia –Pacific region. He expressed the opinion that many people

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ASPACON wishes its readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2003



consider co-operative as an extension of Government machinery which is not the reality. He emphasized on the need to pay more attention to improve the general image of the co-operative sector so that achievements of the cooperative sector are given adequate focus. Elaborating on the future plans of ICA, he mentioned that the ICA plans to revive co-operatives in Afghanistan which have good potentials to emerge as a strong sector of the economy. B.D.Sharma, Senior Consultant, ICA ROAP said that the general perception of the cooperative sector is either confused or biased. He highlighted the need for co-operatives to play a pro-active role. While welcoming the delegates, Bhagwati Prasad, Chief Executive, NCUI said that the private corporate sector and multi national companies had taken advantage of the process of economic reforms through evolving appropriate strategy to

project their image among the general masses and the society at large.

The Regional Seminar was attended by the top leaders and Chief Executives of business and promotional national level cooperatives of countries namely

India, Iran, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam. The seminar defined process of image building and recommended a package of following steps:

- a. Preservation, protection and implementation of co-operative values at all levels.
- b. Improving co-op governance to



The delegates at a photo opportunity

remove aberrations.

- c. Develop workable/strategic alliances & networking systems.
- d. Develop positive/constructive relations with mainstream media and strengthen co-operatives own media framework.
- e. Introduce Social Audit.

- B.D. Sharma

ICA ROAP-DiD-NACF Seminar on Surveillance Systems of Co-operative Credit and Banking Institutions in Asia-Pacific Region

Systems of Co-operative Credit and Banking Institutions in Asia-Pacific Region was held at Agricultural Co-operative College of Korea, Seoul from 14 to 16 November 2002. Twenty-six participants from India, South Korea, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Canada attended the seminar.

The seminar was inaugurated by Suk Hwi Park, Executive Vice-president of National Agricultural Co-operative Federation (NACF). Ms. Anne Gaboury, the new C.E.O. of Developpement internatinal Desjardins (DiD), Canada along with Mr. Pierre Giguere, Sr. Director of DiD graced the occasion with their presence.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, Regional Director, ICA ROAP, presided over

the inaugural function.

Important inputs in the seminar were the country statements presented on current state of surveillance system of co-operative credit and banking institutions in Asia-Pacific and following papers by resource persons:

 "How to make Surveillance System Effective" – by Mr.



A group photo of the participants

Andre Hotte, Program Officer of DiD Canada.

"Self Regulation and Internal Control System – are they effective?" by B. Subrahmanyam, Managing Director, National Federation of State Cooperative Banks Limited, India.

"Role of Central Bank in the Surveillance of Co-operative Credit and Banking System" – by a panel of S. Karuppasamy, Chief General Manager, Urban Banks Department, Reserve Bank of India, Mumbai, A.V. Sardesai, Chief General Manager, Rural Planning & Credit Dept., Reserve Bank of India, and P.V. Narayanan, National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD)

Besides, case studies of India, Korea and Sri Lanka, papers were also presented by D. Krishna, Chief Executive, National Federation of Urban Co-operative Banks & Credit Societies, Dr. Chang Kyoung Soo of Agricultural Co-operative College of Korea and Cyril Perera, General Manager of SANASA Development Bank, Colombo, Sri Lanka, respectively.



Delegates intently participating at the seminar

During the two-days intensive deliberations, the seminar examined limitations of existing surveillance systems and formulated important recommendations for creating effective surveillance system for cooperative credit and banking institutions.

In this context, the seminar specified steps to be taken at the level of (a) government, (b) central bank of the country, (c) the co-operative federations, and (d) the co-operatives themselves.

The seminar was supported technically and financially by DiD of Canada, while NACF and Agricultural Co-operative College of Korea extended \ local organizational and logistic support.

- B.D. Sharma

B sational Agricultural Cooperative Federation

Shil Kwan Lee, RegionalDirector (right) with Mr. Suk Hwi Park, Executive Vice President of NACF, Korea at the Seminar

www.directories.coop

We request member organisations and other co-operative organisations in Asia-Pacific and other regions to post information on their co-operatives and their products in the ICA ROAP trade directory (www.directories.coop). This will enable buyers and sellers of goods and services to make use of co-operatives, thereby providing better business opportunities.

This web-site is hosted under the domain name of .coop, which guarantees that genuine cooperative organisations are involved.

With your help, we will be able to build a directory of co-operatives in the Asia Pacific region that will be useful to all.

-Editor

2nd ICA-Japan Training Course for 'Strengthening Women's Agricultural Co-operatives in Rural Areas and Improvement of Farm Management and Rural Life' concludes

The International Co-operative Alliance Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ICA ROAP), in association with its member organisation in Japan, the Central Union of Agricultural Co-operatives of Japan (JA-Zenchu) and the Institute for the Development of Agricultural Co-operation in Asia (IDACA) organised the 2nd ICA-Japan Training Course for 'Strengthening Women's Agricultural Co-operatives in Rural Areas and Improvement of Farm Management and Rural Life' in Thailand and Japan, from 29 August to 4 October 2002. Eight participants - two each from Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam, attended the training Course.

The programme is funded by the Government of Japan, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF). The 10-day comparative field study visits, which was a component of the course, was held in Thailand from 29 August to 8 September 2002 in collaboration with the Co-operative Leagues of Thailand (CLT) and the Co-operative Promotion Department (CPD), Government of Thailand.

The main objective of the training course was to train women leaders in rural areas in developing countries by means of strengthening women's agricultural cooperatives, farm management, and improvement of rural life and also to provide training for capacity-building of participants.

Field study visits were arranged to agricultural cooperatives and women's associations in Chiba, Kanagawa and Kagoshima Prefectures of Japan. Lecture-cum-practical field study assignments were combined to impart necessary knowledge to the participants on the working of women's associations and the general activities of agricultural co-operatives in Japan. The participants also held group discussions and



Delegates posed for group photo in Kagoshima.



Delegates in Thailand during study visits

prepared brief reports on the experiences gained by them. An end-of-the-course evaluation session was also held.

In view of the experience gained by the participants through classroom lectures, field study visits in Thailand and Japan, mutual interaction, and their own work environment, the participants were able to develop brief outlines of their *Action Plans* which they would recommend to their organisations after their return to their home countries. These plans were developed through holding group discussions and on the basis of their discussions with their seniors before joining the training course.

The concluding session of the course was held on Thursday, 3 October 2002 with Isamu Akiyama, Deputy Director, Technical Co-operation Division, International Affairs Department, General Food Policy Bureau, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) as Chief Guest.

Shigery Fukamachi, General Secretary of IDACA and K. Sethumadhavan, Planning Officer of ICA ROAP addressed the closing session. A *Certificate of Participation* was awarded to each of the participants by IDACA.

Seminar on HRD Best Practices {Co-op Management}

Seminar on HRD Best Practices - {Co-operative Management} was held at Ashok Hotel, New Delhi on 19th and 20th October 2002, organised by ICA ROAP in collaboration with the National Co-operative Union of India (NCUI) and the Indian Farmers Fertiliser Co-operative Limited (IFFCO).

Sixteen participants from India, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Thailand attended the seminar.

This was the second in a series of seminars the HRD Committee plans to conduct in collaboration with member-organisations in the Asia-Pacific region.

The first seminar on School Cooperatives was held in Malaysia on 2-3 September 2002. This joint educational activity is meant to deepen co-operative knowledge and experience in HRD among cooperative institutions and to foster closer collaboration among them.

These seminars will focus on human resource development in its various forms, as practised by members (cooperative institutions) in the Region.

Their value, therefore, lies in shocasing HRD best practices in member-organisations, with the host organisations as focal points. This concrete experience would be the basis for learning and exchange among member-organisations.

The seminar in New Delhi focussed on co-operative management and highlighted the practical experience of successful co-operative enterprises in India, covering human resource management practice in the agricultural, credit, housing and dairy co-op sectors.

Educational visits to NAFED and IFFCO formed part of this learning event.

-K. Sethumadhavan

Trainers' Training for Women Leadership Development Manual held

The first ICA/ILO Coopnet Trainers' Training Programme for Leadership Development for Women was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 21-26 October, 2002.

ANGKASA, the National Cooperative Organisation of Malaysia, hosted the programme at its premises. ANGKASA also contributed towards the board and lodging costs of the participants and other expenses for the programme.

The training programme was a great success, mainly due to the support provided by Ms. Rahaiah Baharen, Vice Chairperson of ANGKASA, who is also the Chairperson of ICA Regional Women's Committee, apart from representing the region at the global Gender Equality Committee. The training programme was inaugurated by Hon'ble Dr. Robia



Ms. Savitri Singh explains a point to the participants

Kosai, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Co-operative Development, Government of Malaysia.

Twenty trainers from 5 countries participated at the programme. Ms. Savitri Singh, Advisor-Gender Programme, ICA-ROAP, and Mr. Paul Sinnappan of the Credit Union Promotion Club of Malaysia have been the resource persons at the training programme.

THIRD ICA REGIONAL WOMEN'S FORUM and Third Meeting of Regional Women's Committee 18 Feb., 2003 - Cebu, Philippines

The ICA Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and the ICA Regional Women's Committee is organising the 3rd Regional Women's Forum at the Waterfront International Hotel, Lahug, Cebu City, Philippines on 18 February 2003.

As per the usual practice, the Forum will be on self-financing basis. The theme of this Forum is "Asian Values and Women's participation in Co-operatives". Eminent co-op leaders will address the Forum.

There is no registration fee involved for participating at the Forum. All co-operative organisations in the region and globally are requested to send delegates (both women and men) to the Forum. For more information, write to:

Mr. Jiro Ito, Director-Special Programs (jiroito@icaroap.org.sg) or Ms. Savitri Singh, Adviser - Women Programme (icaroap@vsnl.com).

49th All India Co-operative Week was celebrated

he 49th All India Co-operative Week was celebrated from 14-20 November, 2002 at the Jawaharlal Nehru Co-operative Complex, New Delhi, India.

More than 800 delegates from all provincial unions participated at the co-operative week celebrations. The Co-operative week is celebrated every year from 14 November, which is the birth date of the former Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.

This year, Mr. Motilal Vohra, former Union Minister and General Secretary of the Indian National Congress, the main opposition party in the parliament, inaugurated the function.

In his inaugural address, Mr. Vohra mentioned that the wide gap between the rich and poor can only be filled by co-operatives and that is why it was visualized and promoted by the former Prime Minister of India. He further said that with the enactment of multi-state cooperative law, co-operative development in this country has accelerated. He requested the delegates to do everything possible to make Nehru's dream of a vibrant co-operative movement, which will mitigate the sufferings of the poor in this country.

Dr.S.S. Sisodia, President, NCUI, said that the co-operative movement



Inauguration of the Valedictory session. In the picture are (1 to r) Mr. Ram Iqbal Singh, Chairperson, National Co-op Consumers Federation, Mr. Balasaheb Vikhe Patil, Minister for Heavy Industries, Govt. of India, Mr. Chandrapal Singh, Chairperson of KRIBHCO and Dr. S.Sisodia, President, NCUI, Delhi

is the answer to the problems faced by the poor and downtrodden masses of India.

Various Chairmen and Presidents of national level co-operative federations participated and spoke at the inaugural ceremony.

The closing sessions were held on 20 November, 2002, and Balasaheb Vikhe Patil, Union Minister for Heavy Industries, delivered the valedictory address. He assured the gathering that the government would do every thing possible to develop the co-operative movement in India. He called for forming new generation co-operatives, consider-

ing the road map of challenges and opportunities. He also called upon the co-operative sector to development professional norms in the business and management of co-operatives.

Dr. Sisodia mentioned at the closing session that even after passing the new co-operative law, the co-operatives need support and assistance from the government to face the challenges from multinationals.

Dr. Bhagwati Prasad, Chief Executive, NCUI, synthesized the week's events and proposed a vote of thanks.

IDACA has a new Managing Director

Mr. Shigeri Fukamachi of JA Zenchu took office as the new Managing Director of the Institute for the Development of Agricultural Cooperation in Asia – IDACA, effective October 18, 2002. He replaced Mr. Yoshitada Nakaoka, who resigned as the Managing Director after serving for 8 years.

We wish Mr. Fukamachi all success and hope that our long-standing cordial relationship with IDACA will continue unchanged in the future.

We express our sincere thanks to Mr. Nakaoka for the support he had extended to the ICA and wish him happiness in the future.

Have you registered yourself?

For the 5th ICA Regional Assembly for Asia-Pacific, the 2nd ICA Regional Cooperative Forum, the 2nd ICA Regional Research Forum, the 3rd ICA Regional Women's Forum and related events, during 17-23 February 2003 - Cebu, Philippines.

Japanese women organise Co-operative Women's Forum

n October 10, the Japan Joint Committee (JJC) held the 3rd Annual Co-op Women's Forum, in response to an appeal by the ICA Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific to organise such activities. 90 women representatives from different prefectures of Japan, along with some men from agricultural, fisheries and consumer co-op sectors, exchanged information and views on the activities of women in the co-operative sector. The Japanese co-operatives held such joint meetings in 1998 and again in 2000.



Forum in progress

At the forum, representatives participated in panel as well as in group discussions.

A research associate from Norinchukin Research Institute made a presentation on the importance of coops creating a condusive labor environment and a mechanism by which women can display their abilities if co-ops are truly going to promote gender equality in their organizations.

Representatives from the fisheries, agriculture and consumer co-ops made presentations regarding women's activities in their respective co-ops. The participants then broke-up into groups and discussed what is most important within co-ops in order to create an environment where women can best display their talents.

A representative from each group then presented their ideas to the forum.



Another view of the Forum

The main ideas which came out of the discussions are:

- Women need to become more competitive and improve their self-image.
- 2) Women participation requires family co-operation.
- 3) Women need to keep working without giving up.
- 4) Women need to rise to challenges without fear.

We hope that co-ops will now implement the lessons they learned from the forum intheir respective co-op's activities for women.

IFFCO bags HRD Excellence Award 2002

ndian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative (IFFCO) has been bestowed with the prestigious 'HRD Excellence Award 2002' for outstanding corporate instituted by the National HRD Network, in recognition of outstanding contribution in promotion of Human Resource Development. experience sharing. With this, IFFCO has set one more milestone in the history of IFFCO's march towards excellence. This recognition speaks volumes about the role of every one in IFFCO in taking HR to excellence.

On IFFCO's behalf, Mr. D.K. Bhatt, Marketing Director and Dr. C.S. Rao, Joint General Manager (HRD)



Mr. D.K. Bhatt receives award from Mr. Mukesh Ambani. Dr. C.S. Rao looks on

The selection was made by the jury consisting of eminent HR visionaries from the corporate world.

IFFCO is the first co-operative in India to bag this illustrious award.

The major objective of NHRDN is to develop HR professionals all over the country by upgrading their knowledge and skills through education, training, research and received this coveted award on October 5, 2002 from Mr. Mukesh Ambani, Chairman, Reliance Industries Limited, at the valedictory function of the 8th biennial National Conference organized by the National HRD Network in Mumbai.

-C.S. Rao

E-mail: csrao@iffco.nic.in

What we at the ICA ROAP did during 2002

Dear Co-operator,

New Delhi, 23 December, 2002



I am happy to report to member organisations and co-operators in the Asia-Pacific region the details of activities we have carried out during the year 2002 with the active support and collaboration of our member organisations in Asia-Pacific region.

I also take this opportunity to wish you a "Merry Christmas" and a "Happy and Prosperous New Year-2003".

Shil Kwan Lee

Regional Director

The new office of ICA Regional Office for Asia-Pacific at 9, Aradhana Enclave, (Ring Road) R.K. Puram, Sector 13, New Delhi-66 Tel: 2688-8250 Fax: 2688-8067



ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY ICA ROAP IN 2002

S.No.	Name of the Activity	Time Frame	Country
01	1st Part of the 16th ICA-Japan Training Course on		- 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
	Strengthening Management of Agricultural Co-ops.	7 Jan 03 March	India/Sri Lanka
02.	Seminar-cum-Workshop on Co-operative Banking.	26-27 January	Sri Lanka
03.	Meeting of Expert Committee for Ministers' Conference.	29-30 January	Sri Lanka
04.	2nd Part of the 16th ICA-Japan Training Course on		
	Strengthening Management of Agricultural Co-ops.	04 March-21 April	Japan
05.	Professional Training at SANASA for 15 managers.	15-22 March	Sri Lanka
06.	Meeting of Expert Committee for Ministers'Conference.	30 March	Nepal
07.	Specialised Committee Meetings (Agriculture & RCBA).	02 April	Nepal
08.	ICA ROAP Standing Committee Meeting.	02 April	Nepal
09.	6th Co-operative Ministers' Conference.		
10.	Meeting with Chair and Vice Chair of the Women's Committee.	01-03 July	Malaysia
11.	Workshop on Management of Consumer Co-ops.	04-06 July	Singapore
12.	Meeting of ICA Consumer Sub-committee on University Co-operatives.	17 July	Vietnam
13.	Youth Representative Meeting.	18 July	Vietnam
14.	Meeting of ICA Consumer Committee.	19 July	Vietnam
15.	2nd ICA-Japan Training Course for Rural Women Leaders.	29 Aug 04 Oct.	Thailand/Japan
16.	HRD Seminar on School Co-ops and HRD Meeting.	01-04 September	Malaysia
17.	APHCO Board Meeting and Seminar.	11-13 September	Japan
18.	1st Training Programme for Managers of Consumer Co-ops.	05-26 September	Japan
19.	ICA-ICAO Joint Seminar on Agricultural Co-op Marking.	12-14 September	Philippines
20.	2nd Training Programme for Managers of Consumer Co-ops.	09-31 October	Japan
21.	ICA ROAP Standing Committee Meeting.	15 October	Hong Kong
22.	Regional Seminar or Image Building of Co-operatives.	17-19 October	India
23.	HRD Seminar on Co-operative Management.	20 October	India
24.	Workshop on Women Leadership Development Manual.	21-26 October	. Malaysia
25.	ICA-DiD Joint Seminar on Credit Co-operative Surveillance.	14-16 November	Rep. of Korea
26.	17th ICA-Japan Training Course on Strengthening Management of		
	Agricultural Co-operatives (HomeCountry Assignments).	26 Nov - 08 Jan.	10 countries
27.	AGRITERRA Project on Agricultural Co-op Development – 6 studies.	Sept Dec.	ROAP
28.	Publish ICA ROAP Women's Committee Newsletter.	Jan Dec.	ROAP
29.	Publish Asia-Pacific Co-op News (ASPACON),		
	the COOP DIALOGUE, and ROAP Annual Report.	Jan Dec.	ROAP
30.	Study on Co-operative Trade.	Oct Dec.	ROAP
31.	Revamping and setting up ICA ROAP Websites		
	(www.icaroap.coop) and (www.directories.coop)	Mar Sept.	ROAP

Edited by **P. Nair**, Communication Officer, ICA Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, 9, Aradhana Enclave (Ring Road), Sector -13, R.K. Puram, New Delhi -110 066, India. (Tel.: 91-11-2688-8264; Fax: 91-11-2688-8067; E-mail: icaroap@vsnl.com) and printed at Diamond Offset, HS-14, Kailash Colony Market, New Delhi 110 048, India. Tel: 2643-2836, Fax: 2646-3593 E-mail: amin02@eth.net