



334:620. ICA.

**H.E. CHATURON CHAISANG Dy. Prime Minsiter of Thailand** 

**H.E. CHATURON CHAISANG**, has travelled widely and has vast working experience. He was Teaching Assistant, The American University, Washington, D.C; U.S.A.; 1976 President of the Student Club, Chieng Mai University; 1986 - 1988 Member of Parliament, Chachoengsao, New Aspiration Party; 1988 - 1991 Member of Parliament, Chachoengsao, New Aspiration Party; 1992 Member of Parliament, Chachoengsao, New Aspiration Party; 1995 - 1996 Member of Parliament, Chachoengsao, New Aspiration Party; 1986 - 1987 Assistant secretary to Minister of Finance; 1986 - 1988 Secretary of Economic Committee, House of Representatives; 1988 - 1991 Advisor of Committee on Finance, Banking and Financial Institutions, House of Representatives; 1991 Secretary to Minister of Commerce; 1992 - 1995 Advisor to Minister of Science, Technology and Environment; 1995 Advisor to Minister of Labor and Social Welfare; 1995 - 1996 Chairman of Committee on Science and Technology, House of Representatives; 1992 - 1995 Spokesman of New Aspiration Party; 1999 - 2000 Secretary General New Aspiration Party; 1998 - 2000 Member of Committee on Farty in General of New Aspiration Party; 1999 - 2000 Secretary General New Aspiration Party; 1998 - 2000 Member of Committee on Finance; 1998 Member of Committee on Finance, Banking and Finance, Banking and Financial Institutions, House of Representatives; 1998 - 2000 Member of Committee on Finance; 1998 Deputy Secretary in General of New Aspiration Party; 1999 - 2000 Secretary General New Aspiration Party; 1998 - 2000 Member of Committee on Finance; 1998 Member of Committee on Finance; 1999 - 2000 Secretary General New Aspiration Party; 1998 - 2000 Member of Committee on Finance; 1998 Member of Representatives; 1998 Member of Committee on Finance; 1999 - 2000 Secretary General New Aspiration Party; 1998 - 2000 Member of Committee on Finance; 1998 Member of Partianerial Institutions, House of Representatives; 1998 Member of Committee on Finance; 1999.

His Royal decorations include:

- 1986 Commander (Third Class) of the Most Noble Order of the Crown of Thailand 1988;
- Commander (Third Class) of the Most Exalted Order of the White Elephant 1990 Knight;
- Commander (Second Class) of the Most Noble Order of the Crown of Thailand 1995;
- Knight Commander (Second Class) of the Most Exalted Order of the White Elephant 1996;
- Knight Grand Cross (First Class) of the Most Noble Order of the Crown of Thailand 2000;
- Knight Grand Cordon of the Most Noble Order of the Crown of Thailand.





MR. SUWAT TANTIPAT Governor of Chiang Mai

**MR. SUWAT TANTIPAT,** was born on 27 December 1946 and became the Governor of Chiang Mai in 2003.

He did his Bachelor of Law from Thammasat University, Bangkok, Thailand in 1966-1965 and thereafter a Masters in Development Administration from National Institute of Development Administration, Bangkok, Thailand in 1974-75. He also holds a Certificate of Senior Governor, Institute of Administration of Development, Thailand and a Certificate of Senior Administrator, Damrongrachanupab Institute.

He has wide work experience as:

- Assistant District Chief Officer of many districts/provinces
- Chief of the Administrative Office for Rachaburi Province
- Deputy Governor of Uthaithani Province and Suphanburi Province
- Governor of Burirum Province
- Governor of Chiang Mai Province (Since 5 June 2003)



MR. WAN MUHAMAD NOOR MATHA Minsiter of Agriculture



MR. WIRAT IAM-UA-YUTH Chairman, CLT

**MR. WAN MUHAMAD NOOR MATHA,** the Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives was born May 11, 1944. His Educational qualifications include a B.Ed., Bachelor of Education (Social Science) Chulalongkorn University in 1969 and in 1974 he did his M.Ed., Master of Education (Administration) Chulalongkorn University.

A person with varied professional background, he was Advisor to prime Minister in 1988. Besides holding several high positions in the high offices as also ministerial positions he was Deputy Prime Minister in March 10, 2004.

He received several Royal Decorations form distinguished personalities and Institutes.

**MR. WIRAT IAM-UA-YUTH** is the Chairman of the Cooperative League of Thailand from 2001 till date.

Mr. Wirat Iam-Ua-Yuth is deeply involved with Cooperative Development and has vast experience and knowledge. He work experiences includes :

- Chairman of Chumsaeng Agricultural Cooperative, Ltd. Nakhonsawan Province, Thailand;
- Chairman of the Cooperative League of Thailand, Bangkok, Thailand;
- Board Member of Bangchak Petroleum Public Company Limited.

## Speakers

### IAN MACPHERSON

Mr. Ian MacPherson is a Professor of History and Director of the British Columbia Institute for Co-operative Studies at the University of Victoria. The author of several books and papers on the Canadian and international co-operative movement, he has made numerous presentations and offered papers to co-operative and academic groups in many parts of the world. He has served on the boards of several cooperative organisations, locally, provincially, nationally and internationally. He led the process and wrote the documents whereby the International Co-operative Alliance developed its Identity Statement for the twenty-first century at its Manchester Congress in 1995.

#### FUKAMACHI SHIGERI

Mr. Fukamachi Shigeri, graduated from the economic department of Tokyo Metropolitan University in March 1969. He joined the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives (JA-Zenchu) in April 1969 and in the various sections such as audit, computer system counter measures, Central Cooperative College and the last post was manager of publicity and public department in April 2001. After that, he assumed a post as the managing director of IDACA until now.

#### YAMASHITA

Mr. Yamashita is Vice President of JCCU and has been the Chairperson of Co-op Tokyo, which is one of the biggest and successful primary consumer co-operatives in Japan, since 2001. Mr. Yamashita also takes on the position of Vice Chairperson of CCI of ICA since 2003.

#### LUCITA LAZO

Ms. Lucita Lazo started work at UNIFEM, Bangkok as Regional Programme Director, in April 2003. Prior to joining UNIFEM, Lucy was Director General of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) and then undersecretary of the Department of Labour and Employment, Intramuros, in Manila. From 1988 to 1996, she was the chief technical officer of the International Labour Organization's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, located here in Bangkok, where she implemented a technical cooperation project for rural women home workers in Thailand, Indonesia and the Philippines. Under the project she advocated for policy and programme reforms to extend social protection and safety nets to home workers who were adversely affected by globalization. Likewise, she has championed the recognition and social protection of workers in informal employment. She is co-founder of the HOMENET, a network of home workers' organizations as well as the WIEGO (Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing), an international NGO.

Lucy has an M.A. in Psychology from the University of the Philippines, where she also taught for ten years. She was an assistant professor of Psychology from 1979 to 1982. She has worked as a consultant for numerous international organizations including the UNDP, UNICEF, ESCAP, the ADB and the European Commission.

### **HUSEYIN POLAT**

Mr. Huseyin Polat was born in Turkey in 1946 and studied mathematics and engineering and undertook postgraduate studies on labour economics and cooperative management training. He worked in the Turkish trade union movement as cooperative organizer, trainer and general manager of the union of workers' consumers cooperatives. He joined the ILO in 1986 as cooperative development expert and worked in several Asian countries. He has been stationed in Geneva since 1991 and coordinating regional and interregional technical assistance programmes and projects of the Cooperative Branch. Among these programmes and projects, the indigenous and tribal peoples' programme of the ILO (INDISCO) and the trade union-cooperative collaboration to organize the informal economy workers (SYNDICOOP) can be highlighted due to their strong participatory approaches aimed at supporting cooperatives of the poorest of the poor and strengthening the ILO's partnerships with the ICA, ICFTU and the national affiliates of these organizations.

### PAUL FITZGERALD

Paul is the Deputy Director/General Manager of the Australian Centre for Co-operative Research and Development (ACCORD a joint venture of the University of Technology Sydney and Charles Sturt University. He has come to the position with extensive experience in the areas of enterprise development, employment services, economic development, housing and finance in the not for profit, government and the private sectors .He has had practical experience in both managing and directing co-operatives and social development organizations. He was the founding CEO of the National JobFutures group and has been a Director of a number of finance organizations. He has had over 20 years experience as a consultant working across Australia and more recently internationally as an expert on post war reconstruction planning in such environments as Bosnia,

Kosova and Sri Lanka He holds formal qualifications in Business, Sociology, Psychology, Finance and Education.

### SEAH KIAN PENG

Mr Seah Kian Peng is the Chairman of Singapore National Co-operative Federation (SNCF), the apex body representing the Co-operative Movement in Singapore. Concurrently, Mr Seah is also the Deputy CEO and COO of NTUC FairPrice Co-operative and the CEO of NTUC Media Cooperative. NTUC FairPrice is a leading retailer in Singapore, running a chain of over 100 supermarkets and convenience stores and NTUC Media is in the radio broadcasting and publishing businesses. In February 2003, Mr Seah was elected as a member of the Standing Committee of International Co-operative Alliance Regional Office for Asia & Pacific. Prior to his involvement in the Co-operative Movement, Mr Seah had worked in both the public and private sectors. He currently sits on the boards of various subsidiaries within the NTUC Group as well as serve on various public and community organizations.

### FAYE LAGEU

Faye Lageu is an Associate of the Chartered Insurance Institute (UK) and has nine years experience in the International Cooperative and Mutual Insurance Federation. In 2002, she was appointed Vice President Intelligence Unit; in this role, she has been responsible for the development of tools for the delivery of strategic information to members of the Federation, and appropriate platforms to ensure the exchange of experience, including professional networks and collaborative research studies. Her other areas of interest have included the development and running of the ICMIF management course and an in-depth research piece, Valuing Our Mutuality, a European-wide study which puts the financial performance of cooperatives/mutuals compared to that of stock companies under the microscope. From 1998-2004, Faye was also Assistant Director of the European regional association of the Federation, ACME. Faye also holds a Bachelors degree in Modern Languages, and although born and based in the UK, has worked in France, Italy and the United States.

### HAGEN HENRŸ

Hagen Henrÿ is a Doctor of Laws and a German lawyer. He did his major in Development Policy and Development Law from the Universities of Paris and Geneva. He is a Consultant on Cooperative Legislation and Policy since 1993 for various national and international governmental and non-governmental organizations in some 30 countries around the world.

#### **TEO SAY HONG**

Mr Teo Say Hong is the Youth Coordinator of Singapore

National Co-operative Federation. During the 4th ICA Regional Co-operative Youth Seminar in September 2004, Mr Teo was elected as the Vice-Chairman of the Youth Steering Committee for the Asia-Pacific region. Mr Teo had been involved in the Co-operative Movement since his University days; he had been a director and internal auditor of the National University of Singapore (NUS) Multi-purpose Cooperative.

He had also been very active in the regional activities, having participated in the ICA ROAP's Regional Youth Seminar in 1996 (Singapore), 1999 (Philippines), 2001 (Japan) and 2004 (Malaysia). He also presented a paper on the importance of youth involvement during the 2001 ICA General Assembly in Korea. Prior to his involvement in the Co-operative Movement, Mr Teo had been the Chairman of the NUS Students' Union and the President of the NUS Engineering Club.

### Y.S.P. THORAT

Y.S.P. Thorat is the Managing Director, National Bank For Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) based in Mumbai, India. A Ph.D. in progress with the University of Reading, U.K., on the subject "The Forgotten Cooperatives - Provision of micro finance services by Non-Agricultural Credit Societies in Kolhapur District, Maharashtra, India".

He is a Certified Associate of the Indian Institte of Bankers and had served as the Principal of the Bankers' Training College. Prior to joining NABARD, Mr. Thorat has served as the Executive Director of the Reserve Bank of India and also held several other important assignments.

#### **U.S. AWASTHI**

Mr. U.S. Awasthi is the Managing Director of the Indian Farmers Fertilisers Cooperative Limited (IFFCO), the largest producer and marketer of fertilisers in India. A graduate of Chemical Engineering, he has held executive positions in several chemical and fertilisers in cooperatives. he was Chairman of the Fertiliser Association of India from 1994-96 and became President of the International Fertiliser Industry Association, Paris in 1997.

Mr. Awasthi is on the Boards of several Indian and overseas companies, has over 25 technical papers to his credit, and has co-authored the book, "Fertiliser Industry in India." He is a recipient of the "Uttar Pradesh Gaurav Award" and the "Eminent Chemical Engineer Award." The National Cooperative Union of India, honoured him in 1997 for his distinguished service to the cooperative sector.

#### N. SUZUKI

Mr. N. Suzuki is the Secretary General of International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, Asia and the Pacific Regional Office (ICFTU-APRO).

## "RE-ENGINEERING CO-OPERATIVES IN THE GLOBALISED ECONOMY"

The present day world is characterized by globalization, growth through competition, trade beyond national boundaries, information technology, and the ever-opening market economy. To thrive, grow and sustain in such an environment, the co-operatives have to re-engineer their organization, management processes, and operations through adoption of innovative stratiegies.

We believe that the co-operatives will play a larger role in catalyzing economic growth with social justice.

## Sub-Themes of the Forum

## Sub-Theme 1 : "CO-OPERATIVE VALUES VIS-À-VIS COMPETITION"

In a globalised and market economy, the co-operatives have to face a great deal of competition. Being member-based businesses, they have to ensure cost-effective services to their members and to sustain their distinctive character. Although the co-operative way of business has a strong foundation in co-operative values, yet, in the context of market competitioin, the basic question is how do these values strengthen competiveness of co-operatives.

## Sub-Theme 2 : "FAIR GLOBALIZATION THROUGH CO-OPERATIVES"

Globalization is here to stay and we in the co-operative movement are well aware of it. Globalization, in itself, is not bad, and co-operatives can take advantage of it, as long as the globalization is done on a 'Fair' basis. Studies of impact of globalisation show that on the one hand, it has brought economic growth, it has also created economic disparities and further marginalized the poorer sections of the societies. Can co-operatives ensure fair globalization?

## Sub-Theme 3 : "RE-STRUCTURING CO-OPERATIVES"

Re-structuring the co-operatives are very essential to survive in the market economy. So in order to nurture the co-operatives, co-operative leaders and governments should take immediate initiatives to properly restructure co-operatives, to make them meber-centric and market-oriented enterprises.

## Sub-Theme 4 : "GOVERNANCE OF CO-OPERATIVES"

Success of any business enterprise depend on good governance and professional management practices. Transparency, accountability and respect for stakeholders are important elements of good corporate governance. However, in majority of countries of Asia-Pacific, co-operatives have been controlled by the government. In a competitive environment, change in the corporate governance of cooperatives, therefore, becomes inevitable.

### Sub-Theme 5 : "SECTORAL CONCERNS"

Co-operatives cover all sectors of the economy. Important sectors where co-operatives have made their effective visibility are insurance, agriculture and consumers. Viewed in the context of the new changes that are emerging in the global economy, an objective analysis of co-operatives in these sectors has become necessary.

## Sub-Theme 6 : "SOCIAL COHESION THROUGH CO-OPERATIVES"

The paramount purpose of setting up co-operatives is to serve the society. In the current times of ethnic and other strifes throughout the world, co-operative is probably the only system which brings people together and thus revitalizes the society. Co-operatives' commitment to promote gender equality and to harness the potential of youth help in strengthening social cohesion.

## **Objective** of the Forum

The objective of the Forum is to have an open and frank discussion on issues facing the co-operatives and for the co-operative leaders and practitioners to come out with possible solutions and strategies for the overall development of the Co-operative Movement in the Region.

Participants from Co-operative Organisations, research and training institutions and co-operative practitioners from Asia-Pacific and other regions are expected to participate.

## Venue of the Forum

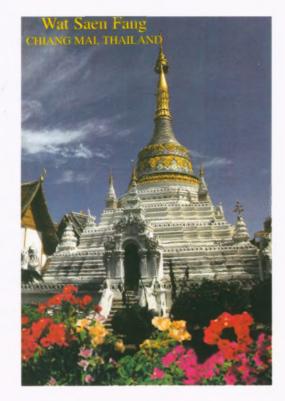
Lotus PSK Hotel is located in central Chiang Mai adjacent to the Kad Suan Kaew Shopping Plaza. The hotel is about 15 minutes drive from the International Airport and 10 minutes from the Night Bazaar.

Situated in a large complex together with the shopping plaza. The Lotus Hotel has two wings, the Doi Suthep wing (main wing) has 13 floors with an atrium style open lobby and the Huay Kaew wing which is situated above a parking house has its own reception and lobby on the 4th floor. Both wings are linked on the ground floor and the 6th floor in the Doi Suthep wing.













## TENTATIVE PROGRAMME OF 3rd ICA REGIONAL CO-OPERATIVE FORUM

Chiang Mai (Thailand): 1-2 December 2004

# *THEME :* RE-ENGINEERING CO-OPERATIVES IN THE GLOBALISED ECONOMY

Sub-Themes :	<ol> <li>Cooperative Values vis-à-vis Competition</li> <li>Fair Globalization through Co-operatives</li> <li>Re-structuring Co-operatives</li> <li>Governance of Co-operatives</li> <li>Sectoral Concerns</li> </ol>		
1st December 2004	6. Social Cohesion Through Co-operatives		
10:00-11:30	Joint Opening of the 3rd ICA Regional Co-operative Forum and 6th ICA Regional Assembly for Asia and the Pacific.		
10:00-10:30	<ul> <li>Welcome Speech by the Governor of Chiang Mai</li> <li>Cultural Show</li> <li>Video Presentation on Thailand Co-operative Movement</li> </ul>		
10:30-11.00	<ul> <li>Speeches by:</li> <li>Minister of Agriculture and Co-operatives, Thailand</li> <li>President, ICA (Mr. Ivano Barberini)</li> <li>President, ICA-Asia &amp; Pacific (Mr. Mu Li)</li> <li>President, CLT</li> </ul>		
11:00-12:00	<ul> <li>Inaugural Speech by H.E. Mr. Thaksin Shinnawatra, Prime Minister of Thailand</li> <li>Vote of Thanks by Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, ICA Regional Director</li> </ul>		
12.00-13.30	Lunch		
	Session-1: Co-operative Values vis-à-vis Competition Chairperson: Dr. Yehudah Paz		
13:30- 13:50	Speaker: Dr. Ian MacPherson, Canada.		
13:50-14:10	Interactions/discussions		
	Session-2: Fair Globalization through Co-operatives Chairperson: Mr. Tan Kin Lian		
14:10-14:30	Speaker: Mr. Huseyin Polat, Senior Co-op Development Expert, ILO.		
14:30- 15.10	Speaker: Mr. N.Suzuki, Secretary General, ICFTU/APRO, Singapore		
15:10-15:30	Interaction/discussions		
15:30-16:00	Tea/Coffee break		
	Session-3: Restructuring Co-operatives Chairperson: Dr. Robby Tulus		
16:00-16:30	Speaker: Mr. Paul Fitzgerald, Dy.Director, ACCORD, Australia on "Lessons of Demutualization of Co-operatives".		
16:30-17:00	Speaker: Mr. Shigeri Fukamachi, Managing Director, IDACA on "Building Strong Inter-Co-operative Relationships".		
17:00-17:30	Interactions/discussions		

2nd December 2004		
09:00-09:30	Presentation by Mr. Wim Polman, FAO Representative on "Review of UN Millennium Development Goals in the context of Asia-Pacific	
Situation".		
	<i>Session-4: Governance of Co-operatives</i> Chairperson: Director General, Co-op Promotion Department, Thailand	
09:30-09:50	<i>Speaker:</i> Mr. U.S. Awasthi, Managing Director, IFFCO on "Developing Positive Relationships between CEO, Chairman and the Board".	
09:50-10:10	Speaker: Mr. Hagen Henry, Chairman, ICA Legislative Forum on "Co-operative Law as an Instrument of Good Governance".	
10:10-10:30	Interactions/discussions	
10:30-11:00	Tea/Coffee break	
	Session 5: Sectoral Concerns Chairperson: Mr. Leow Peng Kui	
11:00-11:30	<i>Speaker:</i> Mrs. Ranjana Kumar, CMD, NABARD on "Re-engineering Co-operative Banks".	
11:30-12:00	Speaker: Mr. Faye Lageu, Vice President, ICMIF on "Re-engineering Insurance Co-operatives".	
12:00~12:30	<i>Speaker:</i> NACF representative, Korea on "Strengthening Agricultural Co-ops and Farmers' Organizations to Face Global Competition".	
12:30-14:00	Lunch break	
14:00-14:30	Speaker: Mr. Toshifumi Yamashita, Vice President, JCCU on "Relevance of Consumer Co-operatives to Protect Consumers in a Globalised Market".	
14:30-15:00	Speaker: Mr. Seah Kian Peng, Dy. CEO, NTUC Fair Price on "Relevance of Consumer Co-operatives to Protect Consumers in a Globalised Market".	
	<i>Session-6: Social Cohesion Through Co-operatives</i> Chairperson: Madam Rahaiah Baheran	
15:00-15:20	Speaker: Ms. Lucita S. Lazo, Regional Program Director, UNIFEM South-East Asia on "Gender Equality in Co-operatives".	
15:20-15:40	Speaker: Mr. Teo Say Hong, Youth Leader from Singapore National Co-operative Federation on "Social Cohesion from a Youth Perspective – Changing Attitudes of People in the Asia Pacific Region"	
15:40-16:00	Interactions/Discussions on Sectoral Issues.	
16:00-16:30	Tea/Coffee break	
16:30-17:30	<i>Summing up Session and Closing</i> Panelists: Dr. Yehudah Paz, Mr. Tan Kin Lian and Ms. Maria-Elena Chavez	
	- Summing up by Dr. Ian MacPherson.	
	Vote of Thanks by Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, Regional Director, ICA ROAP.	

# Other Meetings in Chiang Mai during the period

29 Nov. 2004	14.00 - 16.00 09.00 - 17.00 10.00 - 16.00	ICA Regional Women's Committee Meeting. ICA University/Campus Sub-committee Meeting and Workshop. International Cooperative Fisheries Organization (ICFO) General Meeting
30 Nov. 2004	09.00 - 15.00 09.00 - 18.00 09.00 - 16.00 09.00 - 19.30 09.00 - 12.30 09.00 - 12.30 14.30 - 17.00 16.00 - 19.00	4th ICA Regional Women's Forum 3rd ICA Regional Research Conference ICA Consumer Committee Meeting ICAO Workshop & Agri. Committee Meeting ICA HRD Committee Meeting ICMIF-AOA Seminar ICA RCBA Meeting ICA AP Standing Committee Meeting
1 Dec. 2004	10.00 - 10.30	Welcome Speech by: Chiang Mai Governor - Cultural Show - Video presentation on cooperative movement of Thailand
	10.30 - 11.00	<ul> <li>Speeches by:</li> <li>Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives</li> <li>President, ICA (Mr. Ivano Barberini)</li> <li>President, ICA Asia &amp; Pacific (Mr. Mu Li)</li> <li>Chairman of the CLT</li> </ul>
	11.00 - 12.00	<ul> <li>Inaugural Speech by H.E. Mr.Thaksin Shinnawatra,</li> <li>Prime Minister of Thailand</li> <li>Vote of Thanks by Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, ICA Regional Director</li> </ul>
	12.00 - 13.30	Lunch
	13.30 - 17.00	3rd ICA Regional Cooperatives Forum
	13.30 - 17.00	Thailand Cooperative Leaders Forum
	18.00 - 21.00	Welcome Party (all delegates & spouses)
2 Dec. 2004	09.30 - 17.00 09.00 - 15.30 18.00 - 21.00	3rd ICA Regional Cooperatives Forum (cont.) Thailand Cooperative Leaders Forum (cont.) Dinner Party (ICA delegates only)
3 Dec. 2004	09.30 -16.00 18.00 - 21.00	6th Regional Assembly Meeting Dinner hosted by ICA AP - ICA delegates only
4 Dec. 2004	08.00 - 17.00	Study visit to cooperatives

Compiled by P. Nair, Communication Officer, ICA-Asia Pacific, 9 Aradhana Enclave, Sector 13, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110066. <nair@icaroap.coop> and printed at Diamond Offset, HS 14, Kailash Colony Mkt, New Delhi-48. Email : amin\_zaidi@yahoo.com Tel : 91-11-26432836 Fax : 91-11-26463593



International Cooperative Alliance – Asia & Pacific

The ICA is an independent non-governmental association that unites, represents and serves the cooperatives worldwide. Founded in London on 18th August 1895 by the International Cooperative Congress, the ICA, the largest nongovernmental organisation, is headquartered in Geneva. ICA is a member-based organisation with national and international cooperative organisations in 102 countries. ICA's five Offices in Africa (2), the Americas, Asia and Pacific, and Europe, together, serve more than 241 member organisations, including five international organisations, representing well over 760 million individual members around the world.

The ICA Asia & Pacific [ICA A & P], one of the five offices serves 54 national level organisations from 22 countries, and one international organisation [ACCU]. Main activities include: Coordination of cooperative development efforts within the Region and promotion of exchange and experiences; Project identification, formulation and evaluation; Promotion of establishment and development of national cooperative apex organisations; and Organisation of seminars, conferences and technical meetings on specific subjects including support for programmes aimed at the involvement of women and youth in cooperative activities.

The ICA enjoys Category-I Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council [UN/ECOSOC] and has active working relations with UN and other international organisations.



The Cooperative League of Thailand (CLT)

The CLT is the non-profit organization established according to the Cooperative Act in 1968 as the national apex body of the cooperative movement, which comprised of the cooperatives all level being the members. The CLT plays a major role on the area of cooperation, promotion and development of the cooperative affairs in whole kingdom and worked toward securing management knows how that accommodates the needs of cooperative enterprises. The CLT was administrated by the General Assembly, Board of Director, Executive Director, The Annual General Assembly composes of 400 provincial cooperative representatives from all types of cooperative: Agricultural, Fisheries, Land Settlement, Consumer, Saving and Credit, and Service Cooperatives, throughout the country. Each province has different numbers of representatives based on the ratio of existing cooperatives. But each province is entitled to have at least one representative. Board of Directors of the CLT consists of not exceeding fifteen members who are elected by the Annual General Meeting. Among Board Members, one chairman and one or more vice chairman are elected. The Board of Directors appoints an Executive Director who is also the ex-officio secretary of the Board. The revenues of the CLT are from annual

subscription (Membership Fee), government subsidies, donation, and other incomes derived from the CLT's operations. The CLT has developed a set of missions and strategies for developing and strengthening the cooperative movement on five main areas, namely Public Relation, Human Resource Management, Cooperative System Development, Cooperative Business Development, and Cooperative Network Development aimed at socio-economic development of communities. Linkage with national and international bodies involving in farmers and cooperative development is also potential roles in protecting and maintaining rightful interests of the members.

