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AGENDA NOTES

**ICA Sub-Committee for Agriculture & Trade**

**TWELVETH MEETING**

~~**Trade Promotion Group**~~

**Fisheries Group**

**SEVENTH MEETING**

630:339(910)  
ICA

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Venue BALI, INDONESIA

Dates EIGHTH DECEMBER 1977

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

TWELVETH MEETING OF THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURE AND  
TRADE FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA, BALI, INDONESIA : 8TH DECEMBER 1977

A G E N D A

Agenda

Item No.

1. WELCOME BY HOST MOVEMENT.
2. REMARKS BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR.
3. REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN.
4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE ELEVENTH MEETING.
5. TALK ON "INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES".
6. HOW COOPERATIVES CAN INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION.
7. STUDIES IN THE LIVING CONDITIONS OF THE MEMBERS OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES IN THE REGION.
8. STUDY OF ORGANISATIONS SIMILAR TO COOPERATIVES AT VILLAGE LEVEL FORMED IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT.
9. STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA.
10. TRAINING SEMINAR IN SWEDEN ON AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE MARKETING FOR AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES IN THE REGION.
11. EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY THE REGIONAL OFFICE AND EDUCATION CENTRE IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION.
  - i. Open Asian Conference on cooperative credit and Financial management, Madras, India.
  - ii. Regional seminar on Management of Agricultural Cooperatives with special reference to Multipurpose Cooperatives, Tokyo, Japan.
  - iii. National seminar on Integrated Approach to Agricultural Cooperative Development in Nepal, Kathmandu, Nepal.

Agenda  
Item No.

12. PUBLICATIONS BROUGHT OUT/~~PLANNED~~ BY ~~THE~~ REGIONAL OFFICE & EDUCATION CENTRE IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION.
- i. Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Credit and Financial Management - Report and Papers.
  - ii. Integrated Approach to Agricultural Cooperative development in Nepal - Report of National Seminar.
  - iii. Farming Guidance in the cooperative movement in Japan.
  - iv. Readings in Cooperative Marketing.
13. COLLABORATION BETWEEN ICA AND THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANISATION (FAO).
14. DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATIVE TRADE IN THE REGION.
15. ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR.
16. VENUE AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE.
17. VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR.

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AGENDA ITEM NO.1 : WELCOME BY HOST MOVEMENT

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

AGENDA ITEM NO.2 : REMARKS BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

AGENDA ITEM NO.3 : REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

AGENDA ITEM NO.4 : CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE ELEVENTH MEETING

4.1 The minutes of the last meeting held in Tcheran, Iran, on 6th November 1976 have been circulated to all members. A copy of the minutes is annexed hereto for ready reference.

4.2 Action taken on the minutes is given in the relevant agenda items of these notes.

AGENDA ITEM NO.5 : TALK ON "INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES "

5.1 The sub-committee decided that there should be discussion on a subject of topical interest in its meetings. One of the subjects suggested for discussion was "Integrated Development of Agricultural Cooperation".

5.2 Mr. B.P. Faustino has kindly agreed to give a brief talk on this subject. This will be followed by discussion.

AGENDA ITEM NO.6 : HOW COOPERATIVES CAN INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION

6.1 This study was carried out in Thailand by an expert from India selected by the ICA. His Report was submitted to the ICA. This has been discussed with him and a summary of his recommendations was submitted to the Cooperative League and

also to the Department of Cooperative Promotion in Thailand. (A copy of the Report has also been submitted to the Cooperative Promotion Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives). They have informed that they will examine the recommendations and indicate their reaction.

6.2 The study was financed from Cooperative Development Fund of the ICA and is regarded as ICA's contribution to the COPAC proposed symposium on "Cooperatives and Involvement of the poor in their development" which is expected to be held in 1978.

6.3 Funds have been allocated to conduct a similar study in another country. Pakistan expressed willingness for conducting a study in that country. Regional Office initiated action to select an expert to carry out this study. It has to be delayed, however, due to the political situation in Pakistan.

AGENDA ITEM NO.7 : STUDIES IN THE LIVING CONDITIONS OF THE MEMBERS OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES IN THE REGION

7.1 The sub-Committee recommended that such studies should be carried out in a few countries. The Council/<sup>member from India</sup> (Mr. R.G. Tiwari) suggested that a study be made in India and his organisation would bear the costs. Action has been initiated to carry out a study in 3 selected areas in 3 states of India, namely, Kerala, Maharashtra and Punjab. The study will be carried out by the National Cooperative Union of India in consultation with the ICA Regional Office. The studies are now being carried out by three teams constituted for the purposes.

7.2 Earlier it is intended to carry out studies in the Philippines and Indonesia also. Regional Office has suggested to these two countries to carry out studies in a similar manner as is/being done by India. Philippines has agreed for the proposal and steps are being taken to carry out the study.

AGENDA ITEM NO.8 : STUDY OF ORGANISATIONS SIMILAR TO COOPERATIVES AT VILLAGE LEVEL FORMED IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT.

8.1 The sub-committee recommended that ICA should carry out studies of organisations which have only some characteristics of cooperatives with a view to assisting them to develop into cooperatives. No studies could, however, be carried out in this field so far.

AGENDA ITEM NO.9 : STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA

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

AGENDA ITEM NO.10 : TRAINING SEMINAR IN SWEDEN ON AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE MARKETING FOR AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES IN THE REGION.

10.1 The sub-committee recommended that a Training Seminar be held in Sweden on Agricultural Cooperative Marketing similar to the one held on the subject in Sweden in 1974 for cooperators from India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. The Regional Office conveyed the recommendation to the Swedish Cooperative Centre and they have agreed to hold a seminar on Agricultural Cooperative Marketing for participants from the Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia. The seminar is tentatively scheduled for 2 months in April-June 1978. Pre-seminars will be held in the above 4 countries on dates shown below on the subject. Participants for the seminar in Sweden will be selected from

amongst the participants of these pre-seminars. The total number of participants would be 20.

Philippines	:	3rd to 13th January 1978
Thailand	:	17th to 27th January 1978
Malaysia	:	31st Jan. to 10th Feb.1978
Indonesia	:	14th to 24th February 1978

When this programme is completed, three countries not covered would be Rep.of Korea, Iran and Pakistan. It is suggested that SCC may be requested to hold a seminar for the participants from these three countries.

AGENDA ITEM NO.11 : EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY THE REGIONAL OFFICE AND EDUCATION CENTRE IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION.

Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Credit and Financial Management, Madras, India.

11.1 The above mentioned conference was held in Madras, India, from 15th to 22nd November 1976. During the last four days study visits were made by participants to credit cooperatives in Tamil Nadu state. 143 participants attended the conference. The conference discussed the subject under the following heads :-

- i. cooperative credit planning for Agricultural Cooperative Development.
- ii. cooperative credit planning for Consumer and Industrial Cooperative Development (with special reference to the urban cooperative thrift and credit institutions).
- iii. Organisational structure and Rationalisation.
- iv. Manpower Planning, Training and Development, and
- v. Financial Management.



Regional seminar on Management of Agricultural Cooperatives with special reference to Multipurpose Cooperatives, Tokyo, Japan.

11.2 A Regional Seminar on Management of Agricultural Cooperatives with special reference to Multipurpose Cooperatives was held in Tokyo, Japan, in collaboration with central union of Agricultural cooperatives (CUAC) and the Institute for the Development of Agricultural cooperation in Asia (IDACA) from 1st to 21st September 1977. The seminar was preceded by a week long study visits for the Republic of Korea. Study visits to agricultural cooperatives in Japan were also conducted during the seminar in Japan. 20 participants from ten countries attended the seminar.

National seminar on Integrated Approach to Agricultural Cooperative Development in Nepal, Kathmandu, Nepal.

11.3 A National seminar on Integrated Approach to Agricultural Cooperative Development in Nepal was held in Kathmandu, Nepal, from 5th to 14th December 1976 by His Majesty's Government of Nepal with the assistance of ICA ROEC. ICA provided two resource persons. 25 participants attended the seminar.

AGENDA ITEM No.12 : PUBLICATIONS BROUGHT OUT/<sup>PLANNED</sup>BY THE REGIONAL OFFICE AND EDUCATION CENTRE IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION.

Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Credit and Financial Management - Report and Papers.

12.1 This publication is an outcome of the Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Credit and Financial Management held in Madras, India. The publication comprises the Group reports adopted by the conference, the working papers presented and the speeches made at the inaugural session of the conference.

Integrated Approach to Agricultural Cooperative Development in Nepal - Report of National Seminar.

12.2 This is the report of the national seminar held on the subject in Kathmandu, Nepal, by the Department of Cooperation, His Majesty's Government, Nepal, with the assistance of the ICA Regional Office and Education Centre for South-East Asia.

Farming Guidance in the Cooperative Movement in Japan.

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

Readings in Cooperative Marketing

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

AGENDA ITEM NO.13 : COLLABORATION BETWEEN ICA AND THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANISATION (FAO).

13.1 It is learnt from FAO that they have received two projects from our member-organisations, one from Sri Lanka and the other from the Philippines. Both the projects are under the Money and Medals Programme. Dr. N.J. Newiger has indicated that he would attend the Agricultural sub-committee meeting to discuss the subject of collaboration between the FAO and the ICA. However, we have now been informed that it is not possible for him to attend due to an unavoidable reason.

AGENDA ITEM NO.14 : TRADE PROMOTION GROUP

14.1 The need to promote inter cooperative trade especially between national boundaries is increasingly felt. It is an area that need to be constantly examined by those concerned with a view to devising ways & means of promoting trade. The international cooperative ~~Trading Organisation~~ has been functioning from 1975. In order to constantly examine trends in international cooperative trade, discuss problems and advise concerned organisations such as ICTO, it is suggested that Trade Promotion Group be reactivated.

International Cooperative Trading Organisation

14.2 In one of his recent communications, the Chairman of ICTO has observed that the success of ICTO's operation depend on a number of imponderables and according to him, ICTO is facing the following main problems :-

- i. shareholder organisations are generally not utilising or even endeavouring to utilise the services of ICTO.
- ii. shareholder organisations have not supplied ICTO with up-to-date information on products and commodities which they wish to buy and sell.
- iii. Representatives of shareholders are not equipped with accurate information on products and capacity to satisfy demands. samples forwarded are often not up to standard and quotations are not competitive.
- iv. communications and response to trade enquiries are generally unsatisfactory.
- v. some shareholders have not even appointed liaison officers, whilst liaison officers appointed by shareholder organisations and the special international marketing representative appointed are ineffective.
- vi. Genuine attempts to assist ICTO are lacking on the part of its shareholders.

Attention of the members is drawn to the above.

ILO/SIDA Workshop on strengthening of  
Inter-Cooperative Trade Relations.

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

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

14.5 In case the proposal of the Regional Office to institute the consultancy cell in ICTO is accepted by ILO/SIDA, ICTO will have to provide office accommodation and employ a counterpart to work with the International Trade expert for a period of two years.

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

Trade Information Bulletin

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

AGENDA ITEM NO.15 : ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR.

AGENDA ITEM NO.16 : VENUE AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE.

AGENDA ITEM NO.17 : VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR

New Delhi  
25/10/77



Lionel Gunawardana  
Secretary, ICA sub-Committee  
for Agriculture and Trade.

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MINUTES OF THE ELEVENTH MEETING OF THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE  
ON AGRICULTURE AND TRADE FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA HELD IN  
TEHRAN, IRAN ON SIXTH NOVEMBER 1976.

1. The Eleventh Meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee on Agriculture and Trade for South-East Asia was held at the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Elizabeth Boulevard, Tehran, Iran on 6th November 1976.

The following members were present at the meeting :

Members

1. Mr. B.P. Faustino, Chairman and Member for the Philippines.
2. Mr. Irwin Hunter, Vice Chairman and Member for Australia.
3. Mr. G.K. Sharma, Member for India.
4. Mr. Eddiwan, Member for Indonesia.
5. Mr. A. Moghaddas, Member for Iran - in the Chair.
6. Mr. S. Taguchi, Member for Japan.
7. Mr. Supah Noh, Member for Malaysia.
8. Mr. Sardar Farooq Ahmed Ali, Member for Pakistan.
9. Mr. L.M.V. de Silva, Member for Sri Lanka.
10. Mr. Bochana Sankhariksha, Member for Thailand.

Secretary

Mr. Lionel Gunawardana, Joint Director (P&PR) and Specialist in Agricultural Cooperation, ICA Regional Office and Education Centre for South-East Asia.

Observers

1. Mr. R.G. Tiwari, ICA Councillor for India.
2. Mr. Tapeshwar Singh, ICA Councillor for India.
3. Mr. D. Basuki, ICA Councillor for Indonesia.
4. Mr. J. Sassani, ICA Councillor for Iran.
5. Datuk N.A. Kularajah, ICA Councillor for Malaysia.
6. Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim, Member, - Fisheries Group (Malaysia)
7. Prof. M.G. Yadao, ICA Councillor for the Philippines.

- 2
8. Mr. Mak Kam Heng, ICA Councillor for Singapore.
  9. Mr. Kulasegaram, ICA Councillor for Singapore.
  10. Mr. M.R.B. Daswatte, ICA Councillor for Sri Lanka.
  11. Mr. Prahit Machima, ICA Councillor for Thailand.

### Special Invitees

1. Mr. R. Kerinec, President, ICA.
2. Dr. S.K. Saxena, Director, ICA.
3. Dr. N. Newiger, Head, Human Resources Division, FAO, Rome.
4. Mr. H. Togawa, Managing Director, IDACA, Tokyo, Japan.
5. Mr. R. Shahrabaki, SCC, Tehran, Iran.
6. Mr. Ling Diung Sing, Manager, ICTO, Singapore.

### ICA Regional Office Staff

1. Mr. P.E. Weeraman, ICA Regional Director for South-East Asia.
2. Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education).
3. Mr. M.K. Puri, Joint Director (T&T)
4. Mr. S.S. Avadhani, P.A. to Regional Director.

### AGENDA ITEM NO.1 : WELCOME BY HOST MOVEMENT

2. Mr. B.P. Faustino, the outgoing Chairman presiding over the opening session of the meeting stated that he would like to call attention of the members to the Agenda Item No.1 of the Agenda Notes already-circulated to the members. However, before asking Mr. Sassani to deliver the welcome address, he said that he would like to say a few words with the permission of the body. Mr. Faustino then welcomed Mr. R. Kerinec, President of the International Cooperative Alliance and Dr. S.K. Saxena, the Director of the Alliance and Dr. N. Newiger, Head of the Human Resources Division of the FAO. Mr. Faustino also welcomed to the meeting the new members of the Sub-Committee, namely, Mr. Supah Noh from Malaysia, Mr. Bochana Sankarisksha of Thailand and Mr. S. Taguchi of Japan and Mr. Ling Diung Sing, Manager of ICTO who was present



at this meeting by special invitation by the ICA to report on the operations of the ICIO to the Sub-Committee. Mr. Faustino also remarked that it was the second time that Iran was hosting the series of meetings of the Council, the Sub-Committee and the IDACA. Mr. Faustino thanked the host movement on behalf of himself and the members of the Sub-Committee for the excellent arrangements they had made and their lavish hospitality. He thanked the hosts for the handsome brief cases. He also thanked the Prime Minister of Iran for inaugurating the series of meetings in the morning and the Minister of Agriculture of Iran for addressing the inaugural meeting. Mr. Faustino then called upon the representative of Iran, General Sassani to deliver the address of welcome.

3. Mr. Sassani welcomed the members on behalf of the Cooperative Movement of Iran and expressed the hope that the arrangements made for the meetings were satisfactory and that the members would find their stay in Iran enjoyable and fruitful. He wished them success in their deliberations.

AGENDA ITEM No.2 : REMARKS BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

4. Mr. P.E Weeraman, ICA Regional Director, welcomed the members of the Sub-Committee and the observers on behalf of the ICA. For the benefit of the new members, he explained the functions of the Sub-Committee. He said that it was the sub-committee of the Auxiliary Committee on Agricultural Cooperation of the ICA. It works in close collaboration with the ICA Council and plays a complimentary role. It was really this body that gave advice to the Regional Office in its work of Agricultural Cooperation and agricultural development in this region. This body has established the International Cooperative Trading Organisation.

5. He said that the presence of Dr. N. Newiger of the FAO in the meeting needed special mention. Dr. Saxena and he had discussed and decided that it would be very useful to have Dr. Newiger attend this meeting. Recently there has been a change in the policy of the FAO. The new FAO policy gives a lot of promise. On behalf of the ICA, Mr. Weeraman expressed deepest thanks to Dr. Newiger for coming for the meeting. Mr. Weeraman also thanked the members of the Sub-Committee and members of the Council and other observers, Mr. Togawa, the Managing Director of IDACA and Mr. Ling of ICTO for accepting the invitation and attending the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 : ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

6. Mr. Supah Noh of Malaysia proposed the name of Mr. Faustino for re-election and Mr. Eddiwan of Indonesia seconded the proposal. Mr. Faustino was elected Chairman unanimously. Mr. Faustino thanked the members for re-electing him as Chairman for a second term and accepted the Chairmanship.

Election of Vice Chairman

7. Mr. Mak Kam Heng proposed the name of Mr. Irwin Hunter for the post of Vice Chairman. Mr. Eddiwan seconded the proposal. Mr. Hunter was declared unanimously elected. Mr. Hunter thanked the members for electing him as Vice Chairman.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 : REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

8. Mr. Faustino, the re-elected Chairman said that as he had already made his remarks earlier he would ask the body to consider the next agenda item.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 : CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE TENTH MEETING

9. The Secretary of the Sub-Committee, Mr. Gunawardana, drew the attention of the meeting to a correction suggested

by Mr. Hunter. It was then decided to incorporate the correction as given in the Agenda Notes (i.e. In Western Australia the manufacture of fertiliser is controlled by the private sector, made up of a long standing manufacturer, an oil company and a fertiliser cooperative whose shareholders are farmers).

10. Mr. Hunter proposed that as the minutes were already circulated earlier among the members, they may be taken as read and confirmed subject to the corrections decided earlier. Mr. Mak seconded the proposal. The Chairman then declared the minutes as read and confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM No. 6 : HOW COOPERATIVES CAN INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION

11. The Chairman invited the members to make their comments on the item. Mr. Weeraman, Regional Director, stated that the ICA ROEC had taken some action on this subject already. He mentioned that the ICA ROEC was asked to make the study on the above subject at the last meeting and accordingly an experienced official cooperator from India was appointed to make a study of "How cooperatives can increase food-production in Thailand". Mr. Pradit Machima, Director of the Cooperative League of Thailand was appointed Associate Expert. The study was nearing completion and the report would be prepared after the completion of the study.

12. Mr. Machima informed that 70 per cent of the study was over. On his return to Thailand, Mr. Machima and Mr. Bailur would finalise the report.

13. Mr. Tiwari from India said that this subject was a very important one not only in respect of food production, but also in respect of the living conditions of the rural people which were closely linked with the economic improvement of the agriculturists.

14. Mr. Machima said that the cooperatives, especially the agricultural cooperatives, could assist in increasing food production by supplying credit to farmers, collecting his farm produce and marketing them and also by starting processing industries. In Thailand at present only 10 per cent of the farmers are members of cooperatives. He felt that a programme of increasing the activities of agricultural cooperatives in his country was needed.

Mr. Tiwari stated that there was a lot of similarity in the rural economy of Thailand and India. Mere provision of agricultural credit would not lead to increase in food production. The emphasis should be on extension services and education in developmental techniques.

16. Mr. Machima said that his movement laid emphasis on extension services and education of farmers and linking of agricultural cooperatives with urban cooperatives.

17. Mr. Fuastino said that it was not enough if the agricultural cooperatives offered farm credit. Rather the cooperatives should offer a package of services to the farmers.

18. Mr. Tiwari felt that for increased food production, some kind of incentive to farmers was necessary. Prices of farm products were controlled by governments whereas input prices were going up. This problem needed to be studied in greater depth. Giving proper incentives to farmers should continue.

19. Mr. Mak wanted to know from the Member from Thailand how the Group Farming programme worked in Thailand and whether these groups were cooperatives or non-cooperatives. Mr. Machima informed that there were 3,046 Farmers' Associations in Thailand consisting of 60,000 farmer members. Agricultural Multipurpose Cooperatives were only 555 in number with a membership of 400,000. Agricultural activities were increasing rapidly because of political support of government and he hoped that eventually the present non-cooperative farmers' associations would merge with agricultural cooperatives.

20. Dr. Newiger of the FAO expressed his appreciation and thanks for being invited to this meeting and for the kind remarks of Mr. Weeraman. He drew attention of the meeting to the initiative taken by the President of the Alliance, Mr. Kerinec and the Director, Dr. Saxena in meeting the Director-General of the FAO and discussing ways of closer collaboration in the practical field especially in respect of small projects. His presence at this meeting, he said, was the outcome of that discussion and he knew that the ICA and the FAO had been working together for the past 30 years and that was not new but what was new was the new stage of development and new prospects of closer collaboration between the two organisations. Dr. Newiger then made some comments on the present agenda item. The major policy of FAO was to increase food production and raising the levels of living standards of people; and cooperatives had to play a very important role in this task. The FAO was now in the process of drawing up a programme for making the knowledge and experience gained in some countries available to other countries. They were in possession of a number of country papers on the experience and the role of cooperatives and other organisations in increasing food production e.g. the experience of Socialist countries. The FAO was planning to hold a meeting hopefully in close collaboration with the ICA, in Budapest in October 1977 on which occasion they plan to discuss some relevant experiences of different countries, such as Poland, Yugoslavia, Hungary, Italy, U.K and Tasmania. They would then enter the Asian region. In this respect they have approached Japan and the Philippines. This would be a consultation to exchange views on the subject. The FAO was prepared to collaborate with the ICA on the major policy issue of giving cooperatives a greater share in increasing food production.

21. Dr. Saxena added some further points to what Dr. Newiger had said, viz. that some material had been prepared by FAO which could be made available to the members of this Group or to the ICA.

22. Mr. Faustino said that Dr. Newiger could be requested to supply the material.

23. Mr. Hunter stated that the expertise required to increase agricultural production was of extreme importance provided the cooperative principles were observed. But a proper organisation of agricultural marketing was necessary before increasing food production. The objective should be the integration of production and marketing and the establishment of cooperative banking in these countries. Attention should be paid by the cooperative movements of the respective countries to see that cooperatives could stand on their own to avoid statutory governmental boards dictating market prices. These were not in the interest of the community as a whole.

24. Sardar Farooq Ahmed Ali from Pakistan welcomed the proposal to make a study on "How cooperatives can increase food production in Pakistan".

25. Mr. Gunawardana said that he had discussed this matter with the Pakistan Cooperative Union and that they have agreed to the study being made there during the first half of 1977.

AGENDA ITEM No.7 : STUDIES IN THE LIVING CONDITIONS OF THE MEMBERS OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES IN THE REGION.

26. Mr. Faustino informed the meeting that the Survey report of Agricultural Credit and Cooperatives Institute (ACCI) was being printed now and would be available in a few months time. This survey he informed, was a very extensive one. Mr. Eddiwan from Indonesia informed the meeting that the study in his country was still going on. He suggested that in view of the quick changes taking place in the living conditions of farmers, the study should not only be on the living conditions but also on the ways and means of improving the living conditions of farmers.

27. Mr. Tiwari wanted to know if the study made in the Philippines was in line with the decision taken by the Top Level Cooperative Leaders Conference in Tokyo. Mr. Faustino replied that the study was connected with this decision.

28. Mr. Tiwari wanted to know if any other countries have had such studies being carried out in their countries. Mr. Machima from Thailand replied that such a study was made by the Kasetsart University of Thailand and the report of that study was not yet out.

29. Mr. Tiwari wanted to know if the ICA was planning to launch such studies in respect of countries in the Region. Mr. Weeraman replied that there were no plans and that the ICA was waiting till reports from the Philippines and Indonesia were received and studied.

30. Mr. Tiwari informed that there was a feeling of restiveness among the farmers in India and the ICA should come forward with programmes which would try to find out the causes of such restiveness.

31. Mr. Kularajah thought that perhaps the experiences of the Indore Project may provide some guidelines in this respect. Mr. J.M. Rana informed that the Indore Project was designed to impart cooperative education to members and management committee members.

32. Mr. Faustino said that it was he who had suggested to the ICA ROEC to make the study in the Philippines and at that stage as a survey was being made in the Philippines on the subject, the study by the ICA was withheld.

33. Mr. Tiwari invited the ICA to make a study in this sphere in India and said that his organisation would meet the cost of such study.

AGENDA ITEM No.8 : SHORTAGE OF FERTILIZERS AND COOPERATIVE ACTION TO IMPROVE SUPPLIES.

34. Mr. Gunawardana informed that the West Pakistan Cooperative Union had written to the ICA that it had been found on investigation that the production of fertilisers in Pakistan by 1980 by the existing fertilizer factories and by the projects already approved would exceed the projected requirements. Hence there was no necessity to pursue this matter further.

35. Mr. Sardar Farooq Ahmed Ali confirmed the information given by Mr. Gunawardana.

36. Dr. Saxena informed that the UNIDO was going to arrange a Consultation in Fertilizers in Vienna. The programme was to assist countries in setting up fertiliser plants by providing a team of 2-3 technicians. One of the members of this team would be the Managing Director of IFFCO in India. Another was from the Cooperative Fertilizer Industry in the USA. This consultation would be held some time in the middle of January 1977.

AGENDA ITEM No.9 : STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA.

37. Mr. Gunawardana explained to the meeting that the ICA has brought out a publication giving statistical information on agricultural cooperatives in the Region in 1970. The present intention was to revise this publication. The ICA has written to member organisations to furnish statistical information regarding agricultural cooperatives. Member organisations, he suggested, may appoint a particular individual who could be contacted for supplying the needed information.

38. Mr. Tiwari from India said that for obtaining this information, Mr. G.K. Sharma, Managing Director of NAFED may be contacted and suggested to the meeting that other members should also give the names of persons who could be contacted by the ICA Secretariat.



AGENDA ITEM No.10 : EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT/PLANNED AND PUBLICATIONS BROUGHT OUT BY THE REGIONAL OFFICE IN THE FIELD OF AGRIL.COOPERATION.

39. The Sub-Committee noted with approval the information given in paragraphs 10.1 to 10.5 of the Agenda Notes.

40. Mr. Tiwari from India extended an open invitation to all the members present at the meeting, and especially the President of ICA, Mr. R. Keranez and the Director of the Alliance, Dr. S.K. Saxena to the open Asian Conference on Cooperative Credit and Financial Management to be held in Madras from 15th November 1976.

41. Mr. de Silva from Sri Lanka reported that the National Seminar on Cooperative Farming held in Colombo in June 1976 was very successful and that they were now awaiting the feed back information from the participants of this seminar.

AGENDA ITEM No.11 : STUDY OF COOPERATIVES SIMILAR TO COOPERATIVES AT VILLAGE LEVEL FORMED IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT.

42. Members were informed that such farmers organisations existed in Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines. These farmers' organisations or associations needed to be studied. The cooperative movements should help these farmers associations to come into the cooperative sector. The Chairman invited discussions on this subjects by the members.

43. Mr. Weeraman stated that there were various types of organisations which did not carry with them the independence that cooperatives must have. Cooperatives were started by governments in order that their own schemes were implemented. This sometimes had retarded the growth of cooperatives. Cooperative leaders should be aware of this situation. They should keep their eyes open and do something about it. The ICA should be kept constantly informed of what was happening.

44. Mr. Gunawardana requested the members to supply more information of the farmers' organisations/associations in their countries.
45. Dr. Saxena drew attention of the members to the concept of pre-cooperatives visualised by the ILO. He suggested that the ILO should be contacted to find out more about these types of cooperatives and what work they have done in this particular field.
46. Mr. Weeraman stated that he had an opportunity to go to Ghana where they have recently adopted a Cooperative Law which provided for PRE-COOPERATIVES.
47. Mr. Kerinec informed the meeting that they also have this problem in France. The problem was one of law or statute. The Cooperative Movement in France was fighting with the government on the issue of pre-cooperatives.
48. Mr. Hunter felt that the problem lay in getting information from world bodies. The other problem was the legal aspect. He suggested that the ICA should prepare guidelines on this subject and communicate them to members.
49. Dr. Newiger drew the attention of the meeting FAO/CCPAC's exercise in the role of cooperative involvement with the rural poor. The FAO has been preparing a framework for research and action which has been discussed at various meetings. He said that the necessity was to identify the areas where action is needed, what actions are needed and the type of organisations suited to assist the people.
50. Mr. Togawa said that the Japanese Cooperative Movement had some experience in this field. In Japan, since 1940, 100 per cent of the rural population was involved in the cooperative movement. At the end of 1930, government formed small groups of farmers into organisations of farmers without individual ownership. But now in Japan farming is based on individual ownership. The farmers associations were group farming organisations and some concessions were granted by the government to these organisations.

51. Mr. Tiwari said that in India the government was encouraging formation of cooperative like-institutions just to counter balance the effectiveness of cooperatives.

52. Mr. Supah Noh said that in Malaysia, the situation was different. The farmers' associations and fishermen's associations were formed by the government to fill the vacuum created due to the absence of cooperatives. But the government was now having second thoughts on this and was trying to bring back cooperatives by converting the farmers' groups or associations into cooperatives.

53. The meeting agreed that the ICA should carry out studies of these organisations which have only some characteristics of cooperatives with a view to assisting them to develop into cooperatives.

AGENDA ITEM No.12 : TRAINING SEMINAR IN SWEDEN ON AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE MARKETING FOR AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES IN THE REGION.

54. Mr. Gunawardana explained that in the seminar held in Sweden in 1974 on Agricultural Cooperative Marketing, participants were drawn from three countries, viz, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and India. Members from Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand said that they would welcome if a seminar for participants from their countries was held on this subject in Sweden.

55. At this point, Mr. Rana raised the question of ensuring proper selection of participants. The ICA ROEC and SCC have agreed upon a system by which selection would be made. The system was once presented to the Council meeting. National seminars were first organised in the particular subject and participants were selected out of those national seminars. He suggested that the same method be adopted for selecting participants. The meeting agreed to the suggestion. It was agreed to request SCC to hold a seminar.

AGENDA ITEM NO.13 : COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE ICA AND THE FAO

56. Dr. Newiger opened the discussion by stating that he had very little to add to the agenda notes prepared by the ICA ROEC by way of information and he would therefore make only a few points. (1) the FAO was fully aware of the constant collaboration between the cooperatives and governments which was not always as effective as it should be from the point of view of the cooperative movement. However, in most countries of the region, there was direct-relationship between the FAO representatives and government organisations. The present direct result of the active initiative taken by the Director-General of the FAO and the Director of the ICA was the formulation of a number of programmes in which these two organisations could collaborate. The following were the programmes initiated for such collaboration :

1) Technical Cooperation Programme : Under this programme, the FAO has urged the governments of developing countries on the need to raise food production and improve nutrition and living standards. This programme is an integral part of the FAO programme. It is not however a normal development programme of the FAO and therefore no quota for each country is fixed. This is in addition to the normal development programme. The type of assistance given under this programme is four-fold : (1) Assistance given for emergencies, (2) Investment preparation and follow-up action, (3) Training and (4) other unforeseen requirements.

57. The Technical Cooperation Programme would assist governments in preparatory activities leading to further investment in agriculture, training of personnel in the fields of fisheries and forestry and short term consultancy services for investment.

58. The Technical Cooperation Programme would give priority to action-oriented and practical training programmes which were directed particularly at the farm, the fishery

and the forestry workers who are the primary sources of production. The training programmes under this programme are meant to fill the gap between the existing training programmes or on-going programmes and the needs. These are not economic training programmes. These training programmes are of short-term duration and are designed to meet very-specific institutional problems. These training courses would be conducted at local training facilities in the country. Teaching material and other inputs would be supplied by the FAO. The emphasis would be on the training of trainers. The training courses are in the fields such as land development and irrigation. The project should not cost more than US\$250,000. The duration of the project should be a maximum of one year. There would not be any undue concentration of projects in any one country. The following are the criteria for the location of the project in a given country : (i) requirements of inputs, (ii) government involvement in the programme, and (iii) whether the project would improve the well-being of the rural masses. The projects seeking FAO assistance should be submitted to the FAO Country Representative through the channel of government by letter or cable or project report or document. This document should be fully-endorsed by the Agriculture Ministry. No cooperative project would be implemented without government approval.

59. Dr. Newiger also explained the FAO Money and Medals Programme<sup>S</sup>. The FAO Country Representative could assist the members of the Council and the Sub-Committee in the preparation and submission of projects.

60. The members of the Sub-Committee expressed appreciation of Dr. Newiger's presence at the meeting and his explanation of FAO's programme of assistance.

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<sup>S</sup>See Agenda Notes for detail regarding this programme.

61. Dr. Saxena asked Dr. Newiger to clarify for the benefit of members the role of the government of the recipient country in which the FAO project was located.

62. Dr. Newiger explained that in the implementation of these two programmes, the role of the FAO Country Representative would be a very important one and for this purpose the posts of Country Representatives have been upgraded. The first country where the Country Representative's post was upgraded was India. The Technical Collaboration Programme and the Money and Medals Programme did not require any change of government policy. However, government endorsement or support was necessary in the case of non-governmental projects. These projects were essentially to be carried out at the national level but could be extended to regional level.

63. Mr. Aziz from Malaysia asked if the FAO would provide experts in cooperative fishery projects. Dr. Newiger replied that the FAO would provide a fishery expert if a specific request is received.

64. Dr. Saxena said that some concrete projects should be sent up from countries.

65. Mr. Faustino thanked Dr. Newiger for answering the questions and queries of members.

66. Dr. Saxena stated that the ICA ROEC should be kept informed of any collaboration between the FAO and the country receiving assistance from the FAO.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 14 : DEVELOPMENT OF COOP. TRADE IN THE REGION

67. The Chairman of ICTO, Mr. Mak Kam Heng reporting on the working of ICTO said that the main function of ICTO was to provide market information of interest to cooperatives and assist them particularly the share-holders. ICTO's operation began in July 1975. The disappointing feature was that share-holder organisations have not used this organisation. On the contrary,

ICTO has been successful in completing deals with non-shareholder cooperatives. Members of ICTO, Mr. Mak emphasised, should send up-to-date information to it. There was silence and lack of communication from member-organisations of ICTO.

68. Mr. Ling, General Manager of ICTO stated that he had nothing more to add to what the Chairman stated. He would therefore answer any queries or questions raised by the members of the Council.

69. Mr. De Silva from Sri Lanka stated that his country could not buy but could only sell items such as tea, rubber and coconut. All foreign trade business was in the hands of government agencies or government controlled organisations.

70. Mr. Hunter stated that ICTO should function as a meaningful organisation both to the developed countries and developing countries. There was a need for a coordinating body. Members should give concrete support to ICTO. Why was ICTO not getting support? Obviously there was a communication gap. The ICTO was at present working with a skeleton staff. Staff should be increased. Millions of dollars worth of business was being done by Australia, but this business was not going through the hands of cooperatives.

71. Mr. Ling stated that support from the developed countries in Europe was necessary. Organisations such as KF, NAF and INTERCOOP should give all support to ICTO by informing ICTO what the cooperatives in Europe would like to buy from developing countries.

72. Mr. Sharma stated that the ICTO should pool information on importers and should do promotional work. It was not good for the cooperative movement of ICTO fails.

73. Mr. Kularajah said that ICTO was still new. It takes time to build up business. It is difficult for any organisation to change. ICTO should not limit its operations to members

next

only. He hoped that the meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee would be able to hear a better report of ICTO's performance.

74. Dr. Saxena said that a lot of effort has gone into the formation of ICTO. It was the outcome of a survey carried out by Mr. Isenberg appointed by the ICA. It appeared that the problem was one of communication. To overcome this, ICTO's activities could be published in various cooperative journals. ICTO's membership of INTERCOOP might not be feasible.

75. Mr. Kularajah said that the meeting should record its appreciation of Mr. Weeraman's act in taking great pains to explain and promote ICTO at the ICA Congress in Paris.

76. Mr. Kerinec, the President of the ICA said that there was no need for despair at ICTO's performance in the first year. He reminded the members that INTERCOOP took 20 years to succeed. He said that he would have a meeting with Mr. Volkers of INTERCOOP on the question of helping ICTO.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 15 : DISCUSSION OF A SUBJECT OF TOPICAL IMPORTANCE TO AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES IN THE REGION.

77. Mr. Gunawardana suggested that in future meetings of the Sub-Committee there should be a discussion on a subject of topical interest. If the members agree, a theme could be suggested for the next meeting.

78. Mr. Kularajah said that the ICA should develop some ideas on the subjects for discussion. He said that Increasing Food Production through Cooperatives could be one subject. The following themes were also suggested :

1. Integrated Development of Agricultural Cooperatives.
2. Inter-Cooperative Trade.
3. Increasing Food Production through Cooperatives.



AGENDA ITEM No.16 : REPORT OF THE VISIT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE TO NEW ZEALAND.

79. The meeting requested the Secretary to circulate a note regarding his visit to New Zealand in view of lack of time for an oral report.

80. Mr. Hunter informed the meeting that he had been talking with some cooperative leaders from New Zealand and that they made enquiries on the work of the ICA. Mr. Hunter thought that time was appropriate to invite New Zealand to become a member of the ICA. He said that there were 9 very large cooperative groups in New Zealand which were very closely connected and it was possible to have some dialogue with New Zealand. The meeting suggested that Mr. Hunter should encourage New Zealand cooperatives to seek ICA membership.

AGENDA ITEM No.17 : REPORT OF THE DISCUSSION AT THE OPEN WORLD CONFERENCE AND AGRICULTURAL SUB-COMMITTEE HELD IN PARIS.

81. The meeting suggested that a written report be circulated on the subject due to the lack of time.

AGENDA ITEM No.18 : ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR.

82. Mr. Aziz of Malaysia said that agricultural and rural development was the concern of governments. Vast changes were taking place in this sector. He asked if the ICA could get or collect information from each government on the progress of this development.

83. Dr. Saxena said that collecting world-wide statistical information was very difficult for the ICA.

AGENDA ITEM No.19 : VENU E AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF  
THE SUB-COMMITTEE.

84. Mr. Weeraman informed that Indonesia has invited the Sub-Committee to hold the next meeting in Indonesia.

85. The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair which was carried with acclamation.



Lionel Gunawardana  
Secretary, ICA Sub-Committee  
for Agriculture and Trade.

New Delhi  
22/1/77

sm.

SEVENTH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON COOPERATIVE FISHERIES  
BALI, INDONESIA : 8TH DECEMBER 1977.

A G E N D A

Agenda  
Item No.

1. REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN.
2. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON COOPERATIVE FISHERIES HELD AT TEHERAN ON 6TH NOVEMBER 1976.
3. FOLLOW-UP ACTION ON RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE OPEN WORLD CONFERENCE ON COOPERATIVE FISHERIES (JAPAN).
  - i. Preparation of a book which could serve as a manual for primary fishery cooperatives.
  - ii. Preparation of a book on Fishery Cooperatives of the Republic of Korea outlining the problems faced in their growth and how these were solved.
4. TRAINING SEMINAR FOR PERSONNEL WORKING IN FISHERY COOPERATIVES.
5. FISHERY ASSISTANCE PROJECT IN SRI LANKA.
6. FISHERIES PROJECT IN ZAMBALES PROVINCE (PHILIPPINES).
7. ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR.
8. VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR.

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AGENDA ITEM NO.1 : REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

AGENDA ITEM NO.2 : CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP OF COOPERATIVE FISHERIES HELD IN TEHRAN ON 6TH NOVEMBER 1977.

AGENDA ITEM NO.3 : FOLLOW-UP ACTION ON RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE OPEN WORLD CONFERENCE OF COOPERATIVE FISHERIES (JAPAN)

1. Preparation of a book which could serve as a manual for primary fishery cooperatives.

The Fisheries Group of the sub-Committee for Agriculture and Trade for South-East Asia recommended at its meeting held in Manila, in 1975, that a publication which can serve as a manual to primary fishery cooperatives should be brought out by the Regional Office. Accordingly the Regional Office has got this publication prepared by an expert. This book is in two parts. Part-I attempts to give an insight into the fundamentals of double entry book keeping. A thorough grasp of part-I, it is hoped will facilitate the accounting staff to become fully conversant with the use of forms for financial accounting and controls. The part-II deals with practical accounting in three different types of fishery societies namely :-

- (a) A fishery society operating as a single unit in one or more areas.
- (b) A large size society operating through branches.
- (c) A society of boat owners operating in groups.

The accounting procedures explained in this publication are confined exclusively to the primary societies whose activities are limited to fishing and disposal of their catches as fresh fish.

2. Preparation of a book on Fishery Cooperatives of the Republic of Korea outlining the problems faced in their growth and how these were solved.

The National Federation of Fishery Cooperatives of the Republic of Korea at the request of the Regional Office supplied material on fishery cooperatives of the Republic of Korea for the preparation of this book. However, this material was found inadequate for the purpose. They were requested to supply further information. So far this has not been received.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 : TRAINING SEMINAR FOR PERSONNEL WORKING IN FISHERY COOPERATIVES.

4.1. The Working Group on Cooperative Fisheries recommended that the ICA Regional Office should hold a seminar in Japan for managerial personnel working in fishery cooperatives in the Region preceded by study visits in the Republic of Korea as learning the working of cooperative fisheries in the above two countries would greatly benefit the fishery cooperators in the Region. The Regional Office had a discussion with the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperatives in the Republic of Korea, and the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations of Japan. The Korean Federation has agreed to arrange study visits in Korea prior to the seminar. The Japanese Federation has agreed in principle for holding the seminar and has promised to give a final word by December 1977 after negotiating with the Japanese Government. The period <sup>of the seminar</sup> would be decided in consultation with Japanese and Korean Cooperative Fishery Federations.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 : FISHERY ASSISTANCE PROJECT IN SRI LANKA.

5.1 The Cooperative Development Committee of the ICA approved in October 1974 a grant of £5,000 (made up of £3,000 from the ICA Development Fund and £2,000 from Confédération des organismes de crédit maritime mutuel, France) to the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka (NACOSIL). This money was to be used for the purchase of a mobile repair van for the servicing of marine diesel engines.

5.2 In 1975, the NACOSIL decided to withdraw its request for the supply of a mobile repair van and instead requested for audio-visual equipment and a Volkswagen Microbus, which was approved by the ICA authorities.

5.3 An order for the supply of a Volkswagen Microbus has been placed on the manufacturers in West Germany during June 1977, as the import licence for the same has been received by NACOSIL. The shipment of audio-visual equipment from Singapore is awaiting the grant of the requisite import licence to NACOSIL.

AGENDA ITEM NO.6 : FISHERIES PROJECT IN ZAMBALES PROVINCE (PHILIPPINES).

6.1 The proposal was discussed by a representative of the ICA Head Office with the representatives of the Cooperative Union of Canada at the ICA Congress held at Paris in October 1976. The representatives of Cooperative Union of Canada informally discussed the matter with the officials of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). It is learnt that CIDA has regretted its inability to provide the requisite assistance to the project, as they have now removed Philippines from the list of countries from which they consider requests for assistance. The president of the Cooperative Federation of Zambales was accordingly informed.

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

AGENDA ITEM NO.7 : ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR.

AGENDA ITEM NO.8 : VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR.

New Delhi  
19th October 1977



Lionel Gunawardana  
Secretary, Working Group  
on Cooperative Fisheries.

MINUTES OF THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON COOPERATIVE FISHERIES HELD IN TEHRAN, IRAN ON SIXTH NOVEMBER 1976

1. The Sixth Meeting of the Working Group on Cooperative Fisheries was held at the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Elizabeth Boulevard, Tehran, Iran, on 6th November 1976. The Chairman of the Group, Mr. Eddiwan, presided.

The following were present :

Members

1. Mr. Eddiwan, Chairman and Member for Indonesia.
2. Mr. Irwin Hunter, Vice Chairman and Member for Australia.
3. Mr. A. Moghaddas, Member for Iran.
4. Mr. S. Taguchi, Member for Japan.
5. Mr. B.P. Faustino, Member for the Philippines.
6. Mr. L.M.V. de Silva, Member for Sri Lanka.
7. Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim, Member for Malaysia.
8. Mr. Bochana Sankarisha, Member for Thailand.

Secretary

Mr. Lionel Gunawardana, Joint Director (Publications) and Specialist in Agricultural Cooperation, ICA ROEC.

Observers

1. Mr. N.A. Kularajah, Councillor for Malaysia.
2. Mr. Supah Noh, Councillor for Malaysia.
3. Mr. Mak Kam Heng, Councillor for Singapore.
4. Mr. M. Kulasegaram, Councillor for Singapore.
5. Mr. M.R.B. Daswatte, Councillor for Sri Lanka.
6. Mr. Pradit Machima, Councillor for Thailand.
7. Mr. H. Togawa, Managing Director, IDACA, Tokyo.
8. Dr. N. Newiger, Head, Human Resources Division, FAO, Rome.
9. Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education), ICA ROEC.

2. The Chairman said that the agenda notes had already been distributed to the members. He thanked the members for attending the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM No.1 : ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

3. Mr. Faustino proposed the name of Mr. Eddiwan for the Chairmanship. The motion was seconded by Mr. Aziz Ibrahim. Mr. Eddiwan was unanimously re-elected Chairman.

AGENDA ITEM No.2 : CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

4. The minutes of the last meeting, the fifth in the series, were confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM No.3 : FOLLOW-UP ACTION ON RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE OPEN WORLD CONFERENCE ON COOPERATIVE FISHERIES IN JAPAN.

5. The Chairman requested Mr. Gunawardana, the Secretary to make a report. Mr. Gunawardana said that the report of the Open World Conference on Cooperative Fisheries was discussed by the Group at its last meeting in Manila and a number of recommendations were made for follow-up action. Action has been taken on some of them.

5.1 Preparation of a book which could serve as a manual for primary fishery cooperatives.

A manual has been prepared for the primary fishery cooperatives by an expert from Sri Lanka. It is planned to publish this manual shortly.

5.2 Preparation of a book on Fishery Cooperatives of the Republic of Korea.

Mr. Gunawardana informed that some information for the preparation of this book has been supplied by the National Federation of Fishery Cooperatives. This information is not sufficient for the preparation of the book and hence further material has been requested.



6. The Chairman recalled the discussion at the last meeting of the Fishery Group regarding training facilities for fishery cooperatives and stated that the Fisheries Cooperative Federation of Korea may be persuaded to receive trainees from fishery cooperatives in the Region and that a training programme of short duration could be organised.

7. Mr. Gunawardana said that Fishery Federation of Korea may be persuaded to receive trainees but it might not be able to grant any scholarship for travel of such trainees. The travel expenses of the trainees will have to be met by the sponsoring organisations.

8. Mr. J.M. Rana suggested that the national movements wishing to send up trainees for training to Korea in fishery cooperatives should send concrete proposals to the ICA.

9. Dr. Newiger said that any such training programme or project could be sent to FAO for assistance but the proposal should be channelled through the government and the proposal should relate a specific training programme. FAO would consider such a proposal for assistance very favourably.

AGENDA ITEM No. 4 : TRAINING SEMINAR FOR PERSONNEL WORKING IN FISHERY COOPERATIVES.

10. The members felt that there was a lot to be learnt in the field of cooperative fishery in Japan and in the Republic of Korea and a seminar on this subject in Japan preceded by study visits in Korea would in fact be very useful and timely. The members from Japan could find out from their Fishery Cooperative Federation whether such a seminar could be held there.

11. Mr. Gunawardana suggested that the training programme in fishery cooperatives could be organised in Korea in combination with the proposed Regional Seminar on Cooperative Fisheries and that ICA ROEC could explore this possibility with the Fishery Cooperative Federation of Korea.

12. Mr. Togawa of IDAC, stated that he was not in a position to commit any thing on behalf of the Fishery Federation of Japan, but he would convey the views and recommendations of this meeting to the National Federation of Fishery Cooperatives in Japan.

13. Mr. Rana stated that this matter could be discussed with the ICA's member-organisations in Japan.

14. The meeting recommended that ICA negotiate with the National Federation of Fishery Cooperative of Japan and National Federation of Fishery Cooperatives of the Republic of Korea regarding this proposal and arrange to hold a seminar.

AGENDA ITEM No.5 : FISHERY ASSISTANCE PROJECT IN SRI LANKA

15. Mr. Gunawardana reported that this project had a long history. The present position was that from out of the funds that have been promised by France, certain equipment are to be purchased. The ICA ROEC has asked the Sri Lanka Council to send a second proforma invoice for the equipment they need. The ICA is awaiting this now.

16. Mr. De Silva informed the meeting that the proforma invoice for the van has already been sent to the ICA-ROEC and that they were processing the proforma invoice for items of audio-visual equipment and would be sent soon.

AGENDA ITEM No.6 : ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR.

17. Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim from Malaysia informed the meeting that the Government of Malaysia had reviewed its earlier decision of forming farmers' associations and

fishermens' associations and have decided not to form any more farmers associations and fishermens' - associations. ANGKASA had suggested to the Government to convert all fishery and farmers associations into cooperatives.

18. The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair which was carried with acclamation.



Lionel Gunawardana  
Secretary, Working Group  
on Cooperative Fisheries.

New Delhi  
22/1/77

sm.

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MR. J. M. RANA

MINUTES

**ICA Sub-Committee on Agriculture & Trade**  
**Fisheries Group**  
SEVENTH MEETING

TWELVETH MEETING

Venue BALI, INDONESIA

Dates 8TH DECEMBER 1977

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

MINUTES OF THE TWELVETH MEETING OF THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE  
ON AGRICULTURE AND TRADE FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA HELD AT BALI,  
INDONESIA, ON EIGHTH DECEMBER 1977.

1. The 12th Meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee on Agriculture and Trade for South-East Asia was held at the Bali Beach Hotel, Bali, Indonesia, on 8th December 1977.

The following members were present at the meeting :-

Members

1. Mr. B.P. Faustino, Chairman and Member for the Philippines
2. Mr. I.H. Hunter, Member for Australia
3. Mr. Ali Hossain, Member for Bangladesh
4. Mr. Eddiwan, Member for Indonesia
5. Mr. Tapeswar Singh, Alternate Member for India
6. Mr. S. Miyagawa, Alternate Member for Japan
7. Mr. Poo Yung Lee, Alternate Member for Korea
8. Mr. Supah Noh, Member for Malaysia
9. Mr. Mak Kam Heng, Member for Singapore
10. Mr. Vichien Inthachat, Member for Thailand.

Secretary

Mr. Lionel Gunawardana, Joint Director (P&PR) and Specialist in Agricultural Cooperation, ICA ROSEC.

Observers

1. Mr. M.A. Haque, ICA Councillor for Bangladesh
2. Mr. Djoko Basuki, ICA Councillor for Indonesia
3. Mr. P.G. Tiwari, ICA Councillor for India
4. Mr. S. Nakabayashi, Alternate ICA Councillor for Japan
5. Dato N.A. Kularajah, ICA Councillor for Malaysia
6. Mr. Monico G. Yadao, ICA Councillor for the Philippines
7. Mr. Kulasegaram, ICA Councillor for Singapore
8. Mr. M.R.B. Daswatte, ICA Councillor for Sri Lanka
9. Mr. Wichien Sobhon, Alternate ICA Councillor for Thailand
10. Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim, Member, Fisheries Group, Malaysia
11. Mr. C. Rosier, France (Representative of Mr. J.B. Doumeng of the Economic Sub-Committee of the ICA Agril. Committee.

ICA Regional Office Staff

1. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, ICA Regional Director for S-E Asia
2. Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education)
3. Dr. Dharm Vir, Joint Director (Education)
4. Mr. M.K. Puri, Joint Director (TA&T)

Special Invitee

Dr. Orlando Sacay, Philippines.

In attendance

Mr. Prem Kumar, Personal Assistant to Regional Director.

AGENDA ITEM NO.1 : WELCOME BY HOST MOVEMENT

2. Mr. Eddiwan welcomed the members on behalf of the Cooperative Movement of Indonesia. He said that he hoped that the deliberations would be fruitful and successful and that the Indonesian Cooperative Movement would benefit from the experience of the Sub-Committee. He said that he hoped the members would find their stay in Bali, the Island of Gods, enjoyable.

AGENDA ITEM NO.2 : REMARKS BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

3. The Regional Director said that he would be very brief in his remarks. He wished that the deliberations of the Sub-Committee would help the ICA to work out useful strategies for the improvement of agricultural cooperatives which were of vital importance to most of the South-East Asian countries. In the field of Agricultural Cooperation a fair amount of work had been done in the past few years. The ICA had always kept in mind the Sub-Committee's direction as regards the work the ICA RO&EC was doing. He said he would like to focus the attention of the Sub-Committee members on the problems facing the agricultural cooperatives in the Region. He thought that the Minutes would show that various studies have been undertaken by the ICA as directed by the Sub-Committee. He added that there was a lot more to be done and concluded his remarks by saying that the ICA RO&EC looked forward to the present meeting for its deliberations and guidance with regard to future work.

AGENDA ITEM NO.3 : REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

4. Mr. B.P. Faustino, the Chairman, said that he would be very brief like the Regional Director. He would like to thank everybody for coming all the way to attend the meeting. There was almost full attendance at the 12th meeting. This is the first meeting with the new Regional Director of the ICA RO&EC. He expressed his thanks on behalf of the ICA Sub-Committee for all the arrangements made by the host movement, the Dewan Koperasi Indonesia.

AGENDA ITEM NO.4 : CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 11TH MEETING

5. The minutes of the 11th meeting, which was circulated in advance among the members, were confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM NO.5 : TALK ON "INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES"

6. The Chairman requested Dr. Orlando Sacay, who was present on invitation to talk on the subject of "Integrated Development of Agricultural Cooperatives". Dr. Sacay thanked the meeting for giving him this assignment of presenting his experience in integrated rural development. He dealt at length with the subject with special reference to Samahang Nayan - pre-cooperative association of Barangay (village) residents and stressed the need for the involvement of the mass of the membership at every stage and also the need, in a programme of this nature to be responsive to the problems, hopes and aspirations of the people.

AGENDA ITEM NO.6 : HOW COOPERATIVES CAN INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION

7. The Secretary informed the Sub-Committee that the study had already been completed in Thailand. The report and a summary of recommendations had been submitted to the Cooperative League of Thailand and their reaction was still awaited.

8. The Secretary said that there was a proposal to undertake a similar study in Pakistan but it had to be delayed due to the political situation in that country. He indicated that the ICA RODEC was taking steps to get the consent of other interested member-countries to undertake such studies in their countries. The member for Bangladesh said that Bangladesh was one country which could be considered. He made it clear that he was not committing himself on behalf of Bangladesh. He felt that his government would welcome this proposal.

9. It was decided to make copies of the report on the study of Thailand Agricultural Cooperatives available to the members of the Sub-Committee while a summary of recommendations of the study would be published as an "Appendix" to these minutes.

AGENDA ITEM NO.7 : STUDIES IN THE LIVING CONDITIONS OF THE MEMBERS OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES IN THE REGION

10. In regard to the study of living conditions of the members of Agricultural Cooperatives in India, a suggestion made by Mr. R.G. Tiwari at the Tehran Meeting, the Secretary informed the Sub-Committee that discussions have been held with NCUI and a study would soon be undertaken in four States. The study would be carried out by the NCUI in consultation with the ICA RO&EC. The costs of the study will be met by NCUI.

11. Though it was intended to carry out similar studies in the Philippines and Indonesia, there has been no response so far. The Secretary had discussions with the Philippine Member, Mr. B.P. Faustino in regard to the study in the Philippines. A study similar to this has been carried out by Agricultural Credit and Cooperatives Institute of the University of Agriculture at Los Banos. This would be examined and a decision would be taken whether it is necessary to carry out another study in the Philippines.

12. Mr. R.G. Tiwari suggested that the ICA should collate and make available to member countries, any material available on the improvement of living conditions of the members of cooperatives. It was also suggested that the very valuable information on the subject in Japan be translated into English and be made available to member countries. The member for Japan said that he would explain the activities carried out by the Agricultural Cooperatives in this field when he present the Japan's country paper in the meeting of the Council.

AGENDA ITEM NO.8 : STUDY OF ORGANISATIONS SIMILAR TO COOPERATIVES AT VILLAGE LEVEL FORMED IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

13. The Secretary informed the Committee that it had not been possible to undertake this study due to pressure of work. The subject was still open and the ICA hoped to take necessary steps when possible.

AGENDA ITEM NO.9 : STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA

14. The Secretary informed the Committee that this publication will be out in a month or so. The publication has now been in the final stage of preparation.



AGENDA ITEM NO.10 : TRAINING SEMINAR IN SWEDEN ON AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE MARKETING FOR AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES IN THE REGION

15. The Secretary informed the Committee that Sweden had agreed to conduct a training seminar for two months duration for cooperators from four countries in the Region. The countries were Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia. The pre-seminars had been scheduled to be held in January-February 1978. From these pre-seminars, participants to be sent to Sweden would be selected. When this programme was completed, the three countries not covered would be Republic of Korea, Iran and Pakistan. It was suggested that this programme should be continued to cover these countries also.

AGENDA ITEM NO.11 : EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY THE RO&EC IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

16. The Secretary reported that the following educational activities have been carried out by the RO&EC in the field of Agricultural Cooperation.

1. Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Credit and Financial Management, Madras, India.
2. Regional Seminar on Management of Agricultural Cooperatives with special reference to Multipurpose Cooperatives, Tokyo, Japan.
3. National Seminar on Integrated Approach to Agricultural Cooperative Development in Nepal, Kathmandu, Nepal.

AGENDA ITEM NO.12 : PUBLICATIONS BROUGHT OUT/PLANNED BY THE RO&EC IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

17. The Secretary reported that the following publications are being brought out by the RO&EC in the field of Agricultural Cooperation.

1. Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Credit and Financial Management - Report and Papers.
2. Integrated Approach to Agricultural Cooperative Development in Nepal. (The Report of the National Seminar held in Nepal.
3. Farming Guidance in the Cooperative Movement in Japan.

P L A N N E D

Readings in Cooperative Marketing.

AGENDA ITEM NO.13 : COLLABORATION BETWEEN ICA AND THE FAO

18. The Secretary informed the Committee that two projects have been approved under the Money and Medals Programme of the FAO. The Chairman informed the members that Philippines had not yet started the Project which had been approved under MMP. Something like US\$48,000 had been sanctioned to help in building a village in the central Luzon in the Philippines.

AGENDA ITEM NO.14 : TRADE PROMOTION GROUP

19. The Member for Malaysia suggested that the Trade Promotion Group in the Agriculture Sub-Committee should be reactivated as a separate body to constantly examine the trends in international cooperative trade. The need for reactivating the Trade Group was discussed. It was felt that countries in the Region were facing lot of problems in international cooperative trade and that these problems need to be studied in depth.

20. After lengthy discussion, the Sub-Committee decided that the Trade Promotion Group should be reactivated. A Chairman and Secretary for the Group should be elected. Then Dato N.A. Kularajah proposed the name of Mr. I.H. Hunter, member from Australia, to be the Chairman of the Trade Promotion Group. His name was seconded by Mr. Mak Kam Heng. Mr. Hunter was unanimously elected Chairman of the Trade Promotion Group. It was decided that Mr. M.K. Puri, Joint Director (TA&T) will be the Secretary of the Group.

21. Dato N.A. Kularajah referred to para 14.2 - International Cooperative Trading Organisation - in the Agenda. He pointed out that the Chairman of ICTO had made a statement by which it would appear that the shareholders were being blamed for all the failures of ICTO. The statement as it stood did not portray the real position. He suggested that this section be deleted completely or reworded.

22. Mr. Mak Kam Heng, Chairman of ICTO, said in reply that not a single business transaction had transpired between cooperatives of shareholding countries. Trade is possible in quite a number of products which are not under government control and that could be carried out in the eight countries concerned only through the assistance of the shareholders. But except for Australia, none had referred their needs to ICTO. ICTO was formed with the full support of the cooperatives in the eight countries for the purpose of international trade. However, it had not been able to carry out one single trade transaction with the shareholding organisations. These were facts which the management had experienced during the period of operation of ICTO. No decision was made on the matter raised by Dato N.A. Kularajah.

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

23. The Regional Director said that the programme for the workshop has been finalised in the ILO. The ILO would have country programmes which will be followed by a Regional Workshop. This Workshop would be based in Singapore and will be held in collaboration with ICTO. The programme envisages the granting of fellowships to selected countries. It is likely that the workshop would be held in the second half of 1978 and the fellowship programme will be in 1979.

The ICTO could profitably collaborate in this programme and eventually set up a consultancy unit within ICTO.

Trade Information Bulletin

24. The Sub-Committee felt that the publication of the Trade Information Bulletin should be discontinued as it served no purpose. It was therefore decided to discontinue publication of the Trade Bulletin.

AGENDA ITEM NO.15 : ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

25. The Secretary requested the Sub-Committee members to supply the ICA RO&EC information on collaboration between cooperatives. The ICA RO&EC has been requested by its Head Office in London to keep the various committees informed about the activities where cooperatives cooperate among themselves.

26. Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim (Malaysia) suggested that the Fisheries Group be upgraded to ICA Sub-Committee on Fisheries for South-East Asia. The Sub-Committee could function under the ICA Regional Council. This Sub-Committee should have its own Chairman and Secretary. The present Chairman and Secretary of the Fishery Group can function as Chairman and Secretary of the Sub-Committee. The Regional Director said that the elevation of Fisheries Group to a Sub-Committee status was a matter for the Regional Council to decide and hence it would be taken up at the Regional Council Meeting. However, there was one problem to be mentioned and that was that by and large the member countries in the Region were finding it difficult to meet the travel and other costs of personnel nominated for the Sub-Committees and generally the tendency was that one person come to represent the movement in all the committees. As a result, though different sub-committees were available, the varied experience and expertise necessary for a specialised committee to function was often lacking, thus defeating the purpose of setting up a separate Sub-Committee. Therefore, a method of getting expertise in the

respective fields to participate in the various technical committee meetings should be found. It was decided that the proposal would be submitted to the Regional Council Meeting for a decision. The Sub-Committee decided to recommend to the Council the constitution of a separate Sub-Committee on Fisheries.

AGENDA ITEM NO.16 : VENUE AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE

27. The Regional Director informed the Sub-Committee that at the last meeting of the Regional Council in Tehran, there was an invitation to the Regional Councillors and the members of the Sub-Committee to hold their meetings in Thailand. The member for Thailand had informed him that the Cooperative League of Thailand had agreed to host the next Regional Council and Sub-Committee meetings in Thailand. The dates and venue will be decided later in consultation with the Cooperative League of Thailand. The period tentatively thought of was December 1978.

28. The Sub-Committee thanked the Thai Movement for inviting to hold the next meeting of the Sub-Committee in Thailand.

AGENDA ITEM NO.17 : VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR

29. The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair which was carried with acclamation.



Lionel Gunawardana  
Secretary, ICA Sub-Committee  
on Agriculture and Trade.

New Delhi  
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ROLE OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES IN FOOD PRODUCTION IN THAILAND

1. In a country like Thailand where agriculture provides sustenance to about 80% of its population and contributes nearly 30% to the Gross Domestic Product, the importance of agriculture cannot be over emphasised. During the last ten years while there has been a significant increase in agricultural production in Thailand the average yields of most of the agricultural crops have been stagnant and in some cases they have even declined. In the case of paddy, which occupies nearly 60% of the land, the average yield per hectare today is not much higher than what it was in 1907. Since bulk of the cultivable land has already been brought under cultivation, further increase in agricultural production can be achieved only by increasing the per acre yield of the land which is already under cultivation. The new Government of Thailand should, therefore, accord the highest priority to increasing agricultural productivity not only to feed its rapidly increasing population but also to maintain and even increase its share in the international market.

2. The research institutions located in various parts of the country have evolved technologies of high yielding variety for most major crops which are suited to the local agro-climatic conditions and are capable of immediate applications in the field. This technology has, however, not yet been extended to the farmers' fields to any significant extent mainly because of the weaknesses in the organisational structure of the extension agencies and inadequate arrangements for the delivery of inputs i.e. seed, fertilisers and pesticides and also short and medium term credit to enable the farmers to purchase these inputs.

3. The Agricultural Cooperatives can play an effective role in providing credit as well as inputs and also assist the governmental agencies in providing agricultural extension. The Agricultural Cooperatives, as constituted today, however, are not organised nor adequately equipped to perform this role. Their linkages with other agencies and institutions functioning in this field as well as with the institutions within the cooperative sector are relatively weak. There is also considerable scope for improving the management of these cooperatives. The potential of the contribution that the agricultural cooperatives can make towards raising the agricultural productivity does not seem to have been fully recognised by the Government.

4. A few suggestions for more effective involvement of the agricultural cooperatives in stepping up agricultural production are made below :-

A. ORGANISATION AND MANAGEMENT

A.1 Agricultural Cooperatives today cover only about 10% of the population. Cooperatives have not so far been

organised in a number of districts. The area of operation of the reorganised agricultural cooperatives is rather extensive and only relatively affluent farmers are members. A time bound programme should be formulated for increasing the membership and bringing into its fold less affluent farmers so as to broaden the base of the cooperatives.

- A.2 The Farmers' Associations which have been set up by the Department of Agricultural Extension should be merged with the agricultural cooperatives and necessary changes should be made in the bye-laws and other regulations of the Department of Cooperative Promotion to facilitate this merger.
- A.3 The individual farmers who are now being financed by the Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives directly should also be persuaded to become members of the cooperatives so that eventually the Bank has to deal with only one effective organisation in the field of agricultural credit.
- A.4 The management of the cooperatives should be professionalised and the dependence on Government staff for management should be reduced. A programme of recruitment of qualified Secretaries and Accountants should be introduced and adequate arrangements should be made to provide them professional training in collaboration with the Cooperative League of Thailand. The Department of Cooperative Promotion may provide managerial subsidy on a tapering basis to the societies for appointment of this staff.
- A.5 The Government should assign a definite role to the cooperatives in the national food production programme and the operational programmes of the Department of Agricultural Extension should be closely coordinated with the activities of the Department of Cooperative Promotion at the national as well as local levels. In other words, the cooperatives should be assigned specific targets for provision of credit, distribution of fertilisers and other inputs and marketing of agricultural produce. The annual business plans of the agricultural cooperatives should be formulated on the basis of the programme of the Department of Agricultural Extension. In turn, the cooperatives should be assured of adequate financial support from Government e.g. if cooperatives incur losses in fertiliser distribution, etc. for reasons beyond their control, the loss should be under-written by Government. The cooperatives should be recognised as a State aided agency for providing support to the national food production programme. Similarly, in the matter of procurement and distribution of food grains, cooperatives

should be allowed to act as agent of Government. Preference should be given to the Cooperatives in allocation of quotas for export on Government to Government basis.

- A.6 A National Council of Cooperative Development should be constituted at the national level which could guide the Government in policy matters and also coordinate the policies and programmes of the Departments and institutions which are involved in this field. The Council could be headed by the Secretary General of the National Social and Economic Development Board and representatives of the Departments of Agricultural Extension, Cooperative Promotion, Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives, Bank of Thailand, Agricultural Cooperative Federation of Thailand, Consumer Federation, Cooperative League of Thailand should be its members. The National Social and Economic Development Board should serve as the Secretariat for this Council.
- A.7 The present restrictive provision in the bye-laws in respect of the admission of new members should be removed and emphasis should be given to the enrolment of small and marginal farmers as members of cooperatives. The membership requirements should be similar to those applicable to the Farmers' Association

## B. C R E D I T

- B.1 There should be a unified credit system for all categories of borrowers under the aegis of the Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives. The present practice of Government agencies granting loans to various departments and cooperative institutions on different lending criteria should be discontinued.
- B.2 The present policy of Government of providing loans at 2% interest from the Cooperative Promotion Fund and the Farmers' Fund should be discontinued. The funds should be routed through the Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives or they may be utilised for providing managerial subsidy, conducting feasibility studies for new ventures, etc.
- B.3 At present the BAAC extends credit to (i) individual clients, (ii) Agricultural Cooperatives and (iii) Farmers' Associations. After the merger of the Farmers' Associations into Cooperatives and the enrolment of individual clients of the BAAC as members, the BAAC should be gradually converted into a Bank for cooperatives.

- B.4 The lending policies and procedures of the BAAC and of the societies should be simplified so as to improve recoveries.
- B.5 The BAAC should evolve procedures for grant of long term loans to members for purchase of tractors and other capital assets.
- B.6 The following suggestions have been made for liberalising the lending policies and simplifying the procedures :-
- a) The present limit for loans without mortgage should be raised to a reasonable level having regard to the actual cost of cultivation of a holding of average size.
  - b) Scales of finance should be fixed for various crops in consultation with the Department of Agricultural Extension so that the field staff is able to apply uniform lending criteria.
  - c) A system of crop loan should be introduced and a part of the loan should be given in kind i.e. seed and fertilisers.
  - d) Since more than 50% of the farmers do not have recorded rights in land, a land register should be maintained in each society indicating the extent of land actually cultivated by the members, duly verified by the Managing Committee of the society. This register should be the basis for determining the loan eligibility in the absence of title deeds.
  - e) The question of amending the relevant legislation to provide for creating of a charge (lien) on land and the crops standing thereon and for the registration of this charge should be examined to obviate the requirement of mortgage of land for loans above the present ceiling.
  - f) Branch Managers of the BAAC should be given powers to sanction and disburse loans at their level on the basis of the prescribed scales of finance.
  - g) The numerous levels of scrutiny of loan applications should be reduced and some of the levels should be eliminated.
  - h) With the introduction of scales of finance, the BAAC should confine itself to the sanctioning of maximum credit limits leaving it to the management of the society to sanction loans to individual members.



- i) The responsibility of supervision of the utilisation of loans should be entirely with the society and the society should appoint necessary staff for this purpose.
- j) A high level Committee should be appointed to make a study of the policies and procedures of the BAAC and of the agricultural cooperatives so as to eliminate the delay involved in the sanctioning of fresh loans. The Committee should consist of the representatives of CPD, DAE, BAAC, Commercial Banks and some leading Cooperators.
- k) A time schedule should be laid down for processing loan applications at various levels and the period required for processing from the date of application to the date of receipt of loan should not extend more than a month.
- l) At present the attention of the BAAC is focussed on production credit. It should also extend credit facilities to ACFT (Agricultural Cooperative Federation of Thailand), Provincial Federations and the agricultural cooperatives in respect of their marketing activities and fertiliser distribution.

### C. M A R K E T I N G

- C.1 Government should recognise the Cooperatives as its agent for marketing operations and give them preference in all marketing activities, especially in the allocation of quotas for export of foodgrains on Government to Government basis.
- C.2 The ACFT should be recognised as an agent of Government for marketing activities and the Government should strengthen the ACFT suitably.
- C.3 The ACFT should diversify its marketing activities and develop expertise in the marketing of fruit, tapocia, etc. It should seek outlets abroad with the assistance of the International Cooperative Trading Organisation at Singapore.
- C.4 There should be closer coordination between the ACFT and MOF (Marketing Organisation of Farmers) to avoid duplication in their activities. The MOF should utilise the existing cooperative marketing structure at the Provincial level and should not set up another parallel field organisation. The ACFT and the Provincial Federations should function as agents of the MOF.

- C.5 BAAC should meet the requirements of working capital of the ACFT and Provincial Federations. If necessary, Government should stand guaranteed to the BAAC on behalf of the ACFT for repayment.
- C.6 The managements of both the ACFT and Provincial Federations should be strengthened. A common cadre should be constituted for the ACFT and Provincial Federations, so that the employees of the Federations can be assured of adequate promotion prospects.
- C.7 The ACFT should assume the role of a National Federation and guide and supervise the affiliated societies and establish closer ties with them.
- C.8 The ACFT should have a team of Advisers who should visit the societies at frequent intervals and advise them in respect of problems of day-to-day management.
- C.9 The ACFT should have a Consultancy Cell to provide assistance to the affiliated societies in technical (processing and marketing) and financial matters.
- C.10 The communication gap between the ACFT and the affiliated societies in respect of market intelligence should be removed. ACFT should establish regular channels for communicating the market prices to the affiliated societies at least once a week.
- C.11 The delay in the settlement of accounts between the ACFT and the affiliated societies should be removed. The procedure of settlement of accounts should be streamlined and there should be periodical reconciliation of accounts.
- C.12 ACFT should periodically arrange specialised professional training programmes for the managers of the affiliated societies in processing of paddy, grading of maize, etc. in consultation with the Cooperative League of Thailand.

#### D. PROCESSING

- D.1 The processing activities, which are at present confined to paddy, should be diversified. Fruit canning, manufacture of sugar, manufacture of cattle feed, extraction rice bran oil, etc. can also be taken up in the cooperative sector.

- D.2 There is no organisation at present which is technically equipped to give advice to the cooperatives in project formulation regarding processing units in new fields. ACFT should be assisted by Government in setting up a technically competent cell to provide these services.
- D.3 The Processing capacity of the existing rice mills is grossly under-utilised. A study should be made to find out the reasons for under utilisation and remedial steps should be taken.
- D.4 The present ambitious programme of setting up more rice mills should be reexamined by the Department of Cooperative Promotion and revised in the light of the performance of the existing rice mills.

#### E. INPUT SUPPLY

- E.1 The present duplication of effort in input distribution by the Farmers' Associations as well as Cooperatives should be removed. There should be only once organisation, namely, Agricultural Cooperatives, so that there is uniformity in the prices at the retail level. The Department of Agricultural Extension and the Department of Cooperative Promotion along with ACFT should jointly work out an Annual Plan for distribution of fertilisers in the various provinces, monthwise.
- E.2 The ACFT should work out its annual requirements of fertilisers in consultation with the affiliated societies on the basis of their monthly requirements and plan its imports accordingly.
- E.3 The ACFT should streamline its procedures and provide satisfactory services to the societies so that the Agricultural Cooperatives do not buy fertilisers from the open market.
- E.4 There should be coordination between the MOF and the ACFT in the import of fertilisers. ACFT should act as an agent of MOF in the matter of fertiliser distribution.
- E.5 Agricultural Cooperatives should also distribute seed on behalf of MOF, which has been entrusted with the task of multiplication of seed.

## F. FARM GUIDANCE

- F.1 Recruitment of farm guidance workers should be made locally at the society's level under the guidance of the officers of the Cooperative Promotion Department in the initial stages.
- F.2 The pay scales and other facilities given to the farm guidance workers should be at par with those of the functionaries of the Department of Agricultural Extension, so that they are not constantly on the look out for better opening in the DAE.
- F.3 The farm guidance workers should be given intensive training in agricultural extension of at least six months' duration with the help of the Department of Agricultural Extension.
- F.4 There should be close coordination between the functionaries of the DAE and the farm guidance workers of the societies in the field. The farm guidance workers should serve as agents of the functionaries of the Department of Agricultural Extension.
- F.5 The extension personnel of the DAE should provide extension facilities to the members of the cooperatives which have not yet appointed their own farm guidance workers.

## G. COOPERATIVE EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- G.1 The Cooperative League of Thailand should be strengthened and should be the only agency for providing training to the employees of the cooperatives as well as cooperative leaders.
- G.2 Regional Training Centres should be established under the auspices of the League for providing specialised training to the managers of the rice mills, dairy cooperatives, fishery cooperatives, etc.
- G.3 The present limit of 5,000 baht on the contributions from the Cooperatives to the League, should be removed.
- G.4 The Government should give substantial financial assistance to the League to expand its activities.

MINUTES OF THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON COOPERATIVE FISHERIES HELD IN BALI, INDONESIA, ON 8TH DECEMBER 1977.

1. The Seventh Meeting of the Working Group on Cooperative Fisheries was held at the Bali Beach Hotel, Bali, Indonesia, on 8th December 1977. The Chairman of the Group, Mr. Eddiwan, presided.

The following were present :-

Members

1. Mr. Eddiwan, Chairman and Member for Indonesia.
2. Mr. Ali Hossain, Member for Bangladesh
3. Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim, Member for Malaysia
4. Mr. Vichien Inthachat Member for Thailand.

Secretary

Mr. Lionel Gunawardana, Joint Director (P&PR) and Specialist in Agricultural Cooperation, ICA RO&EC.

Observers

1. Mr. Katsumi Sakamoto, Japan
2. Mr. Yasumatsu Miyake, Japan
3. Mr. Gnoi Ik Hoan, Rep of Korea
4. Mr. Ha Yang Hak, Rep. of Korea
5. Mr. M.R.B. Daswatte, Sri Lanka
6. Mr. Wichien Sobhon, Thailand.

ICA Staff

Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education)

In attendance

Mr. Prem Kumar, Personal Assistant to Regional Director, ICA RO&EC.

AGENDA ITEM NO.1 : REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

2. Mr. Eddiwan, the Chairman, welcomed the new members to the Fisheries Group.

AGENDA ITEM NO.2 : CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

3. The minutes of the last meeting, the sixth in the series, were confirmed

AGENDA ITEM NO.3 : Follow-up Action on Recommendations made by the Open World Conference on Cooperative Fisheries in Japan

4. The Secretary reported that a publication entitled "Theory and Practice of Accounting in Fishery Cooperative Society" prepared by an expert from Sri Lanka has been brought out and it is proposed to send a copy of this publication to all members of the Fisheries Group by the end of this month.

Preparation of a book on Fishery Cooperative of the Rep. of Korea

5. The Secretary informed that the information supplied by the National Federation of Fishery Cooperatives of the Republic of Korea was not sufficient to bring out this booklet and hence further information has been requested. The NFEC has given some information and the ICA is trying to see how best they could prepare this booklet. The Secretary said that during the course of study visits in Korea by the participants in the proposed Seminar in Japan for fishery cooperatives more information may be collected. The representative from Korea said that the annual report of the NFEC has been sent to the ICA RO&EC. This report which gives information on the activities of the NFEC was distributed among the members of the Group.

AGENDA ITEM NO.4 : TRAINING SEMINAR FOR PERSONNEL WORKING IN FISHERY COOPERATIVES

6. The Secretary informed that the ICA RO&EC has been able to discuss this proposal of holding a training seminar for personnel working in fishery cooperatives with the National Federations of Fishery Cooperatives of Japan and Korea. The Fisheries Federation of Japan has agreed in principle to hold the seminar in Japan. They are now discussing with the government of Japan this proposal. The Fisheries Federation of Korea has agreed to organise study visits in their country.

7. The Secretary informed that the Fisheries Federation of Korea has already prepared a tentative programme for study visits. He said that the programme will be examined and if there is any suggestion to be made, ICA Regional Office would do that in due course.

8. The representative from the NFEC of Japan said that they agree in principle to hold such a seminar. His federation is negotiating with the government to obtain the necessary funds, but as the negotiations have not been finalised yet, they are not in a position to finally commit themselves. However, he was happy to say that it is very probable that they can organise this seminar in Japan. The reason for not being able to finally commit at this stage was that their financial year starts at the end of March and the next year's budget has not been

finalised and is still under discussion. They have approached the Ministries of Agriculture and Foreign Affairs. These two ministries have agreed but they still have to negotiate with the Finance Ministry. This will take place very soon probably by the end of this month or early next month. They very much hope that the government will approve the proposal of hosting the proposed seminar.

9. As regards the details re number of participants, content of the programme etc., it should be discussed later on. He added that the participants would be invited both from the government and the cooperative movement. Once the proposal is finalised, the government of Japan will contact, through the diplomatic channels, the respective governments of South-East Asian countries and invite to send participants from the cooperative movement. Since this approach is being made through the government channel, he thought that it will be important to ensure that the government sends cooperative personnel and not government officers. For this purpose, the ICA should also contact the cooperative movement of the respective countries in the Region to ensure that the right type of people are selected and nominated for the seminar.

10. The Group expressed its sincere thanks to the Fisheries Cooperative Movement of Japan for its generous agreement to hold the seminar and the Fisheries Cooperative Movement in the Republic of Korea for organising study visits.

AGENDA ITEM NO.5 : FISHERY ASSISTANCE PROJECT IN SRI LANKA

11. The information given in the Agenda Note was noted. The Secretary informed that this project has been a very long standing subject in the Agenda and finally it is nearing fruition. The Councillor for Sri Lanka said that they have already received the vehicle. They are awaiting for the import licence from the government for the import of audio-visual equipment from Singapore. As soon as they receive the necessary permit, the ICA will be informed accordingly.

AGENDA ITEM NO.6 : FISHERIES PROJECT IN ZAMBALES PROVINCE  
(PHILIPPINES)

12. The information given in the Agenda Note was noted.

AGENDA ITEM NO.7 : ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF  
THE CHAIR

13. The member for Malaysia gave information re his participation in the Fisheries Committee meeting held in Hamburg this year. He felt the necessity of having a separate Sub-Committee on Cooperative Fisheries with secretariat in

ICA New Delhi. The representative from Japan welcomed the suggestion of the member from Malaysia as reasonable, but he said there is one practical difficulty in having an independent Sub-Committee and that is many countries may not be able to send separate delegates to the Sub-Committee meetings. He felt that the Group should recommend to the Regional Council for the formation of an independent Fisheries Sub-Committee. The Group decided to recommend to the Council the formation of a separate Sub-Committee for Fisheries.

14. Mr. Aziz said he has information that the Hungarian Fishery Cooperatives are willing to give assistance for development of Fisheries Cooperatives in the Region. The Chairman requested the secretariat to contact the Hungarian Cooperatives to find out what kind of assistance they could give.

AGENDA ITEM NO.8 : VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR

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



Lionel Gunawardana,  
Secretary, Working Group  
on Cooperative Fisheries

New Delhi  
27.1.1978

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