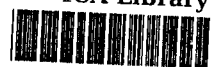


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ICA  
IN ASIA  
AND  
THE PACIFIC



*Annual  
Report  
1994*

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## High lights 1994

- Jan - SAARC countries form a SAARC Co-operative Forum in Colombo
- Feb - JCCU sponsors a revolving fund to help women co-operatives in Bangladesh.
- Mar - JCCU makes available the services of Ms. Akiko Yamauchi as Gender Programme Advisor for 3 years.
  - Establishment of the International Institute, Histadrut, Israel.
- Apr - Regional Consultation on Government-Movement Relations held in Kuala Lumpur.
  - First Asian Seminar on Medical Co-operatives held in Colombo.
- May - JCCU sponsors a comprehensive study on consumer co-operatives in South Pacific islands.
- Jun - SCC conducts an evaluation on ICA ROAP projects.
  - ICA ROAP participates at the UN-ESCAP Asia-Pacific Ministers Conference on Gender issues at Jakarta.
- Jul - Palitha Weeraman, former Regional Director of ICA felicitated by the President of Sri Lanka.
  - Gender Integration Project (GIP) of ICA ROAP is separated from HRD project and start functioning as a separate project.
  - 3rd Co-operative Ministers' Conference is held at Colombo.
  - ICA ROAP Executive Council holds its inaugural meeting.
- Aug - CLT/CCFT/ICA National Seminar on Consumer Co-op. Development, Thailand.
- Sep - Asia-Pacific HRD Committee/INCOTEC consultation in Kobe.
  - ICA ROAP acquires E-mail facility.
  - M.S. Estonia sinks with 23 co-operative leaders off Finland.
- Oct - 9th ICA/MAFF Training course for Strengthening Management of Agricultural Co-operatives commences.
  - UN declares first Saturday of July as UN International Day of Co-operatives.
- Nov - ZENROSAI hosts the first Regional Co-operative Insurance Seminar.
- Dec - Asia-Pacific Consumer Committee meeting in Singapore, establishes a sub-committee on University Co-operatives.

## From the Chairman of the Regional Assembly

The year 1994 has a great significance for the ICA in Asia and the Pacific, being a year of transition from the old structure to a new structure. We established the Regional Assembly and held its inaugural meeting. We also established a Regional Executive Council to look after the development issues. We have also elected a Vice President for the ICA to represent the Region and elected a Chairperson for the Regional Assembly.

Supported by a forward looking structure and an expanded area of operation, the Region is equipped to undertake challenges of a Co-operative Movement with diversified development levels. However, we may need to organize ourselves to achieve a closer interaction among developed and developing co-operative movements, in order to help each other in the biggest regional co-operative family in the World.

We are faced with quite a few urgent issues to achieve better rate of growth of co-operatives in the Region. Firstly, the traditional development partners, who supported the regional activities, are gradually reducing their financial support and some of them have started adopting bi-lateral strategies.

Secondly, the area has been largely expanded after restructuring to accommodate many countries in West Asia, former CIS countries and Far Eastern Countries who have different cultures and many of them have comparatively low developmental levels in co-opera-

tives. Thirdly, the resources within the ICA ROAP office are also inadequate to manage extended development programme to cover all member countries on equal basis.

In order to achieve some headway in the new development challenges of the Region, more solidarity among co-operative movements is essential. This can be achieved through supporting each other in economic collaboration and institutional capacity building in developing co-operative movements, supported by developed co-operative organizations. We have experienced such a trend in the last few years although it is insufficient to meet the competition of trans-national and multi-national corporations. Therefore, the future will much depend on self-reliance supported by mutual help.

We have made a beginning in this year to take stock of the regional development efforts and to find directions for the future by appointing an Advisory group at the last Regional Assembly. They would review the ICA ROAP development plan and prioritise the needs and the institutional arrangements in order to decide on the directions for future. I hope that when the report is submitted to the next meeting, a new era would emerge for the development of the regional structure and a plan.

Let us work together, irrespective of our diversified socio-economic and political environments to make co-operatives a strong economic force in the Region.

## Messages



## From the Regional Director

Two-third of global membership of the co-operatives today reside in the Asia-Pacific Region. The Asian economy, as also the co-operatives, in Asia are growing in many ways faster than several other parts of the world. However, the question often being raised is whether co-operative leaders and members are concerned enough and preparing themselves to face the challenges emerging from socio-economic changes through which co-operatives in the Asian region are passing.

Asian Co-operative Movements have history of their own. In most coun-

tries in Asia, governments asserted lot of influence on their development, growth and management. During the colonial rule the main interest of the Government was to keep a watch on the political thinking and actions of the co-operative leaders than the growth and genuine development of co-operatives. During the post-independent era, the urgency to achieve fast economic growth and improve living conditions of the down-trodden attracted governments' involvement more and more towards co-operatives. Under both the conditions co-operatives were made to look and depend on government for



guidance and support rather than to be self-reliant and draw their strength from their members. In course of time, political as also bureaucratic vested interests developed and became deep-rooted. Thus, in some of the countries, even though the Governments have realised the need for changes in co-operative legislation and government policy towards co-operatives yet they are finding it difficult to affect them under internal pressures.

ICA, as a world-body of co-operatives, has its chartered obligation and responsibility to promote basic character and identity of co-operatives globally. It should try to influence in this regard national governments as also international organisations. ICA's role and efforts are to impress upon the Government and co-operatives that co-operatives should not only maintain their character and identity but they grow and develop as a structurally integrated, service oriented movements, with professional efficiency, nationally and internationally.

The ICA ROAP Annual Report for the year 1994 presents precisely the efforts made in this direction. The co-operative movement in Asia and Pacific region is diversified and complex and the resources available being limited makes our task difficult. Seeing the trends, it is apparent that in future we will have to depend for our programmes and activities more and more on our members than outside donors. We will have to accept this hard reality.

It is encouraging that members' interests is not lacking behind towards ICA ROAP's efforts. The Regional Assembly has already appointed a working group to look into the priorities, resources and other issues.

It is encouraging to observe positive development and trends in co-operatives in some of the countries in the region. The Government of China for instance has recently decided that All-China Federation of Supply & Marketing Co-operatives a federation of 140 million members, to be completely separated from the government to make it an autonomous institution based on co-operative principles.

In Vietnam, the trend of decline in co-operatives has ceased in 1994 and there are signs of fresh growth. The same is true for several other countries. However, we have many challenges from within and externally today than in the past.

Economic growth alone is not going to improve living conditions of masses. It also needs equitable distribution and harmony in the society. This is the challenge of today and tomorrow for the co-operatives in the region.

The ICA ROAP, with support and co-operation of its members and others concerned, will continue its endeavours to play its role more vigorously than ever before so that the co-operatives in the Asia-Pacific Region in the centennial year of the ICA do not lag behind in the new economic environment in the region.

### OUR TECHNICAL TEAM



**G.K. Sharma**  
Regional Director



**Malte Jonsson**  
Senior Dev. Advisor



**Robby Tulus**  
Senior Policy Advisor



**Daman Prakash**  
Project Director, AGMT



**Pradit Machima**  
Consumer Advisor



**W U Herath**  
HRD Advisor



**Guo Yong Kang**  
Agri.Co-op Dev.Advisor



**Ms. Akiko Yamauchi**  
Gender Programme Advisor

## First Meeting of the ICA ROAP Executive Council

The First Meeting of the ICA ROAP Executive Council was held at Colombo, Sri Lanka, on 24th July, 1994. Fourteen members from Bangladesh, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, Uzbekistan, Vietnam and ACCU attended the meeting. In addition, Chairmen of Consumer and Fisheries Specialised Committees and MD, IDACA also attended the meeting as special invitees.

The ICA was represented by Mr. Lars Marcus, President, Mr. Bruce Thordarson, Director-General, and J.E.Imbsen, HRD Director. All the Project Advisers of the ROAP were present at the meeting.

Mr. Yang Deshou from China was unanimously elected as Chairman of the Executive Council in absentia. Mr. Lionel Samarasinghe from Sri Lanka was unanimously elected as Vice Chairman who presided over the meeting. The Secretary, Mr. G.K. Sharma reported to the meeting about the non-attending members as well as about the observers present at the meeting.

The Council reviewed the activities of the ICA ROAP and took note of the projected programmes and activities. The Executive Council adopted the draft rules as proposed in the agenda with the suggestion to

include Vice President of ICA from the region to be included in the Council. The Council also discussed at length amendment to the rules of the ICA Regional Assembly for Asia and the Pacific to provide associate members, observers and special invitees.

The Council decided to constitute a small committee to examine the draft proposals for the recognition of co-operatives by ICA. The Council also took note of the activities carried out and the activities proposed to be carried out in the next year by IDACA. It was proposed to hold the next meeting (2nd meeting) of the ICA ROAP Executive Council in New Delhi in the later part of 1995.

## 1st Meeting of the ICA Regional Assembly for Asia & the Pacific

The First Meeting of the ICA Regional Assembly for Asia and the Pacific, which was earlier scheduled for October, 1994 and was postponed due to outbreak of plague in some parts of India, was held in New Delhi, India, on 5th & 6th January, 1995.

112 delegates/observers from 15 countries viz. Bangladesh, China, India, Israel, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam, Turkey and ACCU attended

the meeting. In addition, representatives of SCC and ILO also attended the meeting.

The Meeting was inaugurated by Hon. Dr. Bal Ram Jakhar, Union Minister of Agriculture, Government of India, and pre-

# Members' Meetings



*Traditional lamp being lit at the inaugural ceremony of ICA Regional Assembly.*



*First meeting of the ICA Executive Council, Colombo*

sided over by Hon'ble Mr. Arvind Netam, Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Co-operation, Government of India.

Welcoming the delegates, Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan, President, NCUI, said: "Visualising intense competition for the co-operatives in the face of privatisation, the five point strategy for co-operative development has been adopted. The strategy involves specific policy enunciation by the Government for co-operatives; amendment of co-operative law to democratise the functioning of co-operatives; strengthening of base level structure; reorientation of the working of federal co-operatives to strengthen their primaries and enhancing active involvement and; participation of members, especially of rural poor in co-operative sector".

Mr. Yang Deshou of China said "some of the governments in Asia and the Pacific region had obtained better understanding of the role and need of co-operatives in the new social and economic situation and are already reviewing and revising co-operative laws. This indicates that governments have come to realise the effectiveness of co-operatives in ameliorating the economic condition of the weaker sections of society. The present dramatic changes characterised by marketing and economic conditions, provide a new situation for most of the developing countries of

this region. The situation however, also provides an opportunity to the co-operatives to sort out their problems and strengthen themselves with a view to facing the competition".

Mr. M. Horiuchi, Vice President of ICA, in his greetings emphasized that the ICA has been restructured to meet the new challenges. He complimented the Indian Co-operative Movement in hosting the ICA Regional Assembly.

Mr. Lars Marcus, President, ICA, in his remarks observed that there are great challenges ahead for co-operatives in the context of the changed economic scenario. The strength of co-operatives lies in their capacity of solving the problems through mutual sharing.

Dr. Jurgen von Muralt, Director - Enterprise Development & Co-operatives, spoke of the growing collaboration between ICA and ILO.

Mr. G.K. Sharma, Regional Director, ICA ROAP, said: "The co-operative movements in the region is passing through a crucial period, particularly in view of the market economy being adopted by most of the countries. It gives new challenge to co-operatives. While on the one hand it provides greater opportunities and scope to operate it would also result in many cases lesser patronage and assistance from the governments.

"In market economy, it is the survival of the fittest and no one is concerned with weaker sections of the society. The importance of cooperatives, therefore, gets much more significance in the market economy as they must provide a vehicle particularly to those who are not much fortunate to have larger capital resources and contacts.

"The Assembly will consider issues which will help the co-operatives in the region to march forward in this fast changing global scenario."



*A view of the Regional Assembly meeting*

Appreciating the role of the International Co-operative Alliance in promoting co-operatives in the Asia and the Pacific region, Hon'ble Dr. Bal Ram Jakhar stated that in the present context the ICA has greater responsibility as it has to work for regional integration of co-operatives and development of human resources

It has to be a resource centre for co-operatives of the region. It should also assist to establish International Trade Relations on co-operative basis and economic collaboration.

Presiding over the inaugural function, Mr. Arvind Netam, Minister of State for Agriculture and Co-operation, said that the co-operative movement has been able to provide quite a strong shield for the weaker sections of the community against the middlemen and the exploiters.

He was hopeful of further development of co-operative movement, in the region and pointed out that there was every possibility of bringing power and energy sectors under co-operative fold.

Mr. B.D. Sharma, Chief Executive, NCUI, expressed his thanks to the hosts and organisers of the Regional Assembly for their support and collaboration.

#### **New Chairman and Vice Chairman**

By unanimous decision Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan (India) was elected as



*B.S. Vishwanathan, President, NCUI and Dr. Balram Jakhar at the Regional Assembly*



*Caping of the guests of honour at the Regional Assembly*

Chairman of the Regional Assembly for the next two years, and Professor Ungku Aziz (Malaysia) was elected Vice Chairman.

#### **Amended Rules of the Regional Assembly**

The representatives agreed to some amendments to the draft rules regarding definition of "Governing Body" and the possibility of inviting associate members, observers, and special invitees to attend. The Regional Assembly rules were approved unanimously.

#### **Rules of the Executive Council**

The draft rules of the Executive Council, including an amendment regarding membership of the ICA Vice President from the region too were approved.

#### **ICA ROAP Development Programme**

The ICA Regional Director and Project Advisors described Regional Office's development programme and its eight technical projects: Policy Development and Legislation, Development Planning and Coordination, Agricultural Co-operative Development, Consumer Co-operative Development, Human Resource Development, Gender Integration, Agricultural Management Training, and Rural Women Leaders' Training. Other ac-



tivities are undertaken in the areas of environment and worker-owned enterprise.

Mr. K. Fogelstrom of the Swedish Cooperative Centre (SCC) said that a recent SCC-sponsored evaluation of the ICA's development programme was generally positive but that weaknesses existed in the areas of planning, establishment of performance indicators and donor coordination.

He said that SCC's future approach towards ICA would involve supporting activities rather than institutional development, and that this approach would include a gradual shift of SCC's support from Asia to Africa.

### **The Conversion Syndrome**

The Regional Director introduced the paper prepared by Mr. Gary Cronan, Manager, Co-op Dev., Department of Local Govt., Co-ops, Registry of Co-operatives in New South Wales, Australia concerning the tendency for Australian co-operatives to convert into investor-owned firms.

During the discussion, the participants emphasised the following points: concern over the current proposals in India to establish "Co-operative companies" (S. Sisodia, India); the need to strengthen co-operative identity (Han Seung-Hee, Ko-

rea); the importance of honesty in co-operative businesses (U. Aziz, Malaysia); the need for cooperative education (Y. Paz, Israel); the need for greater efficiency instead of structural changes (B.D. Sharma, India); experiences of collaboration with joint stock-companies (Lim Ho Seng, Singapore); the preferability of working with co-operative partners (Wahiduddin Wahab, Malaysia); the role of co-operatives in serving poor people (R. Ahmed, Pakistan); the problems of increasing competition (Kim Yong Jin, Korea); and the need for greater integration among state and national co-operative laws (R. Shanker, India).

### **Ministers' Conference**

Robby Tulus, ROAP Senior Policy Advisor, summarised the conclusions and the recommendations of the July 1994 ministerial conference, held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, in four major areas: government-cooperative relationship, co-operatives in the market-oriented economy, regional coordination, and international co-operation. The next conference is scheduled to be held in Thailand.

### **Draft Proposal for Recognition of Co-operatives by ICA**

The Regional Director reported that the Executive Council had recommended the appointment of a small committee to examine the proposal for recognition of co-operative study by the ICA. The recommendations of the committee as circulated were agreed.

### **Mr. Horiuchi Retires**

Mr. M. Horiuchi announced his intention to retire as ICA Vice President at the Manchester Congress in September 1995.

He proposed that Mr. Hakaru Toyoda, President of JA-ZENCHU, be nominated by the region to succeed him for the remaining two years of his term. This was moved by Mr. Vishwanathan, seconded by Dr. Paz, and agreed.



*Mr. Horiuchi's farewell speech*



*Mr. Lars Marcus, President ICA, welcomes Dr. Balram Jakhar  
Hon. Minister for Agriculture, India*

Mr. M. Ohya (JCCU) described his proposal to establish an ad hoc Advisory Committee that would review the structure and operation of the Regional Office, and make recommendations to the Regional Director. Mr. Sharma and Mr. Yang spoke in favour of this proposal, which was accepted.

Mr. Yang Deshou (China) announced that the All-China Federation of Supply and Marketing Co-operatives had been separated from the Ministry of Agriculture at the beginning of 1995, and that plans were underway for the first Chinese Co-operative Congress, to be held in May or June 1995, in order to finalise the restructuring of the movement. He invited all participants to attend the Congress and indicated that in the future the Chinese co-operatives would be able to place more emphasis on international activities. Mr. Yang also expressed thanks for the support he had received as Chairman of the Regional Assembly.

Prof. Ungku Aziz, Vice-Chairman of the Regional Assembly proposed that the 1996 Regional Assembly be held in Malaysia, though the dates are to be determined. This was agreed.

#### **ICA ROAP Advisory Committee**

The Regional Assembly for Asia and the Pacific at its meeting held in New Delhi (India) on 5-6 January,

1995, while considering the proposal submitted to Mr. M. Ohya, Executive Director, Japanese Consumers Co-operative Union (JCCU), approved the proposal to establish an Advisory Committee on the direction of the ICA Asia and Pacific Region in the late 90s and towards 21st century. The objectives of the Advisory Committee would be as under:

1. To review the current governing bodies and secretariat functions of the ICA Asia and the Pacific Region.
2. To make the recommendations on the policies and directions of the ICA Asia & Pacific Region.

The Committee is expected to submit its report to the Regional Director by September, 1995, who after processing it, will place it before the next meeting of ICA Executive Council for consideration.



*ICA ROAP Advisory Committee meets in Singapore*

# Development Planning & Coordination Activities

The Development Planning and Coordination Project (DPCP) is charged with the responsibility to coordinate the various ROAP development projects.

The Work Plan and Budget for 1994-95 was discussed and approved in the ICA ROAP Annual Planning Meeting held at New Delhi in November 1993. The plans and budgets are primarily based upon the expressed needs of the member-organisations. The member-organisations contributions towards the various ICA ROAP programmes now constitutes more than one-third of the total budget and more than two-thirds of the budget is financed from within the Region.

## Convention on Basic Values and Co-operative Principles

The Indian Society for Studies in Co-operation organised their 14th Convention on *Basic Values and Co-operative Principles* in collaboration with the University of Goa from 10th to 12th January 1994. The Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture and Animal Husbandry, Government of Goa, Mr. Francisco Sardina, delivered the inaugural address.

About 20 papers on Basic Values and Co-operative Principles were written by the participants and distributed during the meeting. The Co-operative Movement in India was quite

openly criticised for not being a member-controlled Movement. The outcome of this meeting and the papers prepared will be a valuable complement to the answers to questionnaire on Basic Values and Co-operative Principles issued by Mr. MacPherson and sent to all ICA member organisations.

## Exploratory Mission to Uzbekistan

The SDA visited Uzbekistan from 20 to 25 February, 1994. One of the unique features observed was the inclusion of all types of co-operatives as a part of consumer co-operative movement. It was also observed that there is an urgent need to strengthen the consumer co-operative movement whose market share has fallen from 80% to 20%.

It was agreed that ICA ROAP in collaboration with the ICA member organization in Uzbekistan 'Ўzbek-birlashuv', should organize a seminar for ICA ROAP CIS member countries in Asia, to be held in Tashkent.

## 4th Meeting of the Steering Group of the Committee for Regional Economic Co-operation (ESCAP)

The ICA ROAP was invited to the above meeting held in Kathmandu, from 8th to 11th March, as observer. Mr. Malte Jonsson, Senior Development Advisor, represented the ICA.

The meeting was attended by about 50 persons representing the governments of 18 countries in Asia-Pacific, five countries from outside the geographical scope of the Commission, UNDP, ILO, World Bank, IMF, ITU, SAARC, ACCU and two international NGOs - ICA and WASME. The meeting was opened by the Vice-Chairman of the National Planning Commission of His Majesty's Government of Nepal.

The Executive Secretary of UN-ESCAP indicated that the action programme focused on the catalytic role of ESCAP in promoting co-operation in the Asian and Pacific regions in



Malte Jonsson at the Co-operative Museum in Tashkent, Uzbekistan

the areas of technology information exchange, technology transfer, human resources development, the upgrading of the technology of small and medium industries.

The main theme was Regional Economic Co-operation and in what fields and how this cooperation can be strengthened. Almost no reference was made to the private sector and nothing at all about the co-operative sector. It was interesting to note how seriously the delegates scrutinised the different statements.

**Inter-Regional Workshop on Development of Small and Medium Enterprises and Co-operatives  
30 March to 01 April, 1994  
Hanoi, Vietnam**

The Inter-Regional Workshop on Development of Small and Medium Enterprises and Co-operatives was organised by United Nations Department for Development Support and Management Services and the Central Council of Co-operatives Union and Small and Medium Enterprises of Vietnam (VICOOPSME) in Hanoi, Vietnam, from 30th March to 1st April 1994.

The workshop was supported by UNDP, Private Sector Development Programme, and World Assembly of Small and Medium Enterprises (WASME).

The following UN agencies participated: ILO, UNDP, UNCTAD and UNIDO. Two international NGO's, ICA and WASME, were present. From the nine Asian countries, only Vietnam represented the Co-operative Movement and the representative from Myanmar came from the Ministry of Co-operatives.

From outside Asia, Hungary, Mexico and Sudan had sent delegates. The representatives came from the banking sector, small and medium enterprise sector, ministries, departments, research institutes and trade centres/departments.



*National Workshop on Co-operative Development in progress in Yangon, Myanmar*

The outside speakers referred mainly to the problems of small and medium enterprises of the private sector especially in countries in transition.

The workshop concluded with a group discussion on the role of SME:s and co-operatives, their constraints, role of government to facilitate development of SME:s and co-operatives.

The main recommendations were:

- **SMEs** have a major role to play in both social and economic development. Their importance in being labour intensive and capital-sparing was highlighted. They are responsible for a high proportion of the countries' growth of output and GDP. In countries in transition to market-oriented economy, they are breeding grounds for a new style of managers;
- The most important constraints are lack of access to appropriate technology, lack of access to capital, lack of business management, marketing and financial/ accounting and consulting skills, lack of current information on markets;
- General recommendations addressed mainly to the governments were: training facilities for management staff, credit facilities, provision of information on market and technology through setting up spe-

cial centres and database, encouragement of foreign investment, improvement of physical infrastructure as power supply, roads, posts and communications; and Exchange of experiences between countries through study tours and workshops could be organised by members of the UN system, bilateral donor agencies and specialised NGOs. Technical assistance in country programmes is also an important component including use of voluntary services of retired professionals through the UN and bilateral agencies.

### Exploratory Mission to Israel

The SDA visited Israel from 8th to 14th May. The co-operatives in Israel are part of the General Federation of Labour "Histradut". The ICA

member organisation is Hevrat Ha'Ovdim, which is the General Co-operative of Labour in Israel, owned by the members of Histradut. This means that all co-operative members are at the same time members of Histradut. Hevrat Ha'Ovdim consists of two components, the institutional sector with companies and enterprises owned by Hevrat Ha'Ovdim; and the co-operative sector with companies, institutions and enterprises owned by their members directly.

The co-operative movement is a workers movement and the overall objective is to create employment opportunities.

In the national economy the co-operatives play a very important role as their share in manufacturing is 15%, banking 31%, insurance 14%, construction 8%, transport 82%, and agriculture 80%. The movement has 137,000 employees, including working members.

It was interesting to note that the original social concept of the Kibbutz is undergoing changes which can change the whole concept of collective ownership. Besides the Jewish settlements, the farming sector includes traditional arab villages. I visited one water supply co-operative in such a village, where the members also are members of Histradut.

There is an enormous high individual member share in the two industrial and transport co-operatives (Haargas and Egged) I visited. The members share is 72,000 \$ and 100,000 \$ per member respectively. There are both working members and employees, who are members in the Haargas and Egged.

### ICA/ICMIF Insurance Seminar Tokyo, 01 to 03 November, 1994

The first Regional Co-operative Insurance Seminar carried out in collaboration between ICMIF (International Co-operative Mutual Insurance Federation) and ICA ROAP was held in ZENROSAI, Tokyo from 1st to 3rd

### BOOKS PUBLISHED IN 1994

The following publications were released during 1994 by the ICA Regional Office, New Delhi. They could be ordered from:

Publication Officer  
**ICA Domus Trust**  
 C/o. International Co-operative Alliance  
 Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific  
 'Bonow Hous', 43 Friends Colony (East)  
 New Delhi - 110065, India.  
 Tel. (91)11-683-5123; Fax.(91)11-683-5568  
 E-mail: icaroap@unv.ernet.in

1. ICA/JA ZENCHU/IDACA Regional Seminar on Perspective Planning for Regional Development by Agricultural Co-operatives : A Report Tokyo ( Japan); 8-26 November 1993, compiled by GuoYong Kang, 1994; pp.207; price: Indian Rs.460/US \$ 60-00
2. Role of Functionaries in Co-operative Management in Asian Countries : An Analysis; D.N.Upadhyay; 1994 130pp; price : Indian Rs.300 /US \$ 30-00
3. Our Civil Society and Co-operatives-Co-operative Institutions as true contributors to the enrichment of our "Civil Society"; Daman Prakash; 1994; 64 pp; price: Indian Rs.70/ US \$ 10-00
4. Social Objectives of Co-operatives-Role of Co-operatives in Social Reference to Poverty Alleviation, Social Integration and Employment Generation; Daman Prakash; 1994; 40 pp; price: Indian Rs.70/ US \$ 10-00
5. Facilitators Manual on Co-operative Member Participation Methodology.- HRD series -02 (Revised); 1994; 100 pp; price: Indian Rs.200/ US \$ 30-00
6. Third Asia-Pacific Co-operative Ministers' Conference on Co-operative-Government Collaborative Strategies - Colombo, Sri Lanka, July 26-30; (Conclusions and Recommendations); 1994; 39 pp; price: INR Rs.70/ US \$ 10/-

November 1994, with 12 participants from co-operative organisations in China (2), India (2), Indonesia (2), Nepal (1), Sri Lanka (1), Thailand (2) and Vietnam (2). From the Japanese Insurance Co-operative Organisations, representatives from ZENROSAI (National Federation of Workers and Consumers Insurance Co-operatives), ZENKYOREN (National Mutual Insurance Federation of Agricultural Co-operatives) and JICA (Japan Co-operative Insurance Association) were present. The organiser of the seminar was ZENROSAI and the funding was made available by ICMIF, ZENROSAI and ILO/Japan.

Resource persons from outside Japan represented the co-operative insurance sector from USA through Nationwide Insurance and from Singapore by NTUC Income. The ICA ROAP was represented by Mr. Malte Jonsson, Senior Development Advisor. The country reports on the development of co-operative insurance in their respective countries were presented by the participants.

For the last day of the seminar, which was an official holiday, a tour to Mt. Fuji and the town of Tokyo was organised. A resolution of the seminar prepared by the participants was discussed at the end of the seminar and the main features agreed upon were:

- That co-operative insurance plays an important role for the welfare of members and societies, and contribute for protection and serving the people through investment for more productive purposes;
- The usefulness of exchanging experiences of selling strategies of co-operative insurance business, encouraging insurance values through education, training and other promotional activities;
- Co-operative insurance emerging in many Asian and Pacific countries, should be facilitated and promoted by ICMIF/ICA and govern-

ments through feasibility studies, legal approval and other relevant measures;

- To strengthen the competitive capability and market share of the co-operative insurance, information networks among the co-operative insurance and other relevant institutions should be established; and

- To gain better and innovative business development for co-operative insurance in Asian and Pacific countries, intensive training/education and conferences, and/or seminars should regularly be organised.

The seminar participants were successfully exchanging detailed information about the insurance business and business talk about sales tactics in every country. The first ICA/ICMIF Insurance Seminar paved the way for co-operation among the ICA members and ICMIF members in the region. They confirmed that this ICA/ICMIF insurance seminar shall be held every year.

### SCC Evaluation

An evaluation of the SCC (Swedish Co-operative Centre) support to the ICA Development Programme was carried out in 1994. The evaluation provided a critical review of the programme and contributed useful recommendations for the future. The main conclusions were that the ICA is a suitable channel for supporting regional activities and that the SCC should continue its support to the ICA Development Programme. The SDA accompanied the ICA/SCC Evaluation Team to Thailand and Singapore from 30th June to 5th July 1994.

### Participation in ICA Meetings

The Senior Development Advisor (SDA) attended the ICA Executive Council Meeting held in Colombo (Sri



ICA-ICMIF Insurance Seminar, Tokyo

Lanka) on 24th July 1994 and the 3rd Co-operative Ministers Conference held in Sri Lanka from 25th to 30th July 1994.

The SDA attended the ICA Regional Consultation Meeting on "Government-Movement Collaborative Strategies in Asia-Pacific Region" held in Malaysia from 18th to 21st April 1994.

### **Information & Resource Services**

#### ***ICA ROAP Library***

*Collection:* The Regional Office has a well equipped Library having 19,490 books on co-operatives and allied subjects and over 5,000 booklets. During the year about 300 books were added. It receives 200 journals.

*Computerisation of ROAP Library:* To facilitate dissemination of information, the Library has introduced computerisation. Over 2,500 books have until now been computerised.

The first annotated computerised list of books comprising of 910 titles and the second comprising of 1,090 titles have been issued.

*Library use and its services to member organisations:* The ICA ROAP library is recognised by the University Grants Commission of India and the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) for co-operative research. Presently 35 Ph.D. students are making use of the Library.

#### **Co-operative Publications**

One of the ICA's activities which tend to develop over the years is publishing books on various co-operative subjects. As a result ICAROAP has become world's largest publisher of co-operative literature. These publications are being circulated to wider audience both within and outside co-operative circles.

To simplify both the identification of works printed and their availability **ISBN** numbering system has been introduced. This is a landmark in the progress of publicity of co-operative literature worldwide.

#### **ROAP Data Bank**

During the year, the work to build up the ICA ROAP Regional Co-operative Data Bank has been progressing well. The Data Bank Unit is now a separate activity under DPCP with a Technical Officer in-charge of the operations. The data bases in use at present are:

- General information concerning Member Organisations;
- Sectoral information on Member Organisations;
- Membership subscription paid to ICA HQ, by the ICA Member-Organisations in Asia-Pacific Region;
- Contribution of ICA Member Organisations in Asia-Pacific for ROAP Administration and Project Activities;
- Basic socio-economic characteristics of ICA Member-countries in Asia-Pacific Region.
- Sector-wise general information on Co-operative Movement in ICA Member countries in Asia-Pacific Region.

So far, Data Bank has published the following three Profiles under its "Regional Co-operative Data Bank Series": (1) ICA Member-Organisations in Asia and the Pacific - A Statistical Profile 1993; (2) Profile of ICA Member Countries in Asia-Pacific Region; and (3) A Profile of Medical Co-operatives in Kerala, India.

Subject areas on co-operatives will be undertaken on the demand of ICA Projects, and ICA member-organisations.

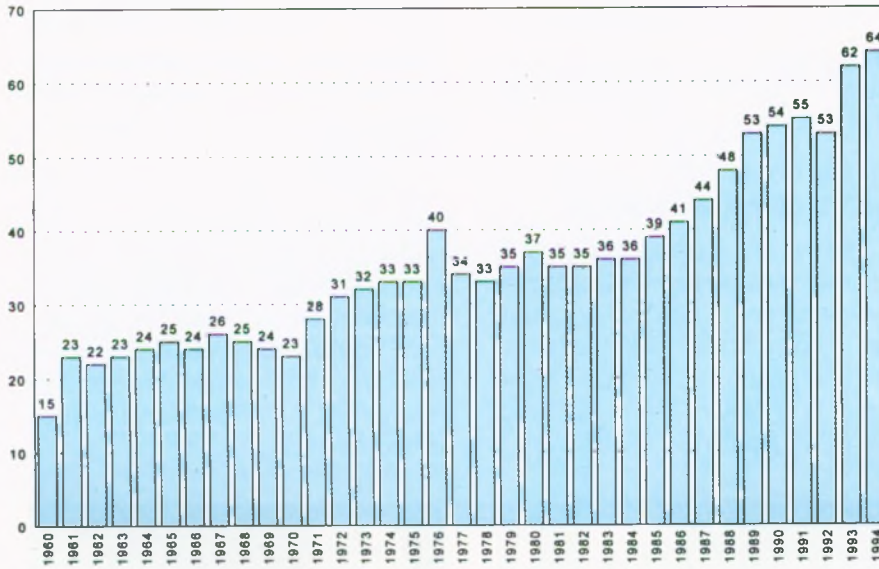
The Data Bank is working in close collaboration with ICA Central Co-op Data Bank and other Regional Offices (Regional Co-op Data Banks) by using common data entry system. The Data Bank would also endeavour to develop close relationship with international organisations (UNOs and NGOs) in the Region and also support the member-organisations such system for a co-operative data collection and exchange system.



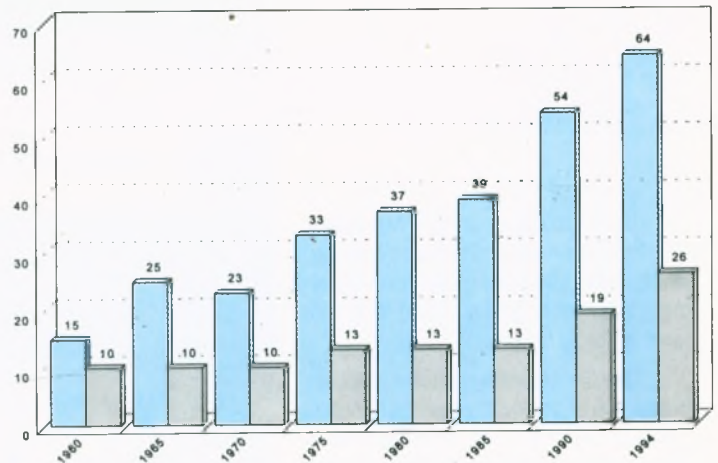
*SIDA representatives at the ICA ROAP Library*

## Growth of ICA Member Organisations in Asia and the Pacific 1960 to 1994

Long  
Journey  
from  
1960



## Status of ICA Member Organisations vis-a-vis Member Countries 1960 to 1994



### Membership withdrawals during 1994

1. Union of Peasants Co-operatives of the Republic of Afghanistan
2. Mercantile Co-operative Finance Corporation, Pakistan

Member Organisations	15	25	23	33	37	39	54	64
Member Countries	10	10	10	13	13	13	19	26

Mr. Ram Prakash, Technical Officer (Data Bank) collected the data and prepared the graphs



# Development Policy & Legislation

The Policy Development and Legislation Project continued to work on the policy dialogue between governments and co-operative movements through consultations and conferences during the period under review. Developing policies conducive to co-operatives in the context of opening economies was one of the serious concerns.

## Regional Consultation on Government/Co-operative relations

The PDLP project organised a Regional Consultation on Co-operative-Government Collaborative Strategies in collaboration with the Ministry of Land and Co-operative Development and ANGKASA in Malaysia from 18-21 April, 1994. This was a

preparatory event for the forthcoming Co-operative Ministers' Conference in Colombo.

Government and co-operative delegates from Fiji, Japan, India, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam participated at the consultation. In addition, there were observers from CCA, SCC, ILO, ACO and SAARCO.

The key issues discussed at the consultation were: globalization, market economy, competitive co-operative strength and Basic values. The consultation urged the governments to initiate depoliticisation, more freedom for co-operatives in decision making and supportive actions such as tax benefits.



*Regional Consultation in Kuala Lumpur in progress*

## COLOMBO DECLARATION

The Third Co-operative Ministers' Conference held in Colombo from 26 to 30 July, 1994 adopted the following statements to be called 'the Colombo Declaration'.

"The Co-operative sector is as important and imperative as public and private sectors in its contribution to the socio-economic well being of the people -- especially in view of rapid and drastic changes in the environment arising from deregulation, privatisation, marketization, and globalization of the economies in the Asia Pacific countries -- in as much

as the Co-operative Sector basically encourages initiatives and popular participation of people (peoplization), democratization, ensuring at the same time social justice and economic decentralisation".

"The Governments and Co-operatives shall take administrative, legislative, organizational, structural and operational measures to ensure economic viability and competitiveness of co-operatives".

"While effecting organizational renewal in the co-operatives, the preservation of co-operative character, basic values and principles shall be ensured".

"Human Resource Development shall get the highest priority for achieving qualitative improvement in the working of co-operatives".

"The governments shall continue providing assistance, particularly to co-operatives of people with small means".

"In view of the positive impact of the last two Co-operative Ministers' Conference, the Co-operative Ministers of the Asia-Pacific Region shall continue meeting periodically to review the progress and problems of co-operatives in the Region".

Another important area of activity recommended was to develop new patterns of business relations in the context of globalization process. A need for adopting innovative approaches and appropriate technologies was also felt.

### **National Workshop on Government-Co-operative Relationship**

The fourth national workshop after 1992 Ministers' Conference, was held in June, 1994 in Yangon, Myanmar, attended by 20 delegates from the governments and co-operative movements.

The pursuit of improve co-operative societies law, issues on trade promotion, co-operative values and HRD were the key areas for discussion, in addition to Co-operative values and HRD.

### **Third Asia-Pacific Ministers' Conference**

The Third Conference of Co-operative Ministers was held in Colombo, Sri Lanka from July 26 to 30, 1994.

Co-operative Ministers from Bangladesh, Fiji, Ghana, Indonesia, Iran, Jordan, Myanmar, Mauritius, Sri Lanka, Tonga, Vice Ministers from China, Japan and Malaysia participated at the Conference. In addition, representatives from AARRO, ILO,

FAO, IDACA, ACO, CCA, SDID and SCC too participated. Altogether participation was 121 delegates.

The Ministers' Conference adopted a declaration titled 'Colombo Declaration' to be followed up during the next few years:

### **Sub-Regional Co-operative Organizations**

#### *a) SAARC Forum*

The SPA participated at the first meeting of the SAARC Forum held in March, 1994. This was the inaugural meeting of the Forum.

Eighteen representatives from the governments and co-operatives of India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal and Sri Lanka participated at the meeting.

The newly formed SAARC Co-operative Forum will enable co-operative movements in the Region to:

- \* Recognize the forum as an entity having the authority to promote regional co-operation,
- \* Promote inter-cooperative trade among member countries,
- \* Use this forum as an intensified lobby for promoting government-movement relations,
- \* Form strategic alliances with the national co-operative organizations,



*Co-op Exhibition at the Ministers' Conference, Colombo*



*Attention for the Co-operative Song at the Ministers' Conference in Colombo (H.E. D.B. Wijetunga, President, Sri Lanka in the middle)*



*Robby Tulus addressing the Conference*

- \* Draw up plans for enhancing co-operative business networks.

Messrs. Bruce Thordarson, Director General, G.K.Sharma, Regional Director, Robby Tulus, SPA too addressed the forum on behalf of the ICA.

In his inaugural address, Hon. Weerasinghe Mallimarachchi, Minister for Co-operatives, Food and Jana Saviya of Sri Lanka, said that the inspiration to form a co-operative forum among SAARC countries occurred to him during his participation in ICA conference of Co-operative Ministers held in Jakarta in 1992.

The representatives from SAARC countries discussed the possibility of forming such a forum. He further said, "It is against this background that we, in Sri Lanka, with the support of ICA, have expressed our keen interest in promoting closer collaboration among co-operatives in SAARC member countries. Therefore, I am grateful to the ICA Regional Office for assisting my officials to translate our efforts into action."

The forum adopted its Constitution and MOU at the meeting.

#### *b) Regional Studies*

As an outcome of the previous Ministers' Conference in 1992, the Project undertook a Regional Study on 'Role of Functionaries in Co-operative Management' and updated on the basis of the unprecedented economic changes that has occurred in the Region. This printed publication served as a reference material at the Colombo Conference of Co-operative Ministers.

The SPA attended the ACCU general meeting held in Dhaka from 7-13 September, 1994 and presented a paper on Poverty Alleviation and the Role of Credit Unions.

#### *c) Meetings*

The SPA attended the annual meeting of the ADB held in May, 1994 at Nice, France. He also attended the International Affairs Management meeting of the CCA during September/October, 1994 to finalise strategic development plans.

The SPA also participated as a resource person at the Strategic Planning Workshop of Thrift and Credit Co-operative Federation of Sri Lanka during December, 1994.



*Hon. Weerasinghe Mallimarachchi, former Minister of Co-operatives, Sri Lanka was instrumental in the holding of the 2nd Ministers' Conference in Colombo, who was killed in a terrorist attack on 23rd October, 1994.*

*May his soul rest in peace.*

## 2nd ICA/NACF Regional Seminar on Agricultural Co-operative Business Development

The 2nd ICA/NACF Regional Seminar on Agricultural Co-operative Business Development with Special Reference to Korean Experience was organised by the ICA ROAP in collaboration with the National Agricultural Co-operative Federation of Korea (NACF). The seminar was held at the Central Training Institute of NACF in Seoul from 6th to 15th September 1994. 11 participants from eight countries, i.e. Bangladesh, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines, and Vietnam attended the seminar.

The objectives of the seminar were: (a) to understand the structure and business activities of agricultural co-operatives in Korea; (b) to learn modern computer system and advanced management in agricultural co-operative business development; (c) to discuss applicability of the Korean experience on business development to agricultural co-operatives of the participating countries; and (d) to formulate action proposals for the organisations/movements of the participants, keeping in view the experience gained. The participants formulated several proposals to introduce Korean experience to their co-operative organisations in order to improve co-operative business activities.

## ICA/JA ZENCHU/IDACA Regional Seminar on Perspective Planning

The ICA/JA ZENCHU/IDACA Regional Seminar on Perspective Planning for Regional Development by Agricultural Co-operatives was conducted at the Institute for the Development of Agricultural Co-operation in Asia (IDACA), Japan, during 18th October to 4th November 1994.

Fourteen participants from nine countries, namely, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Rep. of Korea, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Vietnam attended the seminar.

The objectives of the seminar were (a) to learn how to collect relevant information and to formulate national and regional Agricultural Development Plans based on individual farm management plans and methods of perspective planning for agricultural development initiated by agricultural co-operatives and member farmers; (b) to learn how to establish marketing strategy of the farm products on medium and long-term basis with the participation of member and primary societies in the region; (c) to discuss applicability of the Japanese experience on perspective planning to agricultural co-operatives of the participants' countries; (d) to identify strategies and methods which would be most effective in perspective planning in participants' countries on the basis of study of (a) to (c) above; and (e) to formulate action proposals for the organisations/movements of the participants, keeping in view the experience gained.

## Participation in ICA Meetings

The Advisor attended the ICA Executive Council Meeting held in Colombo (Sri Lanka) on 24th July 1994 and the 3rd Co-operative Ministers Conference held in Sri Lanka from 25th to 30th July 1994.

## Consultancy on Australian Co-operative Dev. Project

In view of positive and productive collaboration between the Registry of

# Agricultural Co-operative Development Activities



Co-operatives, NSW, Australia, and the ICA during 1993, an agreement to strengthen collaboration between the two parties for 1994 was signed. In accordance with the agreement the ACDA was instructed by the ICA to take up this consultancy assignment to implement the agreement. The main tasks for the consultancy assignment were:

- (i) to continue coordination of two projects in Coonamble, namely, Wool, and Processing and Feelot Projects;
- (ii) to identify new projects of mutual interest to NSW based co-operatives and to identify the most suitable overseas co-operative partners for these projects.

Trade by Co-operatives and Role of International Co-operative Alliance" which briefed the history and objectives of ICA in promoting international co-operative trade. Officers of the Registry also made presentation on promoting trade between co-operatives.

The ICA Regional Director and ACDA had several meetings with the Registry and Co-operatives and discussed about their needs and the ways in which the ICA could facilitate exploring export opportunities and identified several new project proposals.

As a follow-up of this, the ACDA discussed with some member-organisations in the region and facilitated the establishment of business relations with these organisations.

At the same time Chinese and Australian co-operatives conducted detailed business planning in wool processing joint venture project. In May a four-member delegation from Wujiang City Federation of Supply and Marketing Co-operatives visited Australia to have further discussions and negotiations with the Coonamble Wool Processing Co-operative and to finalise the agreement on the project.

Two letters of intent on wool processing joint venture project were signed. However, due to the new taxation system in Chin, the original joint venture plan has to be readjusted.

The pre-feasibility study on the Feelot Project was completed and the report was sent to NLCF (National Livestock Co-operative Federation) of Korea for further study. The ACDA facilitated Coonamble Feelot and Beef Marketing Co-operative to establish direct communication channel with NLCF.

In September the ICA Regional Director and ACDA had a meeting with the Chairman and President of NLCF and discussed in general about this project.



*Participants of ICA/JA Zenchu Seminar at Yaguro-machi Agricultural Co-operative Society*

In order to identify new projects properly and inform NSW co-operatives clearly about the facilitating role of the Registry and ICA in promoting co-operative trade, a seminar on *Co-operative Trade and Export Opportunities* was held in Sydney in May 1994.

About 40 directors and managers of co-operatives and officers of State and Federal Government Departments attended the seminar.

The ICA Regional Director presented a paper on "International

**D**uring the last one year from January to December, 1994, Consumer Co-operative Development Project (CCDP) had organized 27 activities in Asia and the Pacific region. This included activities in six non-member countries as well.

Main activities were education and training, seminar and workshop, field study and fact-finding mission, exchange activity, meetings and publications, as follows:

### **Self-financed Workshop on Consumer Co-ops in India**

The ICA with the co-operation of National Council of Co-operative Training (NCCT) of India had organised 3 self-financed workshops on Consumer Cooperative Development in three states - Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh between January and August, 1994.

The objective of the workshops was to promote and develop consumer co-operatives in these States on self-help basis (self-financed, self-education, self-support and member participation).

Sixty (60) participants in Rajasthan, seventy-five (75) in Tamil Nadu and 65 in U.P. had attended the workshop at Jaipur, Madras and Lucknow respectively.

### **Self-financed workshops on Student/University Co-ops in India**

From April to Oct, 1994, five (5) self-financed workshops on student/university co-operatives were organized in three States in India - one in Karnataka, three in Tamil Nadu and one in Kerala. Forty nine, ninety three, and ninety nine participants attended the workshops in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala respectively.

The major objectives of the workshops were to promote, develop and improve student/university co-operatives within the region.

### **Sub-Regional Seminar on Consumer Co-operative Development in India**

The seminar was jointly organized by ICA, NCCT and Apna Bazar Co-operative Department Store, Bombay, at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Bombay, between 24 April and 3rd May, 1994. Twenty one participants from three countries - India (15), Myanmar (3), and Sri Lanka (3) attended the Seminar. The seminar's main objectives were to upgrade the management techniques and the performance of consumer co-operatives within the region as well as to build up better relationship among participants and member countries.

### **Training on Supermarket Operations in Japan**

Two 10-day training programmes on Super Market Operations in Japan for four managers (two each) of consumer co-operatives from Singapore were jointly organized by ICA and JCCU between 17 and 26 January and 12 and 21 October, 1994. The purpose of the training was to enhance the knowledge of the participants on modern management techniques of supermarket operations. The participants were trained in different Japanese consumer co-operatives.

# Consumer Co-operative Development Activities



*Self-financed workshop on Consumer Co-operatives in session - Jaipur, India*

### **Training of selected Managers of Consumer Co-operatives from the Republic of Korea and Malaysia in Japan**

Between 21 and 30 August, 1994, ICA with the co-operation of JCCU had organized a 10-day training programme on Consumer Co-operative operations in Japan for 5 Managers of Consumer Co-operatives from the Rep. of Korea (2) and Malaysia (3). The main objectives of the training were to apprise them with modern techniques of consumer co-operative operations in Japan and at the same time to encourage them to develop consumer coop. movements in their respective countries. The participants had visited various consumer co-operative societies/institutions in Japan under the support and guidance of JCCU.

### **Training in Sri Lanka**

ICA in collaboration with the National Co-operative Council of Sri Lanka (NCC), the Sri Lanka Consumer Co-operative Federation (COOPFED) and the Department of Co-operative Development, organized a training programme on Consumer Co-operative Management in Colombo for 3 days between 28 and 30 June, 1994. The objectives of the training were (1) to introduce the system and techniques of modern management of consumer co-operatives to the participants and co-operative organizations, and (2) to up-grade the performance of consumer co-operatives in Sri Lanka.

### **Training of Indian Consumer Co-operative leaders in Japan**

The programme was jointly organized by JCCU and local consumer co-operatives in Japan between 11 and 20 July 1994. Four consumer co-operative leaders from four leading consumer co-operative societies in Bombay, India, were selected for this training activity. All costs were borne by the sponsoring Japanese Consumers' Co-operatives Union

through the good offices of Mr. M. Ohya. The main objective of this training was to help Indian consumer co-operative leaders to observe and learn more about modern management techniques of consumer co-operative operations in Japan, so that they can improve their own work in



*Consumer Committee meeting in Singapore*

India. And at the same time, if possible, to make Bombay as a practical training/learning centre for the sub-continent in future.

### **Training-cum-study visit of Vietnamese Consumer Co-operative leaders in Thailand**

Between 3 and 10 July, 1994, 5 consumer co-operative leaders from North, Central and South Vietnam had visited Thailand for the above training programme. The programme was jointly organized by the ICA and the Co-operative League of Thailand. The main objective of organizing this programme was to give an opportunity to Vietnamese co-operative leaders to see and learn more about co-operative organizations, administration and business operations in real practice in neighbouring country as well as to promote mutual help and better co-operation among ICA member countries.

### **Training of Store Managers from Asia and the Pacific in Singapore**

Between 23 Oct. and 2 Nov., '94, ICA and NTUC FairPrice, Singapore,



*National seminar on consumer co-operative development in Myanmar*

had organized a 10-day training programme on super-market operations for four consumer co-operative managers - one each from Malaysia, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Kingdom of Tonga.

### **Asian Health Medical Co-operatives Meeting in Colombo**

The first Asian Health Medical Co-operatives Meeting was held in Colombo, Sri Lanka. The meeting was jointly organized by the Medical Co-operative Committee of JCCU, ICA and the NCC of Sri Lanka at the Hotel Holiday Inn, Colombo, on 19 and 20 April, 1994.

Thirty five (35) participants from 4 countries and ICA ROAP attended the meeting as follows: Sri Lanka (17), India (8), Japan (8), Malaysia (1) and ICA ROAP (1).

The meeting discussed about (1) impact of medical coops in providing better facilities and services to co-operative members, (2) medical co-operative operations in Asian countries, (3) development of medical co-operatives in Asian countries and (4) future plans for the development of medical co-operatives in Asia and the Pacific.

### **Exchange Programme**

Under the Exchange Programme of the Consumer Co-operative Development Project (CCDP), a group of 3 women consumer co-operative leaders from Fiji visited Japan between 26 June and 5 July, 1994, to enhance knowledge on consumer co-operative development, Han groups, member participation and housewives involvement in consumer co-operatives. The programme was jointly sponsored by ICA and JCCU.

### **Study on the Consumer Co-operative Movement in Fiji and some Pacific countries**

On the request of the Fiji Co-operative Union Ltd., to make a comprehensive study on consumer co-operative movement in Fiji, the ICA



*Asian Region Health Co-operative meeting, Colombo, Sri Lanka*

with financial support from JCCU had deputed two senior officers (Mr. Upali Herath, HRD Advisor and Mr. Pradit Machima, Consumer Advisor), to visit Fiji and the Pacific between May 13 and June 17 this year. The team had visited the Republic of Fiji, Kingdom of Tonga, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea. The purpose of the study were to make assessment of consumer co-operative movements within the region and to find ways and means of improving them. The team had made excellent contacts with local organizations and authorities, for mutual co-operation between ICA, JCCU, government institutions and co-operative organizations within the region. The team also had the opportunity to meet Maj. Gen. Rabuka, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Fiji, who attended a co-operative meeting in Lautoka on 21 May, 1994.

### **Fact-Finding Mission to study the Co-operative Movement in Nepal**

ICA ROAP had sent Mr. Pradit Machima, ICA Consumer Advisor and Mr. S.C. Misra, Senior Consultant of the National Co-operative Consumers' Federation of India, to conduct a study on the Co-operative Movement in Nepal between 1 and 8 August, 1994. The objective of the study was to make an assessment of co-operative movement in Nepal,



especially consumer co-operatives in order to pave the way for the development of consumer co-operatives within the country. The report was made and the plan for organizing a national seminar on consumer co-operatives was drawn up.



*Follow-up workshop on University Co-operatives, Chiangmai, Thailand*

### **Regional Follow-up Workshop on University Co-operatives of Asia and the Pacific**

A Regional Follow-up Workshop on University Co-operatives of Asia and the Pacific was held at Lanna Resort, Chiang Mai, Thailand, between 7 and 11 February, 1994. The workshop was jointly organized by ICA, CLT, NFUCA and Chiang Mai University. The workshop was attended by 62 participants from 8 countries, namely India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Sri Lanka, South Korea and Thailand.

Main objectives of the workshop were to promote and develop student/university co-operatives and to strengthen the role of the student/university in promoting and developing consumer co-operative movements within the region.

### **Field Visit to Consumer Co-ops of Japan and the Philippines**

Mr. Pradit Machima, Consumer Advisor, had attended the ICA ROAP's HRD Committee and INCOTEC Meeting in Kobe, Japan, on 12-13 September 1994. Later on he visited various consumer co-op-

eratives and medical co-operatives in Himeji and Kagoshima in Japan. After that he visited consumer co-operatives and student/university co-operatives in the Philippines between 16 and 20 Sept. '94 in order to discuss various aspects of the consumer co-operatives and to prepare a training package for consumer co-operatives and university co-operatives in the Philippines in December, 1994 and February, 1995.

### **National Seminar on Consumer Co-operatives in Thailand**

Mr. Pradit Machima, Consumer Advisor, had attended the National Seminar on Consumer Co-operatives, held at Chiang Mai, Thailand, between 23 and 26 August '94. The seminar was jointly organized by the Co-operative League of Thailand (CLT) and the Consumer Co-operative Federation of Thailand (CCFT).

The seminar was attended by sixty-five consumer co-operative leaders from over the country. The seminar discussed about general problems confronting consumer co-operatives and the measures to tackle the problems, especially the problems on value added tax, competition with private sector, co-operation among co-operatives and the declining sales of consumer co-operatives.

### **National Seminar on Consumer Co-operative Development in Nepal and Myanmar**

Between 23 and 30 November, 1994, ICA ROAP and JCCU had helped Nepal and Myanmar to organize National Seminars on Consumer Co-operative Development in the two countries upon their request. The seminars were organised to discuss consumer co-operative situations, their strength and weaknesses, needs for changes and development, government policies on consumer co-operative development, modern management techniques and strategic plans for long term development.

In Nepal, the seminar was jointly organized by the Department of Co-operatives and Consumer Co-operative Union at the Co-operative Training Centre (CTC), Kathmandu from 23 to 25 November, 1994. Thirty five participants from Co-operative Department, co-operative societies at all levels and co-operative training centre. Of of this, 12 (twelve) came from outside Kathmandu.

In Myanmar, the seminar was jointly organized by the Ministry of Co-operatives and Central Co-operative Society (CCS) at Ministry of Co-operatives' Conference Hall. Thirty high ranking co-operative officers from both the Department of Co-operatives and Department of Cottage Industries, Ministry of Co-operatives, Co-operative leaders, managers and key staff of all levels plus a number of observers from concerned co-operative organisations attended the seminar from 28 to 30 December, 1994.

### **Committee Meetings**

ICA Committee on Consumer Co-operation for Asia and the Pacific had held two meetings in 1994. One was held in Colombo in conjunction with the Third Co-operative Ministers' Conference on 25 July, 1994, which was attended by 36 participants from 14 countries. The second one was held in Singapore between 27 and 28 December, 1994 in Singapore. Thirty participants from 10 countries attended the meeting.

### **Establishment of ICA Sub-Committee on University Co-operatives**

At the meeting held in Singapore on 27 December, 1994, the ICA Committee on Consumer Co-operation for Asia and the Pacific had approved the establishment of ICA Sub-Committee on University Co-operatives for Asia and the Pacific. Later on the first meeting of the said sub-committee was convened in Singapore on 28 December, 1994.

### **Publications**

Consumer Co-operative Development Project (CCDP) had published the following teaching/training documents on consumer co-operatives:

1. Management of Consumer Co-operatives;
2. How to run a Consumer Co-operative successfully;
3. Co-operative Principles, Basic Values and Operating Guidelines for Asian Consumer Co-operatives;
4. ICA and the Development of Consumer Co-operatives in Asia and the Pacific;
5. Impact of Orientation Seminars on the Development of University Co-operatives in Asia and the Pacific region; and
6. Report on the Fact-finding Mission to Myanmar on Consumer Co-operatives.



*The the first meeting of the ICA Sub-committee on University Co-operatives, in Singapore, December, 1994*

# Human Resource Development Activities

The year under current reporting has been subject to serious resource constraints. Therefore, the functions of the Project had more emphasis on collaborative work with other projects and consultancy services to development partners in their bi-lateral and country specific programmes. Consequently, the institutional programmes, previously carried out by the project were lessened.

## Project Administration

Until the end of June, 1994, the Gender Integration programme remained a sub-project of the HRD Project. Ms. Uma Mukherji who was under contract left the Project in February and Ms. Akiko Yamauchi from JCCU, Japan, joined with effect from 01 March. The creation of a separate project for Gender Integration programme saw the culmination of previous HRD Project attempts to expand these activities. The Gender activities would therefore be reported separately.

The Project prepared a self-evaluation report consisting of proposals for improvements which was forwarded to the SCC evaluation team and the ICA authorities. Some of the ideas have been reflected on suggestions for future.

## Member Participation Activities

With the evaluation of the impact made by the CMPP approach in 5 countries, the first phase of the introduction of a new model ended. However, some requests continued to be received from Bangladesh, the Philippines and Sri Lanka to organize more trainings which have been postponed to 1995. The experience of CMPP in 5 countries has led to revise the CMPP Manual. The revised manual has already been published and circulated.

## Leadership Development

The HRD Advisor joined hands with the SCC and conducted a joint study

with an SCC consultant in India and Sri Lanka to identify the needs for leadership development. This is a first comprehensive study undertaken with the actual target groups and their co-operative organizations.

A project proposal was prepared and submitted to the SCC for funding. There has been a positive response to the proposal towards the end of the year.

## Improvement of Training Technology

The project with Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Co-operative Management in India came to an end during the year. The introduction of computers for training material production and desk-top publishing have been achieved. A specialised section with professional staff has been created and computer literacy and application programmes have been introduced at the Institute. The library has been computerised.

However, the aspect of data bank for trainees, computerised evaluation systems and markings as well as material bank have not been achieved. The management has set different priorities.

Another project undertaken in collaboration with the SCC is the improvement in the co-operative training system in Sri Lanka.

As a preliminary step, a national workshop on training policy and strategies has been held already. 42 delegates from the government, national federations, consultancy and regulatory agencies, training institutions and primary co-operatives participated. Few adhoc committees on policy, member and leadership development and training systems have started operating by the end of the year. A comprehensive performance analysis of co-operatives has been undertaken to identify training needs. Firstly a foundation course for operational level employees would be developed.



*Survey on Leadership Development Needs - State Co-operative Union, Hyderabad, India*



*Seventh meeting of the ICA Committee on HRD, Kobe, Japan - Sept, 1994*

### **Networking**

The MOU signed last year could not be implemented during the year as there were basic issues on the structure, raised at the HRD Committee meeting held at Kobe in September. The revised Terms of Reference was prepared subsequently, which need to be ratified at the next meeting.

A strategic alliance has been set up with the ILO-COOPNET project to enter into networking. As one of such activities, a manual on Personnel Policies for Co-operatives has been adapted by the ICA-ILO Technical team and subsequently tested at a Regional workshop in November. 18 participants from national level federations from India, Indonesia, Philippines, Sri Lanka and China participated.

### **Meetings**

The HRDA participated in the ICA statutory meetings during the year. He made presentations at the Executive Council meeting held in Colombo and the Regional Assembly held in New Delhi.

### **7th Meeting of the ICA Committee on HRD for Asia and the Pacific**

The JCCU and Kobe Co-operative College hosted the 7th meeting of the HRD Committee in September. 14 delegates from 7 countries partici-

pated at the meeting. 5 INCOTEC Executive Committee members too participated at the meeting. The important decisions taken were:

- The suggested Asia-Pacific Specialist Group on Co-operative Training and Education should be converted into a network with a term of reference under the HRD Committee.
- Launch activities under the network as suggested.
- A report on the problems of co-operative training institutions to be prepared and hold discussions to find solutions.

A consultation with the INCOTEC Executive member was also held alongwith the Committee meeting. The consultation decided to hold an international workshop in Egypt in which Asian members too will be invited.

### **Consultancy Services and Collaborative activities**

The HRDA provided consultancy services to SCC bi-lateral programmes in Sri Lanka. The activities were in the area of improvement of training systems of co-operatives, development activities for disadvantaged youth and study circle activities. Two project proposals have been prepared and facilitated the negotiations between the SCC and the NCC. They were in operation by the end of the year.



*The Advisor participated in a Survey on Consumer Co-operatives in Fiji*

At the request of the JCCU and the CCDP, the HRDA alongwith CCDA conducted a study on consumer co-operatives in Fiji, Tonga, Vanuatu, Solomon islands and Papua New Guinea with a view to prepare a long term development plan for South Pacific. The study conducted during May and June revealed the problems faced by consumer co-operatives. Many are in the areas of capital formation, organizational development and empowerment of members. Politicisation of co-operatives is relatively marginal, except in the case of PNG. A report has already been prepared and submitted to JCCU and the Pacific countries for further action.

The HRDA visited Sweden at the invitation of SCC to discuss with its partners the possibilities of future collaboration with SCC initiated projects in the region. The visits to new co-operative groups,

Konsum school, ecological centre and SLR companies widened the experience that could be utilised in updating development strategies in the Region.

The involvement in the South Asian Leadership forum organized by SANASA, Sri Lanka, in collaboration with the CCA paved way for project collaboration further. The project has maintained the dissemination of training opportunities offered by many international agencies and training institutions. The information has been mutually beneficial.

### **Publications**

During the year, the project continued to publish its magazine 'COOP DIALOGUE'. With the new policy changes in the subject of publications, the project took over the publication

of Asian Co-op News. The COOP DIALOGUE widened the scope to become a journal dealing with development issues rather than HRD subject only. Three issues of COOP DIALOGUE and 2 issues of Asian Co-op News have been published during the year, besides the publication of the 1993 Annual Report.

### **Developing Relations with UN agencies**

The project continued to maintain communication with UN agencies such as ILO and FAO-RAPA. Specially, joint activities have been organ-



*Presentation by the HRD Advisor at the Konsum School, Stockholm*

ized with the ILO COOPNET project.

### **Future**

The future expansion of HRD institutional activities essentially lies with the improvements in the capital base.

The block funding from traditional partners continues to be reduced as a common problem and member organizations are gradually increasing their involvement though acceleration is not that felt. With the change of strategies for activities by 1995, more widespread activities are envisaged.

The Project would continue to collaborate with other business projects on consultancy basis as Human Resource Development is an integral component of any type of co-operative enterprise.

**G**ender Integration Project has become independent from Human Resource Development Project since July 1994.

Ms. Akiko Yamauchi was appointed as the new Gender Programme Advisor after Ms. Uma Mukherji's expiring her contract in January 1994.

#### **Advisory & Consultancy Services**

The advisor collaborated with ICA Head Office to draft a global action plan for women in co-operatives according to the ICA Policy on Women. The Gender Programme Advisor accompanied a mission and visited India and Sri Lanka in March 1994. A research was conducted by the visiting government officials, national co-operative organizations, state and district level organizations and various kinds of primary co-operatives to see activities regarding women and gender issues.

The Gender Advisor attended the workshop on Role of Women Co-operatives in Rural Development, from 26-27 April, 1994 at Lucknow, on the invitation of the Institute for Co-operative and Corporate Management, Lucknow.

entation Programme for mobilizers and field education officers, held in Delhi, March 1995.

#### **Collaboration with UN Agencies**

The Fourth World Conference on Women will be held in September, 1995. Therefore regional preparatory conferences were held in all regions in 1994. As the ICA representative, the Gender Programme Advisor participated, at the UN-ESCAP Second Asia and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Women in Development, held at Jakarta from 7-11 June, 1994. One of the achievement of the conference was the emphasis on NGOs' contribution including co-operatives to the advancement of women. Co-operatives were referred especially in playing a big role to enhance women's participation in economics in the Plan of Action for the advancement of women in the region which was adopted in the conference.

In collaboration with the Inter-Regional Programme COOPNET of the ILO and the ICA, the Workshop on "Gender Issues in Co-operative HRD: From theory to Practice" was held at the International Institute - Histadrut Israel, from 20-25 November, 1994.

## **Gender Integration Activities**



*Ms. Yamauchi at the UN-ESCAP Second Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference in Jakarta*

The National Co-operative Union of India invited the Advisor to make a presentation on Gender and Co-operatives for the participants of the ori-

The Gender Programme Advisor attended this workshop as the representative of ICA ROAP and contributed to the discussion. National level



*The Gender Programme Advisor studied the working of Credit Union Co-operatives in Thailand*

workshops on Gender Issues will be organized jointly by ILO-CO-OPNET and ICA ROAP according to the recommendation of this workshop.

### **Follow-up and review of Gender Integration in Co-operatives**

During the Gender Planning Conference held at Tokyo in 1993, a statement Calling for Action and Resolution for the future was adopted and each participant drafted their own country action plan. The Gender Programme Advisor is in the process of following-up each country's action plan by both visits and correspondence. A report of this follow-up will be prepared towards the Fourth UN World Conference on Women in Beijing.

According to this activity, some progress have been reported like the National Co-operative council of Sri Lanka has conducted a gender sensitization training for co-operative leaders, the Co-operative League of Thailand has finalised a national master plan for Development of Gender Integration in Co-operative Movement in Thailand and the Japanese Consumer Co-operative Union has also finalised a gender integration action plan for Japanese consumer co-operatives.

### **Training for Gender issues in Co-operatives**

The first workshop for testing Gender Sensitization and Planning

Modules was held in Colombo, Sri Lanka from 13-17 March, 1995. These modules are focusing on sensitization on Gender Issues in co-operatives and acquiring skills of gender planning for co-operative leaders and decision makers. After modifying, it would be finalized by the end of 1995.

The Gender Sensitization Training for the ICA ROAP staff was organized from 7-10 November, 1994. All staff of ICA Regional office attended the sensitization training on gender issues, and only technical staff participated in the course for Gender Analysis and Planning.

### **Participation in Meetings/Conferences**

The Advisor attended the Third Ministerial Conference held in Colombo during July, 1994. She also attended the 7th meeting of the ICA Committee on Human Resource Development for Asia and the Pacific held at Kobe, Japan during September, 1994 and the First Regional Assembly of the ICA in New Delhi in January, 1995. Both at the HRD meeting and the Regional Assembly, the Gender Advisor made presentations on gender integration project activities.

### **Some Future Activities proposed**

13 countries have committed to gender related activities, since the ICA ROAP launched gender programmes in 1991. However, there are 10 countries left to apply gender concept in their planning and operations. Therefore, the ICA ROAP will organize two sub-regional workshops for these countries to explore gender issues in co-operatives in Malaysia and Bangladesh. The project will try to identify and learn from experiences relevant to gender integration in co-operatives, collect some case studies on gender related activities, women in co-operatives or women's activities in co-operatives and try to disseminate the findings.



*At the women's Dairy Co-operative, Lucknow, India*

## Second Part of the Eighth Course

### *Follow-up Review Workshops in Sri Lanka and Thailand*

The Eighth ICA Japan Management Training Course started in New Delhi on October 20, 1993 and continued till the 21st April 1994. The first part of the training programme in India was followed by two National Review Follow-up Workshops in Sri Lanka held between December 23 and 31, 1993 and in Thailand from 1st to 11th January 1994.

Sri Lankan Follow-up Workshop was attended by nine out of ten former participants and Thai Follow-up Workshop had participation of six out of 12 former participants. The Workshop was informed that the following five projects have been implemented in Sri Lanka and are in full operation:

- i. Increasing income of small farmers through producing quality rubber sheets
- ii. Modern Rice Mill Project in Mahaweli H Area
- iii. Modernisation of Desiccated Coconut Mill Project
- iv. Vegetable and Fruit Collection and Marketing project
- v. Rice Mill project in Aranayake MPCs.

In addition, the participants informed that three projects have been approved in principle for implementation in future and one project stands abandoned.

The Thai workshop was informed that the following six projects have been implemented either in their original form or slightly modified form to suit the requirements of the respective co-operatives:

- i. Sericulture Promotion and Raw Silk Production Project
- ii. Production of Vermicelli (Noodles) Project
- iii. Expansion of Rice Mill Project
- iv. Shelling Machines for Soybeans Project
- v. Promotion of Income-generating Activities for Women members
- vi. Rice mill project by Sanaphong Agricultural Co-operative.

After the Review Workshop in Thailand, 15 participants of the Eighth Course left for their home countries to prepare Project Proposals based on the activities of their own cooperatives or commodities handled by them.

## Second Part at IDACA

The second part of the 8th training course was held at IDACA from 21st February to 21st April 1994. The

# Agri-Coop Management Training Activities



*Dr. V. Kurien inaugurates the IRMA Management Module at IRMA, Anand*



inaugural session of the course held at IDACA on 21st February was addressed by Mr G.K.Sharma, ICA Regional Director; Mr Bruce Thordarson, Director General, ICA, Geneva; Mr Takayoshi Sudo, Dy Director, International Co-operation Department, MAFF; Mr Hiroshi Nishido, General Manager, International Department of JA Zenchu, and Mr Shiro Futagami, Managing Director of IDACA.

Mr Bruce Thordarson, addressing the inaugural session, said the ICA is trying to strengthen the management base of co-operatives through this programme and is pleased with the collaboration of MAFF, JA Zenchu and IDACA and

milling, two on processing of fruit and vegetables, five on dairy and related business, one on fish culture, one on rubber processing, two on seed production, one on processing buckwheat and gram production and marketing.

Participants were exposed to various management aspects of the Japanese Agricultural Movement by resource persons invited from different co-operative organisations in Japan and also prepared a Regional Agricultural Promotion Plan as an exercise.

Study visits to agricultural co-operatives were arranged in Fukuoka and Tochigi Prefectures of Japan.



*Inauguration of the Ninth course by H.E. Seiji Kojima, Charge-de-Affairs of the Embassy of Japan in India.*

thanked them for their full support. Mr Thordarson added that the recent evaluation sessions regarding implementation of several projects in different countries, justify for the success of a course of this nature.

The second part of the training programme in IDACA included project appraisal sessions where the 15 project proposals prepared by the participants during their Home Country Assignments were analysed and appraised. Prof. A. H. Kalro from Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, was invited as a resource person. The project proposals prepared included two on rice

Certificates of attendance were awarded to the participants on completion of the course on 20th April, on behalf of the ICA and the IDACA.

#### **Discussions with MAFF**

During his visit to Tokyo, Mr. Bruce Thordarson, Director General, ICA, accompanied by the Regional Director and the Project Director, held

discussions with the Director General and other senior officials of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries (MAFF) of the Government of Japan on the past performance of the Project and the future collaborations. The Govt. of Japan was appreciative of the execution of the Project.

#### **9th Management Training Course**

The 9th ICA Japan Agricoops Management Training Programme commenced in New Delhi from October 31, 1994 and continued till end of December 1994. The Training Course was formally inaugurated by H.E. Seiji Kojima, Charge-de-Affairs

of the Embassy of Japan in India on 31st October 1994. The programme will be held in India, Indonesia and Japan from October 31 1994 to April 22, 1995.

Fifteen participants from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Korea, Myanmar, Philippines and Vietnam are attending the current course.

The programme included study visits to agricultural co-operatives in Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat States of India. Country background papers presented by the participants giving the latest position in their co-operative movements helped other participants to know about each other's movement.

The Management Modules covering integrated co-operative system, planning and financial management, and project preparation were organised this year in collaboration with the faculty members of the Institute of Rural Management, IRMA, Anand. These modules were conducted at the campus of IRMA with its added advantages of library, computer lab etc.

The first part of the training course concluded on 31st December 1994 and the participants left for their home countries for preparation of their project proposals.

#### **Programme in 1995**

All the participants will reassemble in Jakarta, Indonesia, to participate in the Indonesian Follow up Review Workshop and the Study Visits programme arranged in that country from 7th February to 20th February, 1995.

The second part of the training programme in Japan will be held at IDACA from 21st February to 22nd April 1995.

#### **Tenth Course Approved**

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of the Government of Japan (MAFF) have ap-

proved the grant of funds for holding the Tenth ICA Japan Management Training Programme and the 5th ICA/ Japan Training Course for Women Leaders of Agricultural Co-operatives in Asia, on the same lines as in the previous years.

#### **4th ICA Japan Training Course for Women Leaders of Agricultural Co-operatives in Asia, 1994**

The fourth training programme for women leaders of agricultural co-operatives was held at IDACA, Japan, from October 17 to November 12, 1994. Six participants, two each from India, Jordan and Sri Lanka attended this year's programme. So far 24 women leaders were trained from various countries of Asia.

The main emphasis on this programme to facilitate improvement of living standards of farm households through women's participation in agricultural co-operative activity with a view to:

- i) provide opportunities for the development of leadership among rural women through training,
- ii) provide encouragement for creating for them income-generating activities, and
- iii) to assist in the formulation of rural development projects for women's participation. The programme is financially supported by the Government of Japan in the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF).

The course was organised in collaboration with the Central Union of Agricultural Co-operatives of Japan (JA Zenchu), IDACA-Japan and the National Council of Women's Associations of Agricultural Co-operatives (WAAC-JA Zen Fukyo). During their training in Japan, the participants had a close interaction with the women's associations of agricultural co-operatives, primary level women leaders, besides field visits and class-room work.



*Women co-operative leaders attended the 4th Training course in Japan*

## CICOPA Activities

The CICOPA project continued to extend collaboration with two project sites of NCUI - Rajasthan and Bangalore during 1994.

The Project completed an indepth survey of problems of weavers in Rajasthan. The local government approved the concept of co-operative groups and registered 17 weavers' co-operatives. Annual general meetings of primary co-operatives too were conducted.

Although purchase orders for 70,000 metres of cotton handloom fabrics for national channelling agency have been obtained, the production could not be started due to capital mobilization problems. An alternative credit line through a UNDP supported project has been sought.

Mr. Kidai Uchida, President, Jigyodan, Japan, visited SAMFED at Jaipur along with a delegation.

CICOPA project in Jaipur supported 2 women co-operatives sponsored by SCC to come under the development plan of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission. Two more women co-operative groups are under formation.

The CICOPA project carried out an indepth study in regard to the status of metalware co-operatives in



*Women co-operators in Agra, India*

Moradabad and identified six primary co-operatives to improve their conditions. Relations with local administrative authorities are established. Small Industries Development Corporation of Rajasthan has agreed to provide showroom facilities in Delhi for co-operatives in Moradabad.

Four (4) women's groups working with CASP Plan project of the Plan International (India) have been identified for direct services of CICOPA project.

CICOPA unit also studied the problems of labour and construction co-operatives in Haryana and advised the State Labour Co-operative Federation to venture into sophisticated linear construction and glass construction. A training programme to this effect has been prepared in collaboration with Indian Agricultural Research Institute.



*ICA CICOPA organised a workshop in collaboration with UNDP, TITS, SAMFED & WSC at Jaipur. CICOPA Consultant Mr. Rajiv Mehta is second from left.*

# Calander for 1995

## ICA/Committee Meetings

01. ICA Regional Assembly Meeting, New Delhi, 4-7 January.
02. ICA ROAP Planning Meeting, New Delhi, 9-11 January.
03. ICA ROAP Advisory Group Meeting, Singapore, 9-10 March.
04. ICA ROAP Fisheries Committee Meeting, Manila, 28-30 April.
05. ICA ROAP Agricultural Committee Meeting, Seoul, 29 August to 1 September.
06. ICA Congress, Manchester, 20-23 September.
07. ICA ROAP HRD Committee Meeting, Colombo, June.
08. ICA ROAP Consumer Committee Meeting and Sub-Committee Meeting, 28-30 November.
09. ICA ROAP Executive Council Meeting, New Delhi, November.
11. Sub-regional Workshop on Consumer Co-operative Management, Bombay, 19-25 April.
12. International Workshop on Strategy for Co-operative Development in Vietnam, Hanoi, 16-19 May.
13. ACCU Micro Enterprise Workshop, 24-30 May.
14. Fact Finding Mission-cum-Training & Consumer Committee Meeting, Mongolia, 16-30 June.
15. National Workshop on Consumer Co-operatives, Comilla, 31 July to 3 August.
16. Sub-Regional Workshop on Gender Planning, Malaysia, August.
17. National Workshop on Consumer Co-operatives, Colombo, August.
18. CMPP Seminar in Bangladesh, August.
19. Regional Perspective Planning on Consumer Co-operatives for five countries, Thailand, 21-26 August.

## Workshops/Seminars/Conferences

01. CMPP Facilitation Seminar, Colombo, 21 February to 7 March.
02. 2nd part of the 9th ICA/Japan Training Course for Strengthening Management of Agricultural Co-operatives, IDACA, Tokyo, 21 February to 22 April.
03. CCA Regional Cooperative Enterprise Workshop, Hanoi, 25 February to 2nd March.
04. Regional Seminar on Integrated Co-op Development through Agro-Processing, Pune, 28 February to 16 March.
05. Co-op Sector Symposium, Manila, 6-7 March.
06. Workshop on Testing Gender Sensitisation and Planning Modules, Colombo, 13-17 March.
07. Workshop of Principals of Co-operative Training Institutions in Asia and Pacific, Anand, 20-24 March.
08. Sub-Regional Workshop on Consumer Co-operatives, Calcutta, 20-24 March.
09. Self-financed workshop on Consumer Co-operatives, Imphal, 27-29 March.
10. Self-financed Workshop on Consumer Co-operatives, Chandigarh, 7-11 April.
20. CCA Planning Session, Ottawa, September.
21. National seminar on Consumer Co-operatives, New Delhi, 16-18 October.
22. National Co-op Workshop, Bangkok, November.
23. 5th Training Course for Rural Women Leaders of Agricultural Co-operatives in Asia, Tokyo, November.
24. 1st part of the 10th ICA/Japan Training Course for Strengthening Management of Agricultural Co-operatives, India, October/November.
25. National Workshop on University Co-operatives, Malaysia, 4-6 November.
26. ICA Consultation on HRD for Asia-Pacific, Sri Lanka, November.
27. Sub-Regional Workshop on Gender Planning, Dhaka, November.
28. National Workshop on University Co-operatives in Thailand, 11-13 November.
29. Regional Seminar on Perspective Planning for Regional Development, Tokyo, 6-25 November.
30. National Symposium on Co-operative Competitiveness, India, December.



*ICA Centennial  
Manchester, 1995*

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Report  
1993

ICA IN ASIA  
AND  
THE PACIFIC



ICA Centennial  
MANCHESTER - 1995



'Bonow House'

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Cover Photo : ICA representatives meet HE D. B. Wijetunge,  
President of Sri Lanka alongwith the Hon. Minister of  
Food and Cooperatives

## WE, THE INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE

## THE ICA

**T**he Co-operatives all over the world came together to form the International Co-operative Alliance in 1895 in London. It is also the largest and oldest international non-governmental organization in the world.

In recognition of its services to promote peace, social and economic justice and development for all nations, United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) granted Category 1 consultative status.

The International Co-operative Alliance grew over the years. The ICA stands today as strong as over 237 member organisations in over 102 countries.

The individual membership is about 720 million.

The only office at London in early stages extended to 5 regional offices in Asia, Africa and the Americas. The Head Office is located at Geneva at present.

### Our Mission

**The International Co-operative Alliance is an independent, non-governmental association which unites, represents and serves co-operatives worldwide.**

### Our Objectives

The ICA as a universal representative of co-operative organisations of all kinds, shall have the following objects:

- a) to promote the world co-operative movement, based upon mutual self-help and democracy;
- b) to promote and protect co-operative values and principles;
- c) to further the economic and social progress of people, thereby contributing to international peace and security.





# Highlights 1993

- Jan Chinese and Australian co-operatives sign an agreement for joint ventures facilitated by the ICA ROAP.
- Feb. Revival of the Gender Programme of the ICA ROAP with the assistance from JCCU and SCC.
- March Regional Conference on Gender Planning in Co-operatives - Tokyo, Japan. Declaration and new Action Plan formulated.



*Mr. G. K. Sharma, Regional Director for Asia & the Pacific*

## Message from the Regional Director

The Tokyo Congress in October, 1992 completed the process of restructuring of the ICA. Consequently the area as also the membership of the Asia and Pacific Region has expanded considerably. From 53 members from 18 countries prior to the restructuring, the membership has now increased to 61 members from 24 countries and one international organisation. This has increased the responsibility of the ROAP considerably while the financial resources remain more or less at the same level. Also, the newly established Regional Assembly has representation from all the 61 members. Earlier, the Regional Council had only two representatives from each country. While this increases the size of the Regional Assembly which will require more elaborate arrangements for organising the meeting, it will also give a chance to the ROAP to have better contacts directly with all our members.

The countries in the region are passing through many economic reforms and

liberalisation of the trade policies. Consequently, co-operatives will have to face the effects and consequences of these changes. One direct effect of these changes seems to be reduced financial assistance to the co-operatives and in some cases complete stoppage. However, this reduction in financial assistance may also help in accelerating the process of autonomy of the co-operatives from state control. Thus in the years to come co-operatives will have to face many challenges, for which the movement must restructure itself so as to strengthen enlightened and dedicated leadership, professionally competent management and more active member participation in the affairs of the co-operatives. Co-operatives must also come closer to each other and develop economic relations, so as to face the challenges of multinationals and big business houses.

The ROAP will continue to do its best in providing technical assistance, know-how and information to the member movements so that they can face the incoming challenges and serve their members better.

- April
- ICA ROAP reorganizes its structure. The Beijing consultation of member organizations recommended the establishment of a Regional Assembly and Regional Executive Council. The last Regional Council approved this reform.
  - Mr. Yang Deshou elected Chairman of Regional Meeting.
  - Mr. M.Horiuchi is unanimously elected to be the ICA Vice President for the Region.
  - Mr. Ian McPherson appeals to member organisations to respond to Co-operative Values Committee.
  - New ICA member countries - Israel, Uzbekistan, Mongolia, Kyrgistan & Turkmenistan join the Regional Assembly.
- June
- National workshop on the Status of Artisanal Co-operatives, Bangalore, India
- July
- National workshop on new Draft Co-operative Law, in Vietnam, Hanoi.
  - Administration of the ICA ROAP Library transferred to Bonow Trust Fund.
  - Introduction of new ICA ROAP Members from Israel, Jordan, Kazakstan, Kuwait, Mongolia and Myanmar.
- August
- Establish consultative relationship with INCOTEC by the HRD Committee.
  - Establish HRD Network.
  - Visit of Sri Lankan delegation headed by the Hon. State Minister for Cooperatives, Mr. Ravindra Samaraveera.
- Oct.
- 8th MAFF Programme inaugurated.
  - ICA President, Mr. Lars Marcus attends Vietnamese Co-operative Congress in Hanoi.
- Nov.
- Annual Planning Meeting of the ICA ROAP.
  - A new 3-year plan for the ICA ROAP.
  - Updated profile of ICA member countries in Asia & Pacific published.
- Dec.
- Establish contacts with new member country Myanmar.
  - Asean Sub-Regional preparatory meeting for Ministers Conference at Solo, Indonesia.

The actual effect of 1988 ICA Congress resolutions came to effect in 1993. Firstly, the new structure for the ICA and secondly, the follow-up activities to the study on Co-operative Values. These changes not only changed the future visions and development priorities for the organization, but also proved that it is a dynamic and transient system which responds to the global changes.

The Asia-Pacific Region of the ICA realised the direct democracy in functioning by changing the previous method of having only 2 representatives per country, by adopting a resolution to change the Constitution to allow at least



one representative per Member Organisation for the Regional Assembly. This resolution adopted at Beijing Regional Assembly on 20 April also permits more members in keeping with the contributions made to the Regional development work. In order to make the ICA more open for promotional activities, observers from other Regions and non-member co-operative organizations as well as promotional bodies will be allowed to attend.

This change fulfilled a long felt grievance on the part of many member organisations. The attendance of the first meeting itself increased to 79 delegates in contrast to previous restrictions of 42 representatives.

As the new global ICA Rules provide for a General Assembly during alternative years, the Regional Assembly too will meet once in 2 years, except in the case of an emergency. In order to assist the Regional Office, the Regional Assembly decided to establish a Regional Executive Council, consisting of one representative from each member country. In addition, chairpersons of Specialised Committees of the Region would be included in the Executive Council. This will support the technical activities of the ROAP while keeping close links with policy making bodies.

The global restructuring of the ICA had a positive effect for the ICA ROAP. The geographical coverage of the Region expanded tremendously gaining more strength. With the new demarcation, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan have been added, which means the Regional office will cover middle east, south, west, south-east, far-east as well as pacific rim.

The size of the membership grew accordingly. In the present context, the Region consists of 63% of the individual membership and 29% of the institutional membership of the ICA. In this respect, Europe is still high with 43 per cent of institutional membership. This also explains the financial strength and the developmental level of Euro-

pean co-operatives. The ICA ROAP still has more third-world membership, belonging to developing countries in which majority of individual membership belong to poorer sectors.

The capital outlay of the ICA ROAP in 1993 still remained largely funded by ICA partners - SCC, CCA and member organizations in Japan (JCCU, JA- Zenchu). The partnership with

## 1993 • An Year of Transition



*ICA President & Regional Director at  
Vietnam Co-operative Congress*

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan in relation to longterm agricultural management training pro-gramme continued for 1993 too. However, member organizations took increased share of activity costs during the year under review. Their share of contributions increased to from 36% to 42% (appx.) of the total cost last year. The total ICA ROAP estimated cost of operations for 1992-93 was CHF. 3,511,460 and 1993/94 was CHF. 3,616,435.

The increasing difficulties on the part of the traditional partners some how eased out temporarily with the increased support from the MOs. and the CCA. The CCA supports a project on Policy Formulation and Legislation based on the Co-operative Ministers' Conference, which has a budget of CHF.765,810 (CHF.39,420 from CCA, CHF.16,830 from SDID and the balance from MOs).

Eventually, with the global changes in the case of former socialist countries in the Eastern Europe and Soviet Union, as well as developments in Latin America would affect the ICA ROAP budget. The steady economic growth rates in South East Asia has not yet fully reflected in the growth of co-operative move-



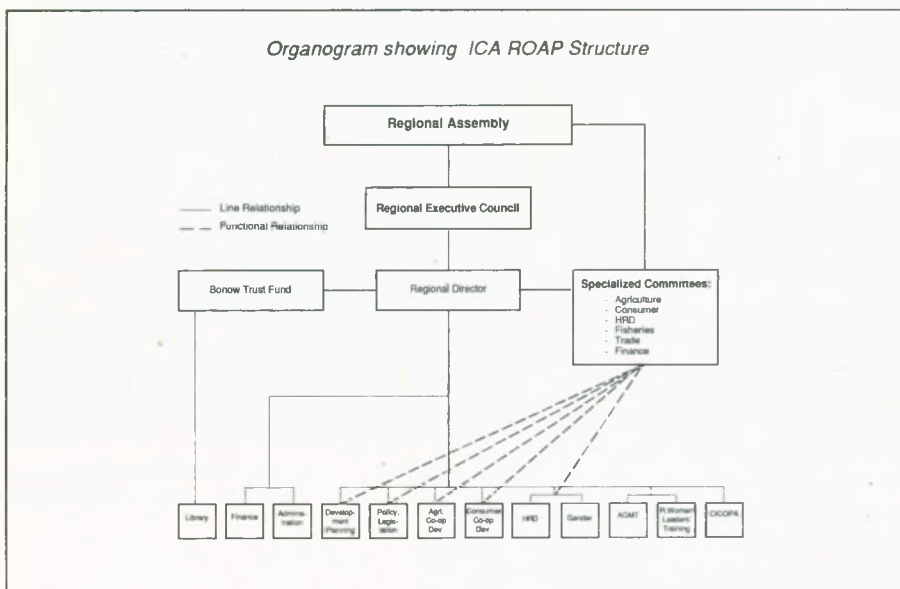
Discussions on ICA ROAP-CCA partnership

ments remain relatively poor, if not declining. The added burden is the weaker co-operative movements in middle east, former Soviet Union and the Pacific region. One of the most affected experience is the collapse of Australian Association of Co-operatives (AAC) during the year, which is now under liquidation.

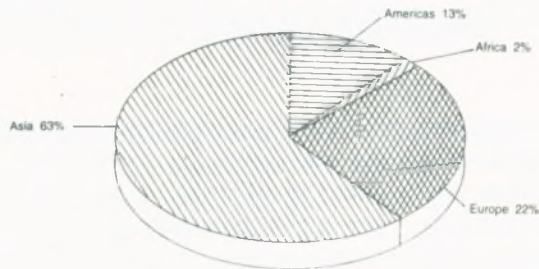
The Asia-Pacific Co-operative Centre created to bring Asia-Pacific co-operatives closer had ambitious plans under which some of the activities were carried out. The centre still functions marginally with the hope that it may develop different capital structures from its affiliates. It is our fervent hope that on-going joint collaborative efforts by Australian and Chinese co-operatives for joint venture may change the picture in the future.

In terms of development activities, a new 3-year plan was formulated. The new plan covers the period from July, 1994 to June, 1997. It will have a new project - Gender Integration in Co-operatives. In addition, the emphasis on supporting sub-regional self-financed co-operative efforts, democratization of legislation, technology transfer, environment and sustainable development are some of the key areas of work. The ICA ROAP continues to promote new form of co-operatives in marginalised groups such as indigenous people, labour, artisans and the groups who will eventually get displaced during the structural adjustment programmes of the government who have accelerated free market economies.

Project formulation on such specific target groups and campaign to create awareness among ICA members has already started. The growing parallel co-operative culture in addition to established co-operative systems is another area of study so that the Regional office would continue to evolve itself into a forerunner in the growing and transient co-operative sector.



ICA Membership by Region



### Our members

Bangladesh Jatiya Samabaya Union  
 All China Federation of Supply & Marketing Co-ops, China  
 Fiji Co-operative Union Ltd.  
 National Co-operative Union of India  
 National Co-operative Consumers' Federation Ltd.  
 Indian Farmers' Fertiliser Co-operative Ltd.  
 National Agri. Co-op. Marketing Federation of India Ltd.  
 National Co-op. Agri. and Rural Dev. Banks' Federation  
 National Federation of State Co-op. Banks Ltd.  
 Krishak Bharati Co-operative Ltd.  
 All India Federation of Co-operative Spinning Mills Ltd.  
 National Co-operative Dairy Federation of India Ltd.  
 National Co-operative Housing Federation Ltd.  
 National Fed. of Urban Co-op Banks and Credit Societies  
 Dewan Koperasi Indonesia  
 Central Organisation for Rural Co-operatives of Iran  
 Central Union of Rural Co-operatives  
 General Co-operative Union, Iraq  
 Hevrat Ha'Ovdim (General Co-op. Assn. of Labour in Israel Ltd)  
 Central Union of Agricultural Co-operatives (JA-Zenchu), Japan  
 Japanese Consumers' Co-operative Union  
 National Fed. of Fisheries Co-op. Association  
 National Fed. of Forest Owners' Co-op. Association  
 The Norinchukin Bank (Central Co-op. Bank for Agri. & Forestry)  
 National Fed. of Agricultural Co-op. Associations  
 IE-NO-HIKARI Association  
 National Mutual Insurance Fed. of Agricultural Co-operatives  
 National Press & Information Fed. of Agri. Co-operatives  
 The Japanese Workers' Co-operative Union  
 National Fed. of Workers & Consumers' Insurance Co-ops.  
 Jordan Co-operative Organisation

National Agricultural Co-op. Federation, Rep. of Korea  
 National Livestock Co-op. Federation  
 National Federation of Fisheries Co-ops.  
 National Credit Union Fed. of Korea  
 Korean Fed. of Community Credit Co-ops.  
 Union of Agricultural Products Co-op. Societies, Kuwait  
 Union of Consumer Co-operative Societies  
 Union of Consumer Societies, Kyrgystan  
 ANGKASA (National Co-op. Organisation of Malaysia)  
 Co-operative Union of Malaysia  
 Malaysian Co-operative Insurance Society  
 National Land Finance Co-operative Society Ltd.  
 The Malaysian Co-operative Consumer Society Ltd.  
 Central Union of Mongolian Consumers' Co-operatives  
 Central Co-operative Society, Myanmar  
 National Co-operative Union of Pakistan  
 Sind Govt. Employees' Co-op. Housing Society Ltd.  
 Co-operative Union of the Philippines Inc.  
 Sugar Co-op. Development Institute of the Philippines  
 National Confederation of Co-op. Inc., Philippines  
 Federation of Free Farmers' Co-op. Inc., Philippines  
 Singapore National Co-operative Federation Ltd.  
 National Co-operative Council of Sri Lanka  
 Federation of Thrift & Credit Co-op. Societies Ltd.  
 Sri Lanka Co-operative Marketing Federation Ltd.  
 Sri Lanka Consumer Co-op. Societies Federation Ltd.  
 Co-operative League of Thailand  
 Union of Consumer Societies, Turkmenistan  
 Uzbek Republican Union of Consumer Societies  
 Central Council of Vietnam Co-operative Unions  
 Asian Confederation of Credit Unions, Bangkok

## Our Members Our Strength

### Our Member Countries

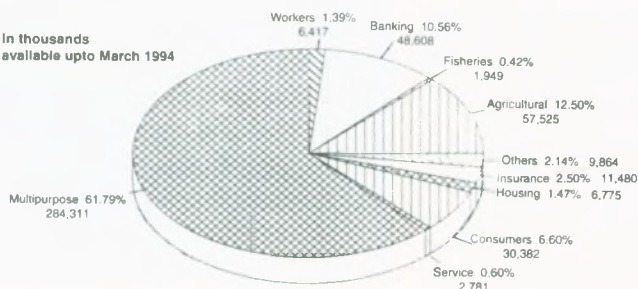
Name of country	Initial Joining	Present joining
Afghanistan	1987	-
Australia	1989	-
Bangladesh		1962
China	1966	1985
Fiji		1988
India	1897	1925
Indonesia		1958
Iran	1934	1988
Iraq		1975
Israel		1925
Japan	1908	1951
Jordan		1959
Kora, Rep. of	1934	1963
Kuwait		1982
Kyrgystan		1993
Malaysia		1957
Mongolia		1993
Myanmar	1957	1993
Pakistan	1951	1984
Philippines		1977
Singapore	1960	1985
Sri Lanka	1957	1973
Thailand		1971
Turkmenistan		1993
Uzbekistan		1993
Vietnam		1988
ACCU, Bangkok		1992

### We are sorry to loose them as members

- Union of Peasants Co-operatives of the Rep. of Afghanistan
- Australian Association of Co-operatives Ltd
- Central Union of Consumers Co-operatives, Pyongyang, DPRK
- Federation of Housing Co-operatives, Malaysia
- Mercantile Co-operative Finance Corporation Ltd., Pakistan
- Sri Lanka Fisheries Co-operative Federation Ltd.
- Sri Lanka Coconut Producers Co-operative Societies Ltd.

ICA Membership in Asia and the Pacific by sector

Figures in thousands  
 Figures available upto March 1994



## Process of Restructuring of ICA=ROAP

### ICA Regional Meeting (Consultation) for Asia and the Pacific

The ICA Regional Meeting for Asia and the Pacific was held in Beijing, China on April 21-22, 1993. Seventy nine delegates and observers from 16 countries viz. Australia, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Turkey, Uzbekistan and from Asian Confederation of Credit Union attended the

required changes in order to respond to the changing needs of the members. The goal of the new structure adopted in Tokyo Congress is to strengthen the members globally and regionally. In order to achieve this, technical collaboration and support of the members is essential for the ICA. The technical work of the ICA would be strengthened by the technical committees in the new structure.



*Regional Assembly Members posing for a photograph*

Meeting. The meeting was inaugurated by Mr. Zhang Haoruo, Minister for Domestic Trade. The meeting was also addressed by Mr. Pan Yao, Acting President and Mr. Yang Deshou, Secretary General of All China Federation of Supply and Marketing Co-operatives, Mr. Lars Marcus, President, ICA and Mr. G.K.Sharma, Regional Director, ICA ROAP.

The meeting unanimously elected Mr. Yang Deshou as its Chairman and nominated Mr. M.Horiuchi for the post of Vice Chairman of the ICA from the Region. The Meeting considered New Structure and Regional Assembly Draft Rules. Introducing the subject Mr. Bruce Thordarson, Director-General of ICA, introduced the subject and mentioned that the ICA is nearly 100 years old and it

Based on various suggestions during the discussions the meeting adopted the Regional Assembly Rules.

### The Next Regional Assembly

The Regional Meeting considered the invitation of Mr. B.S. Viswanathan, President of the National Cooperative Union of India, and recommended that the next Regional Assembly meeting be held in November 1994 in India.

## Last Meeting of the ICA Regional Council for Asia and the Pacific

The 35th and the last Meeting of the ICA Regional Council for Asia and the Pacific was held at Beijing, China, on 19th April 1993. Due to late arrival of Mr. A.S. Lozada, Chairman Mr. Yang Deshou, Member for China, was elected to preside the meeting. Mr. Yang Deshou, Secretary General, All China Federation of Supply and Marketing Co-ops welcomed the Councillors and other guests to the meeting. Meeting was addressed by Mr. Lars Marcus, President, ICA and Mr. Bruce Thordarson, Director-General, ICA.

The Council meeting was held in Beijing at the invitation of the All China Federation Supply & Marketing Co-operatives. The Secretary, Mr.G.K. Sharma, reported to the meeting about the non-attending members as well as about the observers present at the meeting.

The Council reviewed the activities of the ICA Regional Office and took note of the projected pro-grammes and activities. The Council discussed the question of future

- The meetings of the Executive Council may be convened in between the Regional Assembly Meetings and prior to the meetings of the Regional Assembly. The Regional Council which also serves as a Board of Advisers for the IDACA (Institute for the Development of Agricultural Co-operation in Asia, Tokyo) also took note of the activities carried out and the activities proposed to be carried out in the next year. It was decided to hold the next meeting of the re-constituted ICA Executive Council in Colombo, Sri Lanka, on 24th July, 1994.

The Regional Council is empowered to constitute Specialised Committees as may be desirable for the functioning of the Council. These committees have their own constitutions duly approved by the Regional Assembly.



*Mr. Bruce Thordarson, Director General of ICA and the Regional Director discussing a point with the Malaysian Minister of Co-ops*



*Mr. M. Horiuchi, ICA Vice President from the Region*

status of Regional Council in view of the restructuring and made the following recommendations for consideration by the Regional Meeting:

- The Regional Council may be replaced by Executive Council for the region.
- The Executive Council may consist of : (a) one delegate from each member country; (b) chairmen of Specialised Committees in the region.



*Mr. Yan Deshou, Chairman of the Regional Assembly*

### Restructuring of ICA Region

1. As a result of restructuring of ICA in Tokyo Congress and break of Soviet Union, the following countries were added to the Asia-Pacific Region :

- Iraq
- Israel
- Jordan
- Kuwait
- Kyrgystan
- Mongolia
- Myanmar
- Turkmenistan
- Uzbekistan

### Our new members

- General Co-operative Union, Baghdad, Iraq
- General Co-operative Association of Labour in Israel Ltd.
- National Federation of Workers and Consumers Insurance Co-op (Zenrosai), Tokyo
- The Japanese Workers Co-operative Union (Jigyodan)
- Jordan Co-operative Organisation, Amman, Jordan
- National Credit Union Federation of Korea (NACUFOK)
- Union of Agricultural Products Co-operative Societies, Safat, Kuwait
- Union of Consumer Co-operative Societies, Safat, Kuwait
- Union of Consumer Societies, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
- Central Union of Mongolian Consumers Co-operatives, Ulaanbaator, Mongolia
- Central Co-operative Society, Yangon, Myanmar
- Federation of Free Farmers Co-operatives, Quezon City, Philippines
- Union of Consumer Societies, Ashkhabad, Turkmenistan
- Uzbek Republican Union of Consumer Societies, Tashkent, Uzbekistan

### Meetings of the Specialised Committees held in 1993

1.	Consumer Committee	Suva	14-15th May, 1993
2.	Consumer Committee	Phuket	17-18 Nov. 1993
3.	HRD Committee	Singapore	16th Aug. '93
4.	Agriculture Committee	Hanoi	1-2 Nov. '93
5.	Committee on Trade & Industry	Phuket	18th Nov. '93

### THE FORMER REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

The Regional Council was the highest body in the region to advise and give direction to the Regional Director and the ROAP in formulating the overall policy concerning the activities of the Regional Office; reviewing the results of the activities of the Regional Office and serving as permanent contact organ between the national cooperative movements in the region and the Regional Office. The Council met annually. So far 35 meetings of the Regional Council were held, as per details given below:-

Meeting No.	Venue	Dates
1st	New Delhi, India	20-22 October, 1961
2nd	Tokyo, Japan	13-14 April, 1962
3rd	New Delhi, India	01-02 May, 1963
4th	Tokyo, Japan	17-18 April, 1964
5th	Nuwara Eliya, Sri Lanka	18-19 November, 1964
6th	New Delhi, India	25-26th November, 1965
7th	Manila, Philippines	24-25th October, 1966
8th	Tokyo, Japan	02-03, November, 1967
9th	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	13-14, November, 1968
10th	Tehran, Iran	01-02 March, 1969
11th	Seoul, Rep. of Korea	08-09, May 1970
12th	New Delhi, India	17-18, February, 1971
13th	Melbourne, Australia	08-09 November, 1971
14th	Chiangmai, Thailand	19-20 November, 1972
15th	Tokyo, Japan	30th October 1973
16th	Colombo, Sri Lanka	01-02 November, 1974
17th	Manila Philippines	07 December, 1975
18th	Tehran, Iran	07-08, November, 1976
19th	Bali, Indonesia	09-10, December, 1977
20th	Bangkok, Thailand	06-07, December, 1978
21st	Petaling Jaya, Malaysia	22-23, November, 1979
22nd	Colombo, Sri Lanka	15-16, November, 1980
23rd	Seoul, Rep. of Korea	29-30, October, 1981
24th	Manila, Philippines	11-12, November, 1982
25th	Tokyo, Japan	02-05 November, 1983
26th	Bangkok, Thailand	08 November, 1984
27th	New Delhi, India	21-22 August, 1985
28th	Tokyo, Japan	08 September, 1986
29th	New Delhi, India	08-09 September, 1987
30th	Singapore	02-03 June 1988
31st	Seoul, Rep. of Korea	15-16 May 1989
32nd	Sydney Australia	07-08 February, 1990
33rd	Chiangmai, Thailand	11-12 June, 1991
34th	Jakarta, Indonesia	15th February, 1992
35th	Beijing, China	19th April, 1993

The Development, Policy, Planning and Coordination Project (DPCP) is charged with the responsibility to coordinate the various ROAP development projects. The DPCP has four major activities :

1. Planning, Coordination and Evaluation
2. Research and Environment
3. Co-operative Policies and Development Issues
4. Information Resource Services.

The Senior Development Advisor, Mr. Malte Jonsson, is responsible for items 1 and 4. The Senior Policy Advisor, Mr. Robby Tulus, is responsible for items 2 and 3 above.

The objectives and priorities of the DPCP are laid down in the 1991-92 to 1993-94 Development Plan. The Work Plan and Budget for 1993-94 was discussed and approved in the ICA ROAP Annual Planning Meeting held at Tokyo on 31st October 1992. The plans and budgets are primarily based upon the expressed needs of the member-organisations. The member-organisations contributions towards the various ICA ROAP programmes now constitutes more than one-third of the total budget and more than two-thirds of the budget is financed from within the Region.

#### **Study Visit by five co-operative leaders from Vietnam on Co-operative Legislation in Thailand, Rep. of Korea, Japan and the Philippines**

During a three weeks programme, from 9th to 29th May 1993, the participants were exposed to the achievements of the co-operative movements in the four countries visited. The purpose of the programme was to study the co-operation legislation and its implementation.

The Co-operative League of Thailand (CLT), the National Agricultural Co-operative Federation of Korea (NACF), the Central Union of Agricultural Co-operatives of Japan (JAZENCHU), and the Co-operative Union of the Philippines (CUP) were the host organisations and the group experienced a very cordial reception, great hospitality and a very interesting and well-planned programme.

Co-operative laws and bye-laws were thoroughly presented and discussed. Of special interest was how laws and bye-laws could be amended and the procedures of amendments. Other interesting points for discussion were the cooperative ownership, government-movement relationship, financial control of the cooperatives, distribution of surplus and sharing of deficit. Four of the five Vietnamese participants were members of the Drafting Committee of the Co-operative Law in Vietnam.

Mr. Malte Jonsson, Senior Development Advisor of the ICA ROAP coordinated the programme. The financial assistance for this programme was provided by the Swedish Co-operative Centre (SCC).

#### **Workshop on Co-operative Law**

A workshop on Co-operative Law was held in Hanoi, Vietnam, from 7th to 9th June 1993 by ICA ROAP in collaboration with the Central Council of Supply and Marketing Co-operatives. 80 representatives from different ministries, government institutions and co-operative organisations and SCC participated in the workshop.

The objective of the workshop was to present the draft law to co-operative leaders,

## **Development, Policy, Planning and Coordination**



*Representatives from ICA ROAP/SCC with the Vietnamese delegation at the Co-operative Law Workshop in Hanoi*





*A group at the New Members' meeting in Delhi, July 93*

government representatives, members of the editing committee and media; to have their opinion; to ensure understanding and support, to get the law passed through the Parliament without further delay.

The Vice Chairman of State Planning Committee of Vietnam opened the workshop on Friday, 7th June 1993. The President of the Central Council of Vietnam Supply and Marketing Co-operatives, Mr. Hoang Minh Thang, delivered the welcome speech on behalf of the CCSSMC. On behalf of ICA ROAP, Mr. G.K. Sharma, Regional Director, and Mr. Karl Fogelstrom on behalf of SCC addressed the workshop.

Representatives from different types of co-operatives introduced the latest development in their sectors and after all these speeches the very lively discussion continued covering chapter by chapter of the draft law. During the discussions clarifications were given by Mr. Sharma and Mr. Nguyen Van Huy. They also made final summing-up remarks at the end of the workshop. The draft law was positively received at the workshop. No dramatic changes were proposed, but many of the comments will be reflected in the final draft.

After the closure the ICA and SCC representatives were received by the Vice Prime Minister of Vietnam, Mr. Tran Duc Luong.

The financial assistance for the workshop was provided by the Swedish Co-operative Centre (SCC).

#### **Meeting of new/prospective Members**

A meeting of new/prospective member-organisations to be served from the ICA ROAP under the new ICA organisational structure was held in New Delhi from 27th to 30th

July 1993. Ten delegates from six countries, namely, Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Mongolia and Myanmar, attended the meeting. The purpose of the meeting was (i) to inform about the policy and activities of the ICA ROAP; (ii) to be exposed to the co-operative development in the countries represented at the meeting; & (iii) to introduce the cooperative movement in India.

Visits were arranged to the National Co-operative Union of India (NCUI); National Co-operative Consumers' Federation (NCCF); Indian Farmers Fertiliser Co-operative Limited (IFFCO); National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED); and the Super Bazar (Co-operative Department Store) to give the participants an opportunity to study in detail about the Indian Co-operative Movement.

The participants discussed possible collaboration with the co-operative organisations in India as trade relations and consultancy in price regulations of agricultural products. Useful contacts for future business relations were established among the participants. The funding for the meeting was provided by the Swedish Co-operative Centre.

#### **ICA Development Partners and Development Forum Meetings, Geneva**

The SDA and SPA participated at the Development Partners Meeting on 6th September 1993 and the Development Forum the following day. Mr. Bruce Thordarson chaired the meeting. Mr. Claes Thorselius introduced the new ICA Development Strategy published in June 1993. This paper should guide the work of the Regional Office from



*Representatives from the Co-op Law Workshop in Vietnam were received by Vice Prime Minister of Vietnam, Mr. Tran Duc Luong*

1994-95. The different donor organisations presented their activities.

CCD (Denmark) informed that DANIDA is planning to finance a gender post at ICA Geneva. Before they take a decision, a consultant will be sent to the different ICA regions to study the gender situation which will help to form the job description for the post.

The Development Forum was held on the 7th September chaired by Mr. M.M. Dibba, Gambia. The presentations did not leave much time for discussions. About 40 persons participated including most of those who had participated at the Development Partners Meeting.

ILO informed about the meeting of Experts on Co-operatives held in Geneva in March/April 1993. The ICA was represented by Mr. Bruce Thordarson.

### NEDAC Meeting, China

The SDA represented ICA ROAP at the NEDAC meeting held in Beijing, China, from 25th to 29th October 1993. From the member organisations, nine countries had sent 20 representatives.

In addition to the ICA, FAO was represented by six and ILO by two persons. All participants, except two from India, came from the government sector. The objectives of the meeting were to review and identify members experiences, to plan for activities to be implemented during 1994, to study the agricultural co-operative development in China and to revise the constitution of NEDAC. Generally, the understanding was that co-operatives must become member controlled, independent organisations without Government interference. The FAO programmes are also working in this direction.

The meeting closed with a report from the NEDAC Secretariat on the Programme carried out in 1993, Financial matters, the Work Plan for 1994 and suggestions for changes in the NEDAC constitution. Concerning the Work Plan for 1994, the ICA representative mentioned the ICA plan to organise in collaboration with NEDAC a regional workshop in Bangkok on "Co-operative Data Bank and its Network-

ing", provided that ICA can solve the financing problems. This activity was included in the NEDAC Work Plan for 1994.

The last day of the meeting, following one day's field visit, the Draft Report was discussed and after some changes in the text the Report was adopted and the final version will be distributed from the Secretariat.

### ICA ROAP Annual Planning Meeting

The ICA ROAP Annual Planning Meeting was held at the ICA Regional Office in New Delhi from 22nd to 26th November 1993. The meeting reviewed the work plan and budget of the Regional Office for 1993-94 and finalised the work plan and budget for the year 1994-95. The meeting also discussed the three-year (1994-95 to 1996-97) Development Plan of the ROAP.

The meeting was attended by all the technical officers of the Regional Office besides the representatives of the donor organisations, e.g., the Swedish Co-operative Centre, the Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA), the Japanese Consumers Co-operative Union (JCCU), the Ministry of Local Government and Co-operatives in New South Wales, Australia, the International Co-operative and Mutual Insurance Federation (ICMIF). The ICA Geneva was represented by its Deputy-Director General who also discussed administrative matters with the Regional Director.

The budgets for 1993-94 and 1994-95 had to be revised in regard to the reduced SCC contribution.



The ICA President, Regional Director and Agri.Co-op Adviser with the Vietnamese leaders

## Co-operative Policies and Development

Thus far the primary role of the SPA has been to facilitate the process, and coordinate the activities, of government-movement relations as it pertains to the implementation of the Co-operative Ministers' Conference scheduled for July 1994 in Colombo, Sri Lanka (hereinafter called the "Colombo Conference"). This is the third Conference following the previous ones held in Sydney (1990) and in Jakarta (1992).

The conceptual design of this Colombo Conference was attempted on as much a participatory mode as possible by involving all ICA ROAP members to provide the needed inputs. Each and every member organization has been furnished a *questionnaire* which not only solicits inputs on baseline information and statistical data, but also calls for a direct analysis on various socio-economic issues pertaining to co-operative competitiveness and the impact of government policies and structural adjustment.

In concert with the issues raised in the questionnaire, *National Co-operative Workshops* have been instigated and held by various countries in Asia such as the Philip-

pines, Indonesia and Sri Lanka, to appraise current challenges - and remedies thereto - in their respective countries. *Sub-regional Seminars* were designed to follow the national workshops, one of which was already held in Solo, Indonesia, for the South East Asian countries. A sub-regional Seminar for the SAARC member countries will be held in Colombo from March 3 to 5, with

a leadership consultation program organized from February 24-28, '94, as its forerunner. All the above provided a wealth of inputs which will be carefully synthesized into becoming the Background Paper for the Asia-Pacific Regional Consultation, and subsequently the Colombo Conference itself.

The *Co-operative Regional Consultation for*



*SDA (Policy) during discussions with the Hon. Minister for Food and Co-operatives, Sri Lanka*

*Asia and the Pacific* will be held in Kuala Lumpur some time in April 1994 to address relevant socio-economic issues as enunciated in the Background Paper, and will be properly analysed against current legislative and policy issues, as well as the Co-operative values and principles.

Recommendations stemming from this Regional Consultation will be presented, considered and ratified by the Ministers' Conference in Colombo. One such recommendation, pertaining to the need for a more regular and sustainable movement-government *Forum/Structure* in the Asia Pacific region, has already been put forward by the South East Asia Review Seminar for consideration at the Regional Consultation.

In carrying out the above responsibility, the SPA has had various consultative meetings with co-operative leaders and government officials in Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Malaysia, India, the Philippines, and Thailand, for which ICA ROAP has received welcoming and affirmative responses.

The coordination and facilitation work of ICA ROAP has been made possible through the support of the Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA) and the Societe de developpement interna-



*Gathering at the Sub-Regional Seminar at Solo, Indonesia*

tional Desjardins (SDID). As well, generous counterpart funding has been obtained from co-operative and government institutions in many Asian countries such as from those in Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Sri Lanka.

## Other Activities

### 1. International Co-operative Forum

The Senior Policy Advisor, presented a position paper in a joint panel with Dr. Hans Munkner from Marburg University at the International Co-operative Forum organized by the Singapore National Co-operative Federation (SNCF) in collaboration with the Asian Confederation of Credit Unions (ACCU) and the Singapore Credit Co-operatives League Ltd (SCOPE) from August 25-26, 1994. The Forum was attended by about 200 participants from all over Asia, and held on August 25-26, 1993, at the Amara Hotel in Singapore. It was organized right after the ICA ROAP had its HRD Committee Meeting alongside the INCOTEC Consultation, as well as in conjunction with the Annual General Meeting of ACCU.

### 3. ICA Committee for Fisheries for Asia & the Pacific

As Secretary of the Committee, the SPA participated in the 19th Committee Meeting held in Kuala Terengganu, Malaysia, on November 26-27, 1993. The meeting emphasized the need for revitalization of co-op fisheries in

the Asia Pacific region. Such revitalization process would undoubtedly require active and eager involvement of ICA ROAP membership in the region.

A plan has been devised to generate the much needed participation from members other than India, Malaysia and Japan who were present in Kuala Terengganu. The Secretary of the ICA (Main) Committee for Fisheries, Mr. M. Sato, has asserted his views and commitment to work closely with the Asia-Pacific Committee, Chaired by Mr. S. Chandra from Fishcofed India, in the revitalization scheme.

The next Committee Meeting is planned for the latter part of 1994 in South Korea.

### 4. Signing of MOU in Indonesia

The SPA, by virtue of his being seconded by the Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA) to the ICA ROAP, has been asked to represent the CCA for the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with the National Co-operative Council (DEKOPIN) of Indonesia on June 10, 1993, to mark the official project approval of the Indonesia



*Signing of M.O.U. between CCA & DEKOPIN, Indonesia*

Co-operative Development Assistance Program (INCODAP).

The picture shows the occasion, held at the Ministry of Co-operatives and Small Business Development, and attended by the Secretary General of the Ministry and about 60 other officials and guests. Up to this point the SPA still continues to assume some 30% of his time for the CCA.



*Seminar on Fisheries, Hanoi, Vietnam*

## Information and Resources Service

### ICA ROAP Library

**Collection:** The Regional Office has a well-equipped Library having 19,130 books on co-operatives and allied subjects. During the year, 350 new titles were added. It receives 200 journals.

**Computerisation of ROAP Library:** To facilitate dissemination of information, the Library has introduced computerisation. Over 2,000 books have until now been computerised. The first annotated computerised list of books comprising of 910 titles have been issued. The second annotated computerised list consisting of 1,090 titles is in the press. Bibliographical services comprising of subject, author, country, etc. are also being provided.

**Library use and its services to member organisations:** The ICA ROAP Library is recognised by the University Grants Commission of India and the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) for cooperative research. At present 35 Ph.D students are making use of the Library. Some of the services we can render are as follows:

- i. To provide photocopies of requested references and information;
- ii. To supply subject and other bibliographies;
- iii. To provide help on procuring the documents for their libraries;
- iv. To develop their Library System including computerisation, in-service training, etc.; and
- v. Least, but not last, we welcome any co-operator, potential co-operator, researchers, students, teachers, policy makers, etc. to visit our Library and Resource Centre to select and collect needed information and reference material for their use.

Because of its intensive involvement in co-operative development, the ICA ROAP has become world's largest publisher of co-operative literature. Information on co-operative publications can be obtained from ICA DOMUS TRUST located at the ICA ROAP, New Delhi.

### ROAP Data Bank

During the year, the work to build up the ICA ROAP Regional Co-operative Data Bank has been progressing well.

The Data Bank Unit which is now a separate activity in the DPCP with a Technical Officer in-charge of the operations, is now operational. The data bases in use at present are:

- General information concerning member-organisations;
- Sectoral information on member-organisations;
- Membership subscription paid to ICA Hqs. by the ICA member-organisations in Asia-Pacific;
- Contribution of ICA member-organisations in Asia-Pacific for ROAP Administration and Project Activities;
- Basic socio-economic characteristics of ICA member-countries in Asia-Pacific.

A Profile of ICA Member Countries in Asia-Pacific has also been compiled for the use of ICA projects, member organisations, etc. Revised and enlarged edition of the **Statistical Profile of ICA Member-Organisations in Asia-Pacific**, including newly added member-organisations with the ROAP is under preparation. The Profile will be sent to member-organisations and donor agencies.

Subject areas on co-operatives will be undertaken on the demand of ICA Projects, and ICA member-organisations.

Data Bank is working in close collaboration with ICA Central Co-operative Data Bank and other Regional Offices (Regional Co-operative Data Banks) by using common data entry system.

Data Bank would endeavour to develop close relationship with international organisations (UN and NGO) in the Region of Asia-Pacific and also support the member-organisations in the Region on such system for a co-operative data collection and exchange system.

### Asia-Pacific Co-op News

The Regional Office continued to publish its quarterly journal during the period under report. Four issues of the **Asia-Pacific Co-op News** have been published during the year.

## 2nd ICA/APCC Seminar on Agricultural Co-operative Development

The 2nd ICA/APCC Regional Seminar on Agricultural Co-operative Development with special reference to Australian Experience was held in Australia from 21st February to 12th March 1993.

The seminar was jointly organised by the ICA Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific; ICA Australian Project Office; and the Asia Pacific Co-operative Centre for Research, Training and Development (APCC). The objectives of the seminar were :

- a. to understand the structure and functions of agricultural co-operatives in Australia;
- b. to learn co-operative management and advanced farming and agro-processing technology;
- c. to discuss possibilities of collaboration between the participants' organisations and Australian agricultural co-operatives; and
- d. to formulate action proposals for the organisations/movements of the participants, keeping in view the experience gained at the seminar.

14 participants from eight countries, i.e. China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran, Republic of Korea, Philippines and Sri Lanka attended the seminar.

Bonlac Foods Co-operative, the Phosphate Co-operative of Australia, Victorian Producers' Co-operative Company, the Australian Co-operative Development League and the Credit Union Services Corporation (Australia) sponsored and contributed funds to cover all the local costs of the seminar and arranged all the participants to visit their organisations.

### ICA/JA ZENCHU/IDACA Regional Seminar on Perspective Planning

The ICA/JA ZENCHU/IDACA Regional Seminar on Perspective Planning for Regional Development by Agricultural Cooperatives was conducted at the Institute for the Development of Agricultural Cooperation in Asia (IDACA), Japan, during 9th to 25th November 1993.

The objectives of the seminar were (a) to learn how to collect relevant information and to

formulate national and regional Agricultural Development Plans based on individual farm management plans and methods of perspective planning for agricultural development initiated by agricultural cooperatives and member farmers; (b) to learn how to establish marketing strategy of the farm products on medium and long-term basis with the participation of member and primary societies in the region; (c) to discuss applicability of the Japanese experience on perspective planning to agricultural cooperatives of the participants' countries; (d) to identify strategies and methods which would be most effective in perspective planning in participants' countries; and (e) to formulate action proposals for the organisations/ movements of the participants, keeping in view the experience. The Agricultural Co-operative Development Advisor, Mr. Guo Yong Kang, coordinated the seminar.

17 participants from ten countries, namely, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran, Rep. of Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Vietnam attended the seminar. The participants presented country reports on Perspective Planning and visited agricultural co-operatives in Hiroshima Prefecture. All the participants formulated the action plans for implementation when they return to their countries.

### 27th Meeting of the ICA Agri. Committee

The 27th Meeting of ICA Committee on Agriculture for Asia and the Pacific was held at Hanoi, Vietnam, on 1st November followed by study visits in Hanoi on 2nd November and in Ho Chi Minh City on 3rd and 4th Nov., 1993. 12 delegates from Japan, South Korea, Thailand and Vietnam attended the meeting. Mr. G.K. Sharma, Regional

## Agri Co-op Development Activities



Participants of the Seminar on Perspective Planning, November, 1993

Director, Mr. Malte Jonsson, Senior Development Advisor and Mr. Guo Yong Kang, Agricultural Cooperative Development Advisor of ICA ROAP also attended the meeting. The delegates presented country papers on recent trends and development in the field of agriculture and exchanged information on agricultural co-operative development in their respective countries. A special paper on

"Agricultural Co-operative Development in Vietnam" was presented and discussed.

The meeting approved the three-year work plan of Agricultural Co-operative Development Project prepared by the Agricultural Advisor of ICA ROAP. The meeting elected Mr. Won Ho Suh from South Korea as Chairman and Mr. Narong Marukatut from Thailand as Vice Chairman of the Committee.

### Vietnamese Co-op Congress

The first Vietnamese Co-operative Congress was held in Hanoi on 29-30 October 1993. 380 delegates from all provinces in Vietnam attended the Congress which was a very important event in the history of Vietnamese co-operatives and decided to form a Vietnamese Co-operative Union as a national co-operative organisation representing all kinds of co-operatives in Vietnam. The Congress elected Mr. Hoang Minh Thang as President of Vietnamese Co-operative Union and four Vice Presidents. Mr. Lars Marcus, President of ICA; Mr. G.K. Sharma, Regional Director; ICA and Mr. Guo Yong Kang, Agricultural Co-operative Development Advisor of ICA ROAP attended the Congress.

### Chinese - Australian Co-op Joint Venture on Wool Processing

In accordance with the protocol signed between Chinese and Australian Co-operatives several exchange visits between the two co-operatives were organised in 1993, a feasibility study on wool processing joint venture was undertaken with the strong support from the Minister for Co-operatives, NSW,



*Adviser, Agricultural Co-operative Development at the IDACA Seminar*

Australia, and the Secretary-General of All China Federation of Supply and Marketing Co-operatives (ACFSMC). It was decided to carry out a trial processing experiment on the above project in order to assess actual costs of processing and establish the long-term basis for the future joint venture agreement. The contract on wool trial processing was signed between the two parties in February 1993. Four tonnes of Australian combed wool tops was shipped to China and was processed into woollen pullovers in Chinese co-operative manufacture. The woollen pullovers were shipped back to Australia for marketing through co-operative network. The trial processing was successfully completed by the end of 1993. On this basis now two parties have agreed to conduct a detailed business planning on the joint venture project. The ICA ROAP provided a consultant to facilitate and coordinate the project.

Hon'ble Minister for Local Government and Co-operatives, NSW, Garry West; and two senior officers - Mr. Garry Payne and Ms. Dianne McDougall visited ICA ROAP on 22-23 November and had discussions with Mr. Claes Thorselius, Deputy Director General, ICA Geneva; Mr. G.K. Sharma, Regional Director, ICA ROAP, and other staff. It was agreed to strengthen collaboration between ICA and NSW Government and co-operatives. All the financial arrangements were also finalised during the discussions.

Hon'ble Minister Garry West, Mr. Garry Payne and Ms. Dianne McDougall also visited Shenzhen, China on 25th November 1993 and had a meeting with Mr. Yang Deshou, Secretary-General of ACFSMC. It was agreed to continue to support the on-going joint venture project and to conduct business planning as early as possible.

## Fact-finding mission to Myanmar

In December, 1993, Mr. Pradit Machima, ICA Consumer Advisor and Mr. H. Amano from JCCU visited Myanmar for 10 days. The main objectives of the visit were to study the Consumer Co-operative Movement of Myanmar and to recommend strategy and plans for consumer cooperative development there. The team visited H.E. U Than Aung, Minister for Co-operatives, Myanmar and various co-operative organizations/institutions and different levels of consumer co-operatives in Yangon, Mandalay, Maymyo, Sagaing, Phaung Gyi and Pegu. The mission was very successful and the report was prepared and published.

## Exchange Programmes

Under the Exchange Programme of the Consumer Co-operative Development Project (CCDP), a group of 5 women Consumer Co-operative leaders from the Philippines visited Japan in June and July, 1993. The objective of the Exchange Programme was to enhance co-operative knowledge on consumer co-operative development, member participation and housewives involvement in consumer co-operatives. The programme was jointly sponsored by ICA and JCCU.

Under another Exchange Programme, 3 university co-operative leaders from Singapore visited Japan to study the Japanese University

Co-op Movement and its operations in August 1993. This programme was held on self-financing basis, as recommended at the University Co-operative Seminar held in Malaysia in February 1993. The outcome of the visit was very good.

## Income Generating Activities for Women's Co-ops in Bangladesh

In July 1993, ICA had sent Ms. Uma Mukherji, ICA-ROAP Gender Advisor, to visit Dhaka and Mymensingh, Bangladesh, in order to make assessment of women's co-operatives in these areas and discuss the draft Terms of Reference for the proposed revolving fund for strengthening income generating activities of 3 women's co-operatives in Mymensingh. The Memorandum of Understanding was drafted and submitted to ICA and National Co-operative Union of Bangladesh (BJSU). But the proposal has not yet been confirmed by BJSU, as a result, the programme remains un-implemented.

## Self-financed Workshops

Several self-financed workshops on Consumer Co-operatives and University Co-operatives were held in Thailand, the Philippines and India. The main objectives of organizing this type of workshops were (1) to create awareness among consumer co-operative leaders and key staff to develop their own co-operatives on self-help and self-development basis, (2) to educate and train co-operative leaders and key personnel, (3) to discuss concerned problems of consumer co-operative operations and programmes for improving them, and (4) to strengthen consumer co-operative organizations/movements in the region. The programmes worked out very well. Last year, six self-financed workshops were organized in the 3 countries, as follows:

1. *Phra Nakorn Co-operative Store, Thailand*: A two-day workshop on "Modern Management of Consumer Co-operatives" was or-



400 students of Agricultural College, Trang, Thailand attended a special talk on co-op development delivered by Mr. P. Machima, January, 1993

# Consumer Co-op Development Activities



ganized at Pak Chong, Nakorn Ratchasima on 24-25 Feb., 1993. Twenty nine co-operative leaders, branch managers and key staff attended the workshop. The main themes of discussions were modern management, financial management, personnel management and member participation.

#### *2. Follow-up workshop on University Co-operatives in Thailand:*

The workshop was jointly organized by CLT, NFUCA and Sukhothai Thammorirat University in Bangkok on self-financing basis



*A self-financed workshop on Consumer Co-operative Development for Maharashtra State, Bombay, India, August, 1993*

during 4 & 7 May, 1993. Main subjects of the workshop were (1) joint buying, (2) mutual help and technical assistance among university co-operatives, and (3) the formation of University Co-operative Federation. Thirty participants from various universities in and around Bangkok attended the workshop. The outcome was very good.

#### *3. Joint Technical Conference on Provincial Co-operative Development Bacolod, Philippines:*

The Conference was jointly organized by ICA, Provincial Government of Negros Occidental, Western Visayas Union of Co-operatives, Co-operative Union of Negros

Occidental and La Consolation College on 25-26 May 1993 in Bacolod. Thirty three (33) participants attended the conference. The main objective of the conference was to promote and upgrade co-operative operations through mutual help and self-help and action plans. The outcome was good.

#### *4. Workshop on Consumer Co-operative Development - Iloilo, Philippines:*

The workshop was organized by Western Visayas Union of Co-operatives on 27-28 May, 1993. The main objective of the workshop was to upgrade the knowledge and experience of co-operative leaders, managers and staff of consumer co-operatives within the region. The workshop was attended by 35 participants and Mr. Pradit Machima, iCA Consumer Advisor. Mrs. Pura Librodo, Executive Officer of the Union was the Co-ordinator. It was a big success.

#### *5. Workshop on Modern Management of Consumers Co-ops in Maharashtra, India:*

The workshop was organized at Bombay on 28 August '93 on self-financing basis. It was attended by 62 co-operative leaders through out the State. The workshop discussed about the modern management of co-operatives and the future plans of co-operative movement with special emphasis on consumer co-operatives. The workshop was very effective, lively and cheerful.

#### *6. Workshop on Consumer Co-op Development in Gujarat, India:*

A self-financed workshop on Consumers Co-operative Development in Gujarat, India was organized on 29 and 30 Nov.' 93 at Gandhi Nagar. Seventy eight consumers co-operative leaders from all districts of Gujarat attended the workshop. The workshop was inaugurated by Mr. Thakorbbhai Naik, Minister of Co-operation, Gujarat. The outcome was very positive. It was mutually agreed that (1) education and training programmes on consumer co-operatives be organized and strengthened, (2) a concrete programme on consumer co-operative development be prepared and submitted to the Minister of Co-operation, (3) model consumer co-operatives in some districts be established and developed, (4) the Institute of Co-operative Management (ICM) of Gujarat must set up a programme to promote consumer co-operatives in the State through education, training and extension.

## Seminars

### 1. Regional Seminar on ASEAN University Co-operatives in Malaysia

The Regional Seminar on ASEAN University Co-operatives was jointly organized by ICA, NFUCA and ANGKASA at Agricultural University of Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 10-12 Feb.'93. Fifty-nine participants from 6 countries attended the seminar. They were 2 from the Philippines, 3 from Singapore, 5 from Brunei, 7 each from Indonesia and Thailand and 35 from Malaysia.

The seminar was inaugurated by Hon'ble Dato' Khalid bin Yunus, Dy. Minister for Land & Co-operative Development, Govt. of Malaysia.

Main objectives of the seminar were:

- To transfer technology, knowledge and experience of Japanese University co-operatives to ASEAN countries.
- To exchange knowledge and experience of running University/Students cooperatives among participants.
- To encourage University or Co-operative Colleges or Co-operative Training Institutes to promote and play a bigger role in co-operative education, training and extension in their own countries.

To improve performance of University or students co-operatives.

The seminar concluded that:

- \* Students should be allowed to become full members of University Co-operatives in all countries, especially Malaysia, Singapore and the Philippines, where students are discriminated;
- \* Action Plans for follow-up activities of University co-operatives in each country should be made and implemented accordingly;
- \* Teachers/trainers/students exchange programmes among member-countries should be encouraged and developed; and

### 2. International Seminar on Gender Integration in Co-operatives in Tokyo

Participants from Asia-Pacific countries met in Tokyo during 01-08 March, 1993, under the sponsorship of ICA ROAP/JCCU/SCC/ICA Women's Committee to deliberate gender integration in co-operative development and to find more effective methods and strategies which will enable women to have equal opportunities as man to participate actively at all levels in co-operatives.



Joint Meeting of the ICA Consumer Committee & Committee on Trade & Industry at Phuket, Thailand, Nov., 1993

The Conference concluded that "it is imperative that co-operatives at all levels formulate policies of gender integration for sound co-operative development, thus contributing to peace, social justice and a sustainable Earth". It is vital that co-operative in every country promote affirmative actions to achieve gender integration.

### 3. Workshop at Colombo, Sri Lanka

With the assistance of the COOPFED, NCC and the Co-operative Department of Sri Lanka, ICA organised a workshop on 'Modern Management of Consumer Co-operatives' at the Conference Hall of the NCC of Sri Lanka. Altogether 16 managers and accounts officers representing 12 MPCS participated in the workshop. The two days workshop was inaugurated by the Commissioner of Co-operatives Mr. S.B. Divaratne. In his inauguration address, he appreciated the experience of the participants and advised them to take full advantage of the deliberations in the workshop. He also added that the workshop should end up with an action commitment for the further development of the consumer movement.

## Overseas Training

### 1. Training of Store Managers from Rep. of Korea and Thailand in Japan

A training of Store Managers from South Korea and Thailand was held in Japan be-

tween 18 and 27 August, 1993, under the sponsorship of ICA and JCCU. Four trainees - two each from South Korea and Thailand joined the training. They visited JCCU and various consumer co-operative societies/institutions in Tokyo and nearby cities. They also visited NFUCA and university co-ops in Tokyo. The result was very fruitful and successful.

### 2. Training for Managers of Consumer Co-operative from Singapore on Supermarket Operations in Japan

Between 12th and 21st of September, 1993, two Store Managers from Singapore underwent a training programme on Supermarket Operations in Japan. They visited consumer co-operative network in Tokyo and Sapporo. The programme was jointly organized by ICA and JCCU. All local cost was borne by JCCU. The programme was a great success.

### 3. Training of selected managers of consumer co-operatives from 3 countries in Singapore

Between 31 October and 10 November 1993, 5 managers of consumer co-operatives from India (2), S. Korea (1) and Thailand (2) were trained under the sponsorship of NTUC Fairprice, Singapore and ICA on "SuperMarket Operations". Originally, the programme was planned to select 4 managers - one each from India, Indonesia, Malaysia and S. Korea for this training. But since there was no nomination from Indonesia and Malaysia, we added one more from India and two from Thailand for the training. The programme was very good and effective.

## Consultancy

### 1. Consultancy-cum-training programme on Consumer Co-operative Development in Sri Lanka

Between 23 and 31 May, 1993, ICA ROAP had deputed Mr. S.C. Misra, a short-term consultant of Consumer Co-operatives from NCCF, Bombay, to provide follow-up consultancy services to four consumer co-operatives in and around Colombo, Sri Lanka, and later on organize a workshop on "Modern Management of Consumer Co-operatives" at the Conference Hall of the NCC of Sri Lanka.

The four MPCs were : Homagama MPCs, Polonnaruwa MPCs, Katana MPCs and Kegalle MPCs. The programme was very receptive, useful and effective.

*Selamat Datang*



A Regional Seminar on University Co-ops. held at Agri. University of Malaysia, K.L., Feb., 1993

## 2. Consultancy service to primary consumer co-operatives in Thailand by Fairprice, Singapore

Between 16 and 19 October, 1993, Mr. Lim Ho Seng, General Manager of NTUC Fairprice, Singapore had visited Thailand in order to provide technical advice to Phra Nakorn Co-operative Store Ltd. in Bangkok, Thailand. The Co-operative Store is one of the biggest consumer co-operative societies in Thailand. It has 7 branches with 100,000 members and the total business turnover of around Baht 320 million and a net profit of Baht 13 million. If all advices and recommendations can be implemented sincerely, the society will become a "show case" for Thailand and at the same time become a training and learning centre for neighbouring countries.

## Compilation of Minutes of Consumer Committee Meetings

Mr. Masao Ohya, Chairman of the Consumer Committee had suggested that all Minutes of the Committee Meetings from the beginning be compiled in order to help new members of the committee to know objectives of the meetings, decisions made in the past and achievements made thereafter. The compilation was done and published for distribution. It was a good record of the Committee work done in the past 17 years.



Meeting of the ICA Consumer Committee at Suva, Fiji, May, 1993

## Data Collection

Data on medical co-operatives in India and on university co-operatives in Asian countries was collected and compiled. The collected and analysed facts and information on these two areas will be used for future development planning.

## Asia-Pacific Consumer Co-op News

Three issues of Asia-Pacific Consumer Co-operative News were published. The first one was in March, followed by the second and the third in July and November, 1993 respectively. The news covered wide range of information on consumer co-operative subjects and related activities, such as women's activities, environment, co-operative basic values and important activities of consumer co-operatives within the region.

## ICA Committee on Consumer Co-operation

Two meetings of the ICA Committee on Consumer Co-operation for Asia and the Pacific were held last year. One was held at Suva, Fiji on 14 May '93. The meeting was attended by member organizations from four countries - Fiji, Japan, Singapore and South Korea.

The other was a joint meeting of the ICA Committee on Consumer Co-operation and ICA Committee on Trade and Industry for Asia and the Pacific, which was held in Phuket, Thailand on 17-19 November, 1993.

Forty three participants from 9 countries - Japan, India, Indonesia, Fiji, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Vietnam and Thailand, participated in the meeting.

In the meeting, the draft of Consumer Co-operative Development Project for 1994-95 was adopted.



Mr. Pradit Machima, Consumer Adviser & Mr. H. Amano of JCCU at a meeting with the Minister of Co-operatives, Myanmar, Dec., 1993

# Human Resource Development Activities

## The context

By July, 1993, the HRD project entered the last year of the previous 3-year plan. Therefore, the year 1993 has had 2 focuses in addition to the activities under the plan: Evaluation of the current cycle and the planning process for the next year commencing from July, 1994.

The HRD Project had following sub-projects during the year under review:

- Assistance to member countries in member/leadership development.
- Assistance to MOs in the management of education/training management.
- Co-operative HRD Advisory services
- Management development
- Promotion of co-operatives among women and youth.

## Enhancement of Member Participation

The member participation model known as CMPP Methodology has been introduced in 5 countries in Asia. This year has seen process of partial evaluation of the methodology.

Field evaluations have been conducted

in Indonesia and Sri Lanka during the year. ILO Project in Jakarta supported the project to conduct an evaluation workshop. Questionnaires were sent to Philippines, Bangladesh and Thailand.

A summary report has been received from Philippines and few replies from participants from Bangladesh have been received. Thailand, being the last country the methodology has been introduced, the evaluation is yet premature.

From the evaluations completed, some common conclusions have been made:

- The CMPP methodology has proved to be an empowering model for members of co-operatives and self-help groups, but introduced co-operatives where a guided democracy is maintained, it has had resistance with conflicts with power groups.
- The adaptation of the manual has been done in 5 local languages in the countries and has been observed to be popular among adult education. In the case of Indonesia, the methodology through the adapted manual has been incorporated into the regular co-operative training system.
- The operational CMPP cycle has got into difficulties in follow-up activities to the CMPP seminars due to lack of proper guidance and organizational support.
- Further training in psychological foundations of empowerment models is needed for the facilitators.

Since then, the original manual has been edited during the year and ready for printing. In addition, a manual based on Han model in Japan has been under preparation during the year.

## Advisory & Consultancy Services

The Advisory & Consultancy services have been expanded in 1993 in contrast to last year. Two project feasibility studies have been conducted for the SCC and proposals have been sent to SCC on consultancy basis.

1. Project to support disadvantaged youth in Sri Lanka
2. Project to support disadvantaged women groups in India.

The HRD Project Adviser also assisted the SCC in formulation of bilateral support to Co-operative Movement in Sri Lanka.



The HRD Adviser with participants at the CMPP Conference in Lusaka, Zambia

The project associated with CICTAB (Central for Integrated Co-operative Training in Agricultural Banking) for the first time, helping them to facilitate a workshop on Agricultural Banking & Rural Development at Kathmandu.

Asian Confederation of Credit Unions (ACCU), a new member of the ICA ROAP invited the HRD Project Advisor to facilitate a Regional Seminar on Women and Youth participation in co-operatives, held in Manila, Philippines.

Inter-regional co-operation among ICA Regions was further strengthened through participating and facilitating a Regional Seminar on Member Participation Methodology at the invitation of ICA Regional Office for East, Central and Southern Africa in Moshi. The seminar was held in Zambia during September, 1993.



A CMPP facilitator providing feedback at the Evaluation Workshop

A long-term pending issue of collaboration with INCOTEC (International Co-operative Training and Education Committee) was resolved when the HRD Committee had a Consultation with the INCOTEC Executive Committee in Singapore in August, 1993.

The Conclusions of the Consultation was to organize a sub-group for Co-operative Education and Training under the existing HRD Committee, who will have liaison with INCOTEC in the future.

The Chairman of the INCOTEC, Dr. Robert Houlton and executive committee members, Prof. T. Nojiri, Japan, Prof. Hans Munkner, Germany and Dr. Yahuda Paz, Israel, participated at the Consultation. Mr. Jan-Eirik Imb-sen, HRD Director, ICA, Geneva too participated at the meeting.

### **Networking of HRD institutions**

The escalating costs for conducting Regional activities by the ICA ROAP alone and also the increasing demand from member organizations resulted in organizing a network of HRD institutions in the Region. On the basis of a concept paper adopted by the Committee in 1992, 8 member countries joined the network, who signed a Memorandum of Understanding. The countries who joined at:

Philippines	Sri Lanka
Pakistan	Mongolia
Turkey	Israel
Fiji	Thailand

The objectives of the network are:

#### *Development Objective*

The programme will contribute to improve the performance efficiency of co-operative organizations for members and the community.

#### *Immediate Objectives*

- i. Strengthened Networking among Participating Institutions.
- ii. Improved Co-operative Man-power Management Systems and Training Systems.
- iii. Transfer of HRD Technology.

It is expected that a comprehensive programme for the net-

work members would commence in 1994.

### **Collaboration with UN Agencies**

The HRD Project continued to associate with activities of the UN agencies during the year. The HRD Adviser participated, as the ICA representative, at the UN-ESCAP Regional Committee meeting on Poverty Alleviation, held at Bangkok from 20-24 Sept., 1993. One of the achievements of the meeting was the emphasis on people's organizations including co-operatives in supporting poverty alleviation.

The ILO established a new project called ILO-COOPNET to deal with HRD issues of co-operatives. The HRD project of ICA ROAP had consultations with the project co-ordinator and the consultant from ILO Geneva on the possibility of joint activities. A regional workshop is being organized as the first activity.

### HRD Committee meeting

The 5th meeting of the HRD Committee for Asia and Pacific was held in Singapore on 16 August, 1993.

The committee adopted a new constitution at the meeting, which provides more opportunities for member organizations to become members of the committee, leaving the limitation of 2 delegates per country. It has also adopted a provision to have equal

number of female delegates from the member organizations.

The meeting also re-elected Prof. Ungku A. Aziz from Malaysia as the Chairperson of the Committee. Dr. Yahuda Paz from Israel was elected as the Vice Chairperson of the Committee.



The Chairman of INCOTEC at the Singapore Consultation

### Publications

The HRD project continued to publish its magazine - COOP DIALOGUE - during the year. 3 issues have been published carrying various features.

The report of the Gender Conference held in Tokyo, Japan was also published. A school primer on co-operation was under preparation by the end of the year.

## GENDER ACTIVITIES

One of the organizational developments achieved during the year was the establishment of the Gender Integration Project.

Ms. Uma Mukherji joined the ICA as the Gender Programme Adviser in February, 1993. Preparation of a project document for a 3-year term was undertaken. The Japanese Consumers Co-operative Union (JCCU) pledged continued support for the programme.



Asia-Pacific Conference on Gender Planning, Tokyo, Japan

In order to prepare a long-term Gender Plan for the Region, the HRD project organized a Planning Conference in Tokyo in March, '93, hosted by JCCU, where 26 delegates from countries in the Region and outside participated. Ms. Katarina Apelqvist, Chairperson of the ICA Women's Committee chaired the Conference, which adopted a Statement Calling for Action and Resolutions for the future.

By the end of 1993, the first draft of the manual on gender sensitivity has been completed.

### The Resources

The HRD Project continued to feel the resource crunch during the year. The block funding further reduced by 47% during the year. Therefore, many activities have been conducted through ad-hoc funding received on project basis from SCC, CCA and JCCU.

The members' contributions to the project for national and regional activities remained at 21% of the total cost. With new countries added under the restructuring of the ICA, new resource mobilisation strategies have to be worked out. The staff strength of the project increased by one technical person - Gender Programme Adviser. The future activities of the project need to be more on self-financing basis. Hopefully with the establishment of the Network and links with ILO COOPNET, the burden may reduce on the block allocations.

The traditional sponsors - SCC - continued to support through block funding and on ad hoc basis. The new gender programme is being mainly supported by the JCCU which is a great strength.

It is necessary to note with gratitude for all partners who sponsored, hosted and also participated in the activities. A 'big welcome' to the new members of the HRD Committee.

## 8th ICA/JAPAN Agrico-op Management Training Course 1993-94

The 8th Training Course for Strengthening Management of Agricultural Co-operatives in Asia (1993-94) was inaugurated by His Excellency Chusei Yamada, Ambassador of Japan in India, on 20th October, 1993 at the Bonow House, New Delhi. The inaugural session was addressed by HE Chusei Yamada; Mr. J.C. Pant, India's Agriculture Secretary; Mr. B.D. Sharma, Chief Executive of the National Co-operative Union of India; Mr. G.K. Sharma, ICA Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific; Dr. Daman Prakash, ICA/Japan Management Training Project Director; and Mr. Malte Jonsson, Senior Development Advisor of ICA ROAP.

Until the end of the Seventh course, 105 participants consisting of senior to middle-level managers responsible for agricultural co-operative development, men and women, have participated in the programme successfully.

As a part of their work, they have produced concrete, technically sound and potentially viable 103 projects in the agricultural co-operative sector aiming at enhancing the participation and income of grassroots level farmers. Several of these projects are already under implementation in various countries.

Because of the strong technical inputs made, the programme has been able to enhance the management capabilities of the participants. The course is extremely popular among co-operative managers and increasing demands are being made on the ICA to further broaden the scope of the programme.



Section of participants of the 8th AGMT course

**Objectives:** The overall objective of the training programme under this project is to help strengthen and improve agricultural co-operative performance in the Asian region in order to bring about a qualitative and quantitative improvement in co-operative services to member-farmers at the grassroots level with the ultimate objective of increasing members' incomes and ensuring their active participation in co-operative business.

The National Co-operative Council of Sri Lanka (NCC) and the Co-operative League of Thailand (CLT) and the Co-operative Promotion Department (CPD) of Thailand will provide resource persons to coordinate the field study visits in Sri Lanka and Thailand respectively.

**Participants:** Fifteen participants holding middle or senior level managerial positions in co-operatives and their supervising organisations are selected to attend this course. Participants for the Eighth course have been selected from eleven (11) Asian countries, i.e., Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Iran, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam.

**Programme Outline:** The structure of the programme is designed in such a way that the participants are given theoretical inputs in the principles and practices of management of agriculture and agricultural co-operatives and with special emphasis on producing technically sound and feasible development projects, classroom teaching, opportunities to meet leaders and managers of agricultural co-operatives and to study the various development models of agricultural co-operatives through study visits and reference material and visiting several countries in which the training programme is located. In brief, the main features of the programme are:

## Agri Co-op Management Training



HE the Ambassador for Japan, Mr. Chusei Yamada, at the AGMT course opening, October, 1993.



- i. *Part I in India including Study Visits & National Follow-up Workshop - Oct. 20, '93 - Dec. 22, '93.*

This part held in India covered exposure to communication strategies, management techniques and practices, study visits in the states of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Delhi with a view to meet leaders and managers of successful agricultural co-operatives and to observe the application of value-addition in agro-processing. This also included a three-day national follow-up review workshop for the former participants from India.

- ii. *Study Visits in Sri Lanka & Thailand and National Follow-up Workshops - Dec. 23, '93 - Jan. 12, '94*

This part covered study visits of 8-10 days each in Sri Lanka and Thailand. Participants were able to observe two different models of agricultural co-operative development; participate in two national follow-up workshops for former participants from Sri Lanka and Thailand; meet leaders and managers of agricultural co-operatives and to get ready for producing their own development projects during their Home Country Assignment period.

- iii. *Home Country Assignments - Jan. 13 - Feb. 21, 1994*

An important component of the Training programme is the participants' field assignment in his/her home country for about 45 days. The home country assignments are intended to provide to the participants an opportunity to identify areas for viable projects in the course-related subjects, in consultation with their organisations and formulate co-operative development projects for appraisal at the Project Appraisal Session in Tokyo, Japan. It is expected that these projects to be finalised towards the end of the training course, will provide a valuable framework for the sponsoring organisations to plan and implement development projects on similar lines for strengthening the structure and functioning of agricultural co-operatives in the res-

pective countries.

- iv. *Part II in Japan - Feb. 22 - Apr. 22, 1994*

Part II of the programme is held in Japan. This



*National Review/Follow-up Workshop, India held at New Delhi*

segment includes a Project Appraisal Session on the draft projects prepared by the participants during their home country assignments; a thorough exposure to management practices followed in agricultural co-operatives in Japan through class room lectures provided by well-known lecturers drawn from agricultural co-operatives, co-operative training and other institutions and government; visits to a variety of agricultural co-operative leaders; finalising training programme reports of the participants and an end-of-the course Evaluation.

## Training for Rural Women

Third ICA/Japan Training Course for Rural Women Leaders of Agricultural Co-operatives in Asia, 1993

The Third ICA-Japan Training Course for Rural Women Leaders was held in Tokyo, Japan, from June 12 to July 08, '93, in pursuance of the agreement signed between the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) of the Government of Japan and the International Co-operative Alliance.

The four-week training course was held at the Institute for the Development of Agricultural Co-operation in Asia (IDACA), in Tokyo. Six participants from three countries, Bangladesh, Thailand and Vietnam, attended the third training course.

The training course was organised in collaboration with the Central Union of Agricultural Co-operatives of Japan (JA ZENCHU), IDACA and the National Council of Women's Association of Agricultural Co-operatives (WAAC/JA ZENFUKYO) of Japan.

**Project objectives:** The development and immediate objectives of the Project for Training of Rural Women Leaders in Asia are as follows:

**Development Objective:** To facilitate improvement of living standards of farm households through women's participation in agricultural co-operative activity.

**Immediate objectives:** (i) To provide opportunities for the development of leadership among rural women through training; (ii) To provide encouragement for creating for them income-generating activities; and (iii) To assist in the formulation of rural development projects for women's participation.

**Participants:** The training course was attended by six participants - two each from Bangladesh, Thailand and Vietnam. So far in all the three courses, a total of eighteen (18) participants have been trained.

**Training course at IDACA:** The IDACA had

developed a course curriculum which included class room lectures on various aspects handled by IDACA faculty members and specially invited guest lecturers, field study visits and direct communication with women leaders. Of special significance was the development, organisation and activities of the Women's Association of Agricultural Co-operatives (WACC) and the role that the Association and its constituents play. Besides participating in agricultural production-related activities, the women's associations have been undertaking a variety of social and environmental programmes, e.g. use of powder soap, improving dieting habits, production of soyabean paste, improving social and economic life styles, participation in programmes for the welfare of children and women worldwide and drafting a plan of action entitled '*A Path Towards the 21st Century for Women's Association of agricultural Co-operatives - A Long-term Development Policy of the Association*'. The participants also had a chance to study a Co-operative Store and the Food Ingredient Delivery Centre and the Cooking Class of JA Fukuoka Yoshii. They also had an opportunity of visiting JA Tsukuigun, near IDACA in Tokyo and held discussions with the leaders of women's associations and observing some of their activities.

## Environmental Activities - the ROAP initiatives

Following the lead taken by the ICA Regional Office and the discussions held at the 30th Congress of the International Co-operative Alliance in Tokyo, several initiatives were taken by the Co-operative movements in the Asia-Pacific region. The National Co-operative Union of India organised a national level workshop on 'Co-operatives and Environment' at New Delhi during July 26-31, 1993.

The national workshop was organised by the NCU in close collaboration with the ICA ROAP, IFFCO-India, and the National Centre for Co-operative Education. 25 participants representing co-operative education officers, women workers, and co-operative field officers from all over India were invited to participate in the workshop.

The main objectives of the workshop were : (i) to acquaint the participants about the

present status of environment management; (ii) to examine the issues and steps involved in designing environment-friendly pattern of rural development, and; (iii) to develop methods and techniques for creating awareness among co-operative members and community about deteriorating condition of environment.

Dr. Daman Prakash, Project Director from the ICA ROAP and Dr. G.C. Shrotriya, Senior Manager from IFFCO worked as resource persons to the workshop.

Dr. Daman Prakash had also prepared several technical papers on the subject for a wider circulation in the Region. Some of the papers prepared are: Environmental Issues and Co-operatives - Some broader and narrower issues; Let us Co-operate to Protect our Environment through a Co-operative Action; Environment and Sustainable Co-operative Development in the Asia-Pacific Region.

## CICOPA Activities

### ICA-CICOPA/INDIA Project Operational

A development pilot project aimed at 'strengthening the management and marketing skills of artisanal co-operatives in India' was approved for implementation with the funding support made available by the ICA-CICOPA.

The project idea emerged out the recommendations of the national workshop on the status of artisanal co-operatives, especially in the fields of handloom weavers, spinning mills, metalware workers and labour and construction held by the National Co-operative Union of India at Bangalore in June, 1993. The ICA-CICOPA has agreed to provide needed funds to the NCUI through the ICA ROAP to implement the pilot project initially for a period of one year beginning July, 1993.



Mr. Yves Regis, Chairman of ICA-CICOPA with the participants of the National Workshop held in Bangalore, June '93

The following objectives have been identified for the pilot project:

1. To understand and identify the problems of handloom weavers' co-operatives, metalware workers' co-operatives, handicraft co-operatives and constructions and labour co-operatives in general and particularly within

a radius of 300 Kms. from Delhi and Bangalore respectively.

2. To suggest possible solutions to ameliorate the overall situation of the co-operative members in these co-operative societies.

3. To identify good primary artisanal co-operatives for service under the project at two centres, namely, Delhi

and Bangalore. The societies could be numbered around 25 for each centre.

4. To prepare and implement the business development plans for identified co-operatives for one year aiming at improving the management and marketing of the identified co-operatives.

5. To catalyse the development of other similar co-operatives in the area and replicate the efforts in other parts of the country.

6. To strengthen trading relations between co-operatives in India and EEC countries (UK, France and Germany) with a corporate strategy.

The pilot project operates from two duty stations, i.e., Delhi and Bangalore, manned by two co-operative development officers. The project carried out preliminary studies on a variety of co-operatives in the locations. By the end of Dec., 1993, the Delhi unit collected information on 48 primary level co-operatives and contacted 8 other related co-operatives. Out of these, 17 co-operatives have been identified for development and training work. The Bangalore unit studied 38 co-operatives and identified 18 primaries for further work.

Mr. Yves Regis, Chairman of the ICA-CICOPA has been instrumental in successfully locating this pilot project in India with the active support and collaboration of the NCUI and the ICA ROAP. A review of work of the pilot project has been planned for January and February, 1994.



Workshop on Environment & Co-operatives, Delhi, July, '93

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